

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

between

The Alaska Coastal Management Program as administered by the State of Alaska, Division of Governmental Coordination and Coastal America

Introduction

The Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) is a network of state and local government representatives and provides stewardship for Alaska's rich and diverse coastal resources through planning and a process for coordinating the State's response for activities in the coastal zone. The Division of Governmental Coordination is designated as lead agency for the ACMP. The Coastal Policy Council (CPC), comprised of state and local representatives, guides the ACMP. State representatives on the CPC include the Governor's Office through the Office of Management and Budget and traditionally delegated to the Director of the Division of Governmental Coordination and the Alaska Departments of Community and Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, Natural Resources, and Transportation and Public Facilities. Nine local officials on the CPC are selected from the following regions around the state: Northwest, Bering Straits, Southwest, Kodiak-Aleutians, Upper Cook Inlet, Lower Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound, Northern Southeast, and Southern Southeast.

In response to the need to protect, preserve and restore our coastal heritage the Coastal America partnership was established by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 1992. This partnership for action is comprised of those federal agencies (Departments of Agriculture, Air Force, Army, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Navy, and Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency) with statutory responsibilities for coastal resources or whose operational activities affect the coastal environment. Coastal America provides a forum for interagency collaborative action and a mechanism to facilitate regional action plans to protect, preserve, and restore the Nation's coastal living resources.

Intent

The Alaska Coastal Management Program and the Coastal America program both focus on managing the valuable habitats, resources, and uses of the resources in Alaska's coastal zone through education, research, rehabilitation, and management. This partnership agreement provides formal recognition that the issues associated with this effort often can be addressed better through intergovernmental coordination and cooperation than by federal and state agencies working in isolation.

The Partnership Agreement outlines the areas included in the cooperative effort between the Alaska Coastal Management Program and the Coastal America program. The agreement does not commit resources; it provides a mechanism to sanction projects, research efforts, and educational efforts that derive benefits from cooperation among participants. The agreement

Partnership Agreement: Coastal America/Alaska Coastal Management Program

provides a framework to bring resources together so they can be used on projects of mutual interest and benefit.

Agreement

To the extent permitted by respective authorities and funding, the signers of this agreement consent to work together to exchange information, and identify and support mutually beneficial education, research, and restoration projects that:

- Identify joint management and research priorities of coastal habitats and resources;
- Identify factors that limit effective management of coastal resources and uses;
- Address constraints that limit effective management and restoration of coastal habitats and resources;
- Restore coastal habitats affected by natural or anthropogenic disturbances;
- Identify and promote the use of consistent protocols, standards, best management practices, and guidelines for effective management and restoration of coastal habitats and resources;
- Promote cooperation, coordination, communication, and inter-disciplinary problem-solving;
- Promote education and stewardship of Alaska's coastal resources and habitats; and,
- Facilitate scientific and technological information transfer.

Activities not specifically listed above may be subject to the cooperative agreement if they meet the intent of the partnership. This partnership is an information sharing work group statutorily exempt under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (41 CFR 101-1004).

Authority

This MOU is made and entered into by and between Coastal America, a federal interagency partnership, and the ACMP pursuant to the existing appropriate authorities of the Coastal America Federal partners and AS 46.40.040 (5).

Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as altering, or in any way limiting, either party's ability or responsibility to act in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. No expenditures are required or implied by this agreement.

Nothing herein is intended to conflict with any of the federal agencies partners' existing administrative orders, regulations, or legal authorities. If any terms of this MOU are determined to be inconsistent with such administrative orders, regulations, or legal authorities, these terms shall be invalid but the remaining terms or conditions shall remain in full force and effect.

Partnership Agreement: Coastal America/Alaska Coastal Management Program

Point of Contact

The point of contact for the ACMP is:
Coastal Program Coordinator
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The point of contact for the Coastal America Regional Implementation Team is:
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Termination, Alteration, and Severability

This partnership agreement expires three years after the implementation date of February 9, 2000, but may be renewed by mutual agreement. This Partnership Agreement may be terminated by mutual written agreement or by providing sixty (60) days advance written notice by either party. This agreement shall be reviewed periodically by the parties, preferably at the end of each calendar year, and may be amended or revised by mutual written agreement of the parties. The components of this agreement are severable so that it remains a useable document even if a part of it becomes invalid. To be effective, any alteration of this agreement must be in writing and signed by each party.