

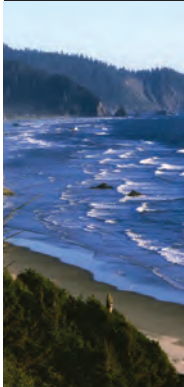
enVISIONING the FUTURE of COASTAL MANAGEMENT

background



THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA) of 1972 created a unique partnership between federal and state governments with the goal of balancing the conservation of coastal and Great Lakes environments with the responsible development of economic and cultural resources. Pending reauthorization of the CZMA has prompted discussions within the coastal community on ways to improve coastal management in the U.S. In response, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, which administers programs created by the CZMA, and the Coastal States Organization (CSO) undertook a project to engage coastal managers and stakeholders to envision the future of coastal management. The goal of the visioning process was to gather feedback on priority issues and innovative ideas for improving the CZMA and the National Coastal Management Program.

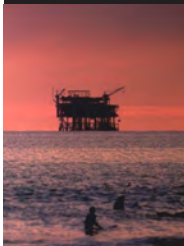
the project



IN 2006, NOAA and CSO developed an initial discussion paper that identifies current coastal management issues, constraints, and opportunities. State coastal program managers, estuarine reserve managers, and other state officials had an opportunity to review this paper and, through a series of interviews, provide their perspectives on current and emerging priorities and recommendations for how coastal management might be improved.

IN 2007, NOAA and CSO engaged the broader coastal community, including state, local, and federal government agencies; industry; academia; and recreational and non-governmental interests, to seek their feedback and ideas. Workshops were held for both stakeholders and coastal management experts to generate innovative techniques and solutions, explore their feasibility, and assess their potential impacts and degree of support among constituents. Stakeholder meetings were held in Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, Honolulu, and San Francisco. In addition, several states held their own separate stakeholder meetings.

outcomes



IN FALL 2007, NOAA and CSO released a joint report on cornerstones and core principles for the next generation of coastal management. The four cornerstones below serve as a foundation for 13 Core Principles for Better Coastal Management presented in the final report *Envisioning Our Coastal Future: Principles for Advancing the Coastal Zone Management Act*. The report, which can be accessed on the visioning website, describes a shift in some of the key philosophical underpinnings of the current Act and will guide the development of NOAA and CSO's legislative proposals.

- I | *The CZMA should ensure the long term sustainability of coastal resources and communities.*
- II | *The CZMA should be goal-driven and results-oriented.*
- III | *The CZMA should coordinate and align federal, state, and local governments to address issues of national importance.*
- IV | *The National Coastal Management Program should remain a voluntary partnership between federal government and the states in which each bears responsibilities for achieving program goals.*

NOAA AND CSO encourage you to read the full report and to provide comments and suggestions on how to move forward with an improved, reauthorized Coastal Zone Management Act.

for more information, please visit:

www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/czm/czma_vision.html

noaa
csO

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION

