

2008 Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting

*November 17-19, 2008
Mystic, CT*



Agenda

- OCRM & NOAA Personnel Updates
- Budget/Appropriations
- CELCP
- Coastal Strategy
- CZMA Reauthorization
- GAO Audit
- NOAA Regional Collaboration and other projects

OCRM & NOAA Personnel Updates

- Coastal Programs Division staff reassignments
- Issue areas and regional focus
- OCRM staff to know
 - Rina Aviram – CPD/CELCP
 - Roxanne Thomas – NPED/CELCP
 - Christa Rabenold – CPD/Hazards
 - Kacky Andrews – Div. Chief, Corals
 - Ralph Cantral – Sr. Policy Advisor
 - Kate Barba – Div. Chief, NPED
 - Elisa Chae – Legislative



OCRM & NOAA Personnel Updates

- NOAA Leadership
 - William J. Brennan, Ph.D. - Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Acting Administrator of NOAA, effective Nov.1. Previously NOAA's deputy assistant secretary of commerce for international affairs.
 - Mary Glackin – Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere. Likely Acting Administrator with change in Administration.

Budget/Appropriations

- Continuing Resolution Likely Until March 2009

	FY08	FY09 Pres Request	FY09 Senate Committee	FY09 House Committee
CZM Administration	6,735	8,155	8,155	8,155
CZM grants (sections 306, 306A & 309)	64,423	66,146	70,000	66,146
Coastal Nonpoint Program	3,904	0	4,000	2,500
National Estuarine Research Reserve grants	16,404 + 11,555 (const.)	22,326 + 6,890 (const.)	22,326 + 6,890 (const.)	22,326 + 13,780 (const.)
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program	8,000	15,000	15,000	18,325

CELCP Update

- CELCP new staff and regional organization
- FY 2009 Competition
 - 54 proposals
 - 27 states/territories
 - \$79 million in requests
 - 19 from NE/Mid-Atlantic
- FY 2010 Competition
 - December funding notice anticipated



CELCP Update continued

- CELCP Plans
 - Most states have submitted plans
 - NY, MA have approved plans
- Legislation update
 - Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act
 - Appropriations
- Guidelines Revision



Coastal Strategy

- OMB direction for NOAA to improve integration of coastal programs:
 - NOS: ***OCRM, Coastal Services Center, National Centers for Coastal and Ocean Science (NCCOS)***
 - OAR ***National Sea Grant College Program***
 - NMFS ***Office of Habitat Conservation***
- Goal: Increase the resilience of coastal environments and communities by protecting and restoring coastal ecosystems and their services and ensuring sustainable coastal communities
- Three priority objectives:
 1. ***Coastal Hazards and Climate Change***
 2. ***Competing Coastal Uses and Habitat Loss***
 3. ***Coastal Pollution and Human Health Effects***

Coastal Strategy

- Brings together NOAA's capabilities in Science, Capacity Building, Education and Extension, and Management
- Strategic Deliverables: select integrated "on-the-ground" products for FY09 and subsequent years
- Basis for OCRM priority setting
- Linked to goals in New CZMA proposed by Administration
- "Coastal" is one of 6 themes NOAA will present to new administration - High visibility for coastal management

CZMA Reauthorization

- NOAA Goals for Reauthorization
 - Clarify the ***Goals and Purposes***
 - Establish a ***National Program*** to improve assistance to partners and support within NOAA
 - ***National Assessment*** of coastal resources
 - ***State Strategies*** and ***Implementation Plans***
 - ***Evaluation*** of success in achieving national goals and state objectives

CZMA Reauthorization Timeline

- Final OCRM bill will be sent to NOS Assistant Administrator next week
- Review by NOAA & DOC prior to interagency review
- Top legislative priority for NOS for 112th Congress
- Plan to hold informational Hill briefings

GAO Audit

- Gov't Accountability Office (GAO) interviewed many OCRM staff and all state managers
- OCRM provided comments on draft
- Final report released Sept. 30th
<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-1045>
- Major recommendations
 - Congress reconsider funding cap
 - NOAA review and revise (as needed) regulations and grant award practices
 - NOAA create measurable targets and process for ensuring accurate performance measure data
 - Focus 312 evaluations on progress toward meeting measurable performance goals
- Developed Statement of Actions - circulating for clearance