

U.S. Ocean Action Plan

Administration's Response to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy



Dr. William T. Hogarth
National Marine Fisheries Service

USCOP Commissioners

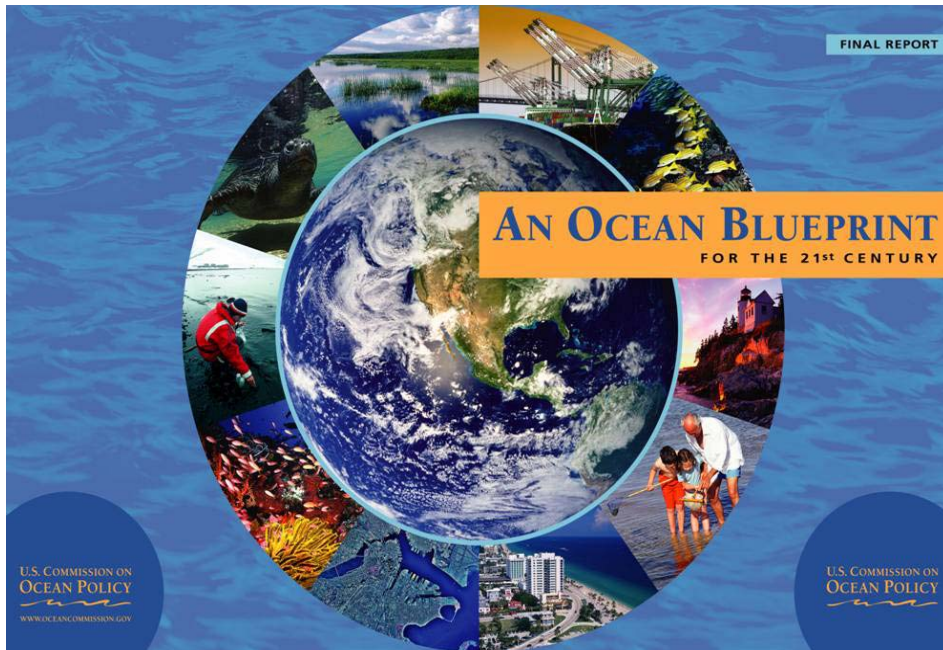
- Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.) Chairman
- Robert Ballard, PhD
- Mr. Ted A. Beattie
- Mrs. Lillian Borrone
- Dr. James M. Coleman
- Ms. Ann D'Amato
- Mr. Lawrence Dickerson
- Vice Admiral Paul G. Gaffney II, USN (Ret.)
- Professor Marc J. Hershman
- Mr. Paul L. Kelly
- Mr. Christopher Koch
- Dr. Frank Muller-Karger
- Mr. Edward B. Rasmuson
- Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg
- Mr. William D. Ruckelshaus
- Dr. Paul A. Sandifer
- Mr. Thomas R. Kitsos, Executive Director



USCOP Final Report:

An Ocean Blueprint for the 21st Century

September 20, 2004



- Includes comments from 37 Governors
- 212 recommendations
 - 60 specific to NOAA
 - **26 pertain to NMFS**
- NOAA recognized as Nation's lead civilian ocean agency

USCOP Final Report:

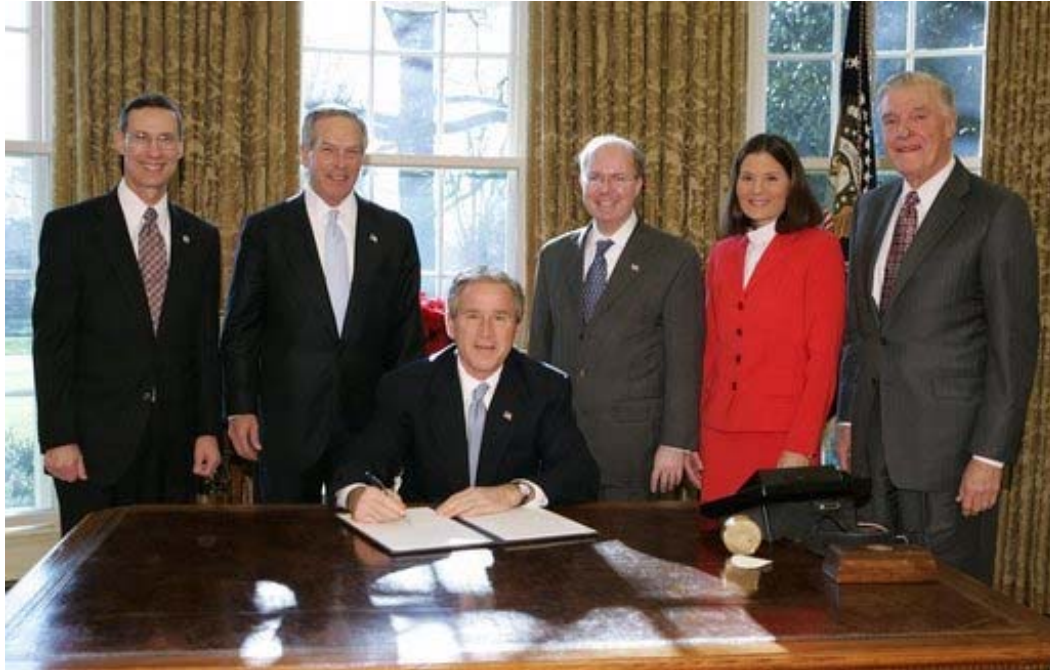
Recommended Critical Actions

- Ecosystem Based Management
- Improved Governance
- Sound Science
- Education
- Support for Implementation
- Other Issue Based Recommendations



