


# Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management

Southern and Caribbean  
Regional Meeting



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November 6, 2007

# Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management

## Project Purpose:

To engage stakeholders in developing a vision for an improved Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) and to identify methods for improving program implementation at the state and national levels. **Partners: NOAA and CSO**

## Outcome:

A set of *core principles* and *specific ideas* for CZMA reauthorization and suggestions for improved policy implementation at the federal and state levels.

# What We Heard

The CZMA should improve coastal governance:

- **PRIORITIZED & STRATEGIC**

NOAA and the states should set clear and measurable goals and objectives.

- **ACCOUNTABLE**

National and state governments need to be held accountable for results.

- **COORDINATED**

Federal, state, regional, and local-level entities should leverage assets by coordinating priority setting, funding, program implementation, etc.

# National Program Concepts

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# CZMA Priorities and Objectives

## NOW:

The CZMA sets a policy to “preserve, protect, develop, and where possible restore and enhance” resources of the coastal zone.

## ***FUTURE:***

- ***Focus on three broad goals:***
  - *Maintain ecosystem function*
  - *Strengthen coastal communities*
  - *Integrate and target science and capacity building*
- ***Set measurable national objectives with assistance of a national advisory council.***

# Ecosystem Function

**National goal: Ensure the continued productivity and biodiversity of coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystem.**

*Priorities:*

- Maintain or enhance critical habitats*
- Conserve critical habitats through acquisition*
- Minimize or mitigate impacts on coastal resources and water quality from development and climate change*

# Coastal Communities

**National goal: Ensure coastal communities are vibrant and resilient to coastal hazards and impacts from climate change.**

## *Priorities:*

- Manage growth and development to minimize impacts from hazards and climate change*
- Protect and enhance public access to beaches and other coastal resources*
- Improve efficiency of marine commerce; increase redevelopment of waterfronts and brownfields; protect water dependent uses; and improve the siting of energy facilities.*

# Integrate and Target Science and Capacity Building

National goal: **Integrate capabilities of NOAA and coordinate with other federal agencies to provide the best possible natural and social science.**

## *Priorities:*

- Conduct and translate science based on needs of coastal and marine resource managers.*
- Build capacity of resources managers through the development of tools and technologies.*
- Educate and develop awareness of coastal and marine resource managers and the public.*
- Establish a system of sentinel sites to monitor impacts to ecosystems and changes due to climate change.*



# Integrated NOAA Coastal Science

- Codify **NOAA Coastal Programs** (e.g. CSC, NCCOS, CICEET) within the CZMA and define roles of these and other programs (e.g. Sea Grant, Sanctuaries, and Navigation Services)
- Establish mechanisms and support for **coordination and integration** of NOAA research, science translation, and tools to address national priorities.

# Partnerships

## NOW:

Coastal zone management is accomplished primarily through partnerships with the states.

## ***FUTURE:***

### *The CZMA will:*

- Authorize an organization to coordinate efforts with NGOs and the private sector (similar to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation).*
- Establish regional cooperative institutes through a competitive process.*

# Interagency Coordination

## NOW:

The CZMA does not formally support coordination of federal agencies to meet mutual goals and objectives for the coasts.

## ***FUTURE:***

- ***Ad hoc issue-specific workgroups.***
- ***Permanent regional task forces of state and federal managers.***

# Special Areas

## NOW:

The CZMA supports the designation of NERRs and development of Special Area Management Plans, but does not include CELCP.

## ***FUTURE:***

- *Develop regional initiatives that would incorporate place-based management into a broader context.*
- *Develop a coordinated national network of protected areas (incl. CELCP, NERRS, Wildlife Refuges, Parks and Seashores)*
- *Make CELCP an integrated part of coastal management.*

# State Program Concepts

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# Assessment and Planning

## NOW:

The CZMA does not require state CZM plans with measurable outcomes.

## ***FUTURE:***

- *Federal-State partnership develops robust comprehensive resource assessments.*
- *States and reserves develop plans with strategies and measurable objectives.*
- *States and reserves are evaluated on progress toward objectives.*

# Competitive Funding

## NOW:

Funds are allocated among states through a formula based on coastal population and shoreline mileage.

## ***FUTURE:***

*Provide three types of funding:*

- base funding for core competencies,*
- Funding for plan development*
- Competitive funding for projects and program implementation (based on anticipated impact of project and program performance).*

# Managing at Ecosystem Scales

## NOW:

States delineated the geographic boundaries of their coastal programs on whatever basis they chose, leading to inconsistency and ineffectiveness.

## ***FUTURE:***

- *Require revision of coastal zone boundaries for planning purposes and, at a minimum, require inclusion of coastal watersheds and state territorial waters.*
- *Support and encourage ad hoc regional processes to address issues at various scales.*



# Local Governments

## NOW:

The CZMA does not provide for federal-local collaboration, nor does it direct state programs to develop state-local partnerships.

## ***FUTURE:***

- Require local government input in state and reserve plan development.*
- Provide dedicated, competitively allocated funding for local demonstration projects.*
- Provide better and more integrated technical assistance.*

## Ongoing Process

- The Final Report identifies **Cornerstones and Core Principles** for the next generation of coastal management (available online)
- NOS is **developing a legislative proposal** (fall-winter 2007)
- Administration bill for Coastal Zone Management Act Reauthorization introduced (early 2008?)

# Your Feedback

- **Initial reactions** to National and State Program concepts.
- **Suggestions** for improving our legislative package.

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