



Special Session – A New Map of Global Islands

As part of a global ecosystem mapping effort commissioned by the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Esri, and a group of international marine scientists have produced a new, 30 m, standardized global shoreline vector from satellite image



interpretation. The global coastlines data was used to produce a new map of global islands which is more accurate and detailed than previous global coastline representations. The data are freely available along with publications and a web explorer tool which enables easy exploration of the data.

The work has been described in an accessible and visually striking booklet entitled A New Map of Global Islands which was published by the American Association of Geographers (AAG) and officially launched at the AAG Annual Meeting in April 2018.

In this Special Session, the author of the booklet, Dr. Roger Sayre of the USGS, will describe the objectives, methods, and findings of the work, and will provide



the booklet in print format to participants. He will summarize the global work and will provide a regional perspective on the Islands of Oceania as well.

