National Ocean Policy

A National Policy for the Stewardship of the Oceans, Our Coasts and the Great Lakes – Established by Presidential Executive Order on July 19, 2010

MPAFAC Meeting – Nov. 2010
Dr. Charles M. Wahle
Acting Senior Scientist
NOAA CMSP Program
Building Blocks

National Ocean Policy

National Ocean Council

9 National Priority Objectives

Framework for Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP)

Regional Planning Bodies
The National Ocean Council

Working groups could be retained or established as standing or ad hoc Sub-Interagency Policy Committees (IPCs): e.g., Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, Ocean Acidification, Ocean Observations, Mapping, Ocean Education, Climate Resiliency and Adaptation, Regional Ecosystem Protection and Restoration, Water Quality and Sustainable Practices on Land, and Arctic.

The Extended Continental Shelf Task Force and other designated interagency committees, as appropriate, would report to the Steering Committee and coordinate with the two IPCs.
National Ocean Policy
Nine Priority Objectives & NOAA’s Draft NGSP

HOW WE DO BUSINESS

- Ecosystem-Based Management
- Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning
- Inform Decisions & Improve Understanding
- Coordinate & Support

3 OF NOAA’S NEXT GENERATION STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS ARE ALIGNED WITH NOP

1. Climate Adaptation & Mitigation
2. Healthy Oceans
3. Resilient Coastal Communities

AREAS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- Resiliency & Adaptation to Climate Change & Ocean Acidification
- Regional Ecosystem Protection & Restoration
- Water Quality & Sustainable Practices on Land
- Changing Conditions in the Arctic
- Ocean, Coastal, & Great Lakes Observation, Mapping & Infrastructure
The Need for CMSP

Uses were regulated on a narrow sector-by-sector basis.
CMSP FRAMEWORK

Key Elements

Balance Ocean Health and Community Prosperity

Level the Playing Field for All Stakeholders

Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Science

Respect the Unique Character of Each U.S. Region
CMSP Implementation
Science, Research & Data Integration

- Science-based decision making
- Identification of priority research needs
- Establishment of a National information management system with a central or regional portals to connect CMSP information
- Nationally consistent derived data products for regional assessments
CMSP Implementation

NOAA’s Role

Legal authorities and scientific expertise
- Participate on all 9 Regional Planning Bodies

FY 11 Budget Request
- $20M Regional Ocean Partnership Grants
- $6.77M for capability to support CMSP

NOAA CMSP Program
Links to National System of MPAs

Strategic Action Plan and Guidance for CMSP
- MPAFAC recommendations for incorporating MPAs and place-based conservation

Spatial Data and Tools
- MPA databases
- Ocean Uses Atlas
- Gap analysis
- Natl. Information Mgmnt System
Ocean Policy Task Force

On June 12, 2009, President Obama signed a memorandum establishing an Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force, led by the White House Council on Environmental Quality. On July 19, 2010 the Task Force released a set of final recommendations that set a new direction for improved stewardship of the ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes. The recommendations provide: (1) our Nation’s first ever national ocean policy; (2) a strengthened governance structure to provide sustained, high-level, and coordinated attention to ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes issues; (3) a targeted implementation strategy that identifies and prioritizes nine categories for action that the United States should pursue; and (4) a framework for effective coastal and marine spatial planning. These documents are available on their website. Learn more...

What is coastal and marine spatial planning?

The Ocean Policy Task Force defines coastal and marine spatial planning as a comprehensive, adaptive, integrated, ecosystem-based, and transparent spatial planning process, based on sound science, for analyzing current and anticipated uses of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes areas. Coastal and marine spatial planning identifies areas most suitable for various types or classes of activities in order to reduce conflicts among uses, reduce environmental impacts, facilitate compatible

About This Website

The purpose of this website is to provide users with coastal and marine spatial planning information related to national level policies, NOAA’s role, and to help managers, policy makers, and all those who use and appreciate the ocean, to understand the concept of coastal and marine spatial planning and advance its implementation in real-world settings.

Coastal and marine spatial planning is a rapidly

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Obama Administration Unveils New National Policy for Our Oceans, Coasts and Great Lakes
July 19, 2010 – The National Policy for the Stewardship of Our Oceans, Coasts and Great Lakes sets the nation on a clear path for the sustainable use of our oceans and coastal lands. Heralded as a significant achievement, the new policy adopts the final recommendations of the president’s Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force and states clearly and loudly that healthy oceans matter.

Lubchenco, Sutley Publish Article on U.S. Ocean Policy in Science
June 18, 2010 – Science magazine featured an article entitled “Proposed U.S. Policy for Ocean, Coast, and Great Lakes Stewardship” by Dr. Jane Lubchenco, under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and administrator of NOAA, and Ms. Nancy Sutley,
The ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes provide jobs, food, energy resources, ecological services, recreation, and tourism opportunities, and play critical roles in our Nation’s transportation, economy, and trade, as well as the global mobility of our Armed Forces and the maintenance of international peace and security.

— President Barack Obama
Questions?