



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

DEC 29 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: William F. Broglie  
Chief Administrative Officer, NOAA

THRU: *for* *Charles W. Challstrom*  
Charles W. Challstrom  
Acting Assistant Administrator

FROM: *Gary C. Matlock*  
Gary C. Matlock, Ph.D.  
Director

SUBJECT: Environmental Management System  
Self-Declaration Statement

Executive Order 13148, Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management, requires that all Federal agencies implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) at appropriate facilities by December 31, 2005. The National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) was identified as an appropriate organization within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to implement an EMS.

I am pleased to inform you that the National Ocean Service's NCCOS has determined that its EMS conforms to the requirements of Section 401 of Executive Order 13148. This determination is based upon an external second-party audit conducted in accordance with the Department of Commerce's Environmental Management Manual. The audit was completed December 1, 5 and 6, 2005. The audit included all elements of the NOAA EMS self-declaration questionnaire and reported only minor findings that we are working to correct. There were no class 0 or class 1 findings that would prevent NCCOS from self-declaring our EMS. A copy of the EMS audit report outlining findings and our proposed plan of action to correct these findings are attached.

NCCOS began implementation of the EMS in December 2004 and has completed an internal audit and management review. The second-party auditors met all training and certification requirements and the audit was structured and conducted to address the requirements of ISO 14001, Code of Environmental Management Principles, and Executive Order 13148.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 301-713-3020 or the NCCOS EMS Management Representative, Rick Meitzler at 843-762-8842.

Attachments



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