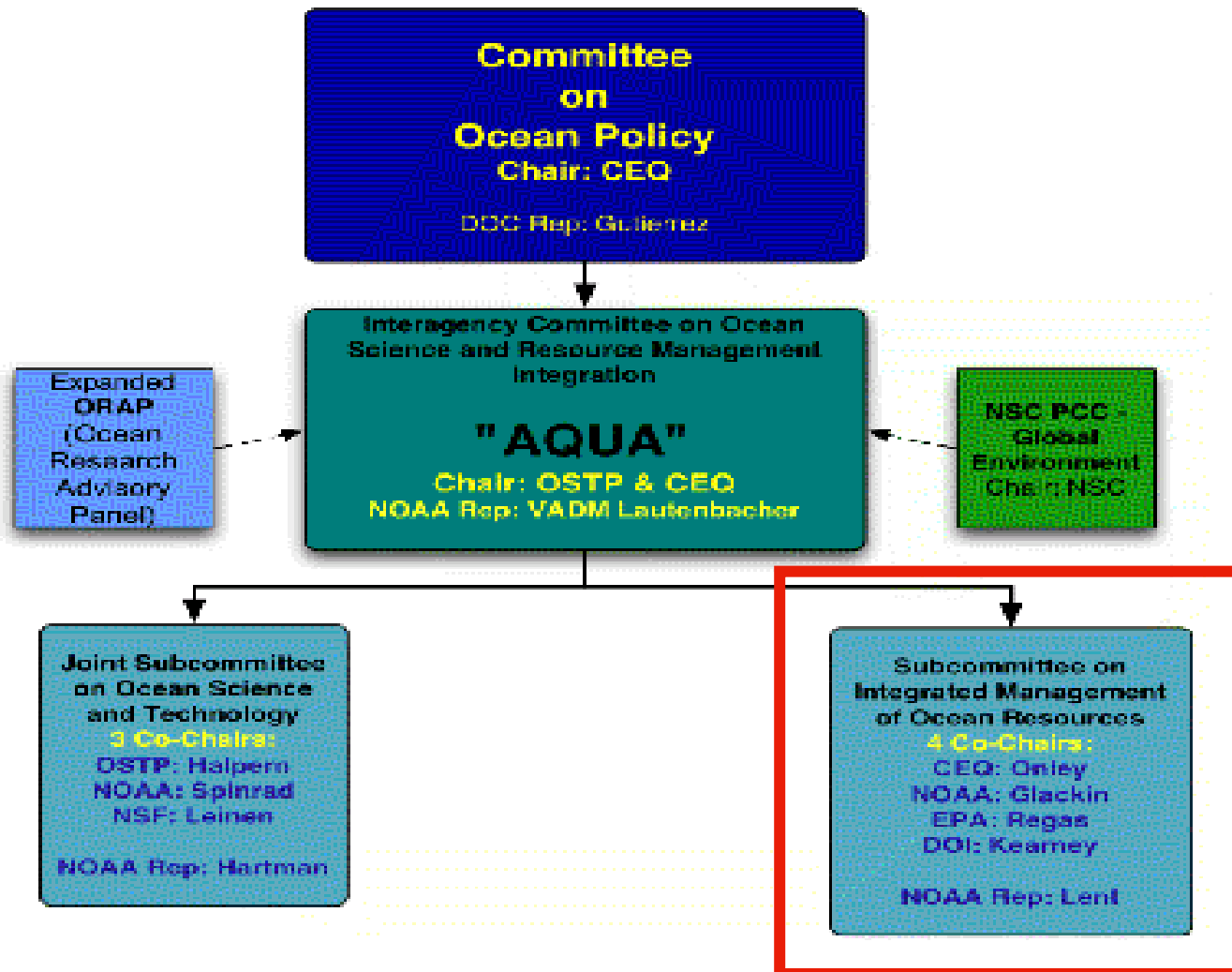
Administration Response

December 17, 2004



- ***Executive Order: Committee on Ocean Policy***
- ***U.S. Ocean Action Plan***

Improving Federal Coordination and Governance



U.S. Ocean Action Plan

I. Enhancing Ocean Leadership and Coordination

II. Advancing Our Understanding of the Oceans, Coasts, and Great Lakes

III. Enhancing the Use and Conservation of Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Resources

IV. Managing Coasts and Their Watersheds

V. Supporting Marine Transportation

VI. Advancing International Ocean Policy and Science

Enhancing Ocean Leadership and Coordination

- Improving Federal Coordination
 - NOAA Organic Act
 - Establish new interagency working groups
- Support Regional Collaborations
 - Great Lakes Interagency Task Force
 - Cooperative Conservation for Ocean Stewardship
 - Advance Regional Fisheries Management

Enhancing the Use and Conservation of Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Resources

- Achieving Sustainable Marine Fisheries
- Promote Coral Conservation
- Enhance Conservation of Protected Species
- Advance Offshore Aquaculture
- Improve Marine Managed Areas

NMFS-Specific OAP Commitments

- Implement new national bycatch strategy
- Propose national offshore aquaculture legislation
- Implement Gulf of Maine habitat restoration strategy
- Create a national strategy for fisheries enforcement
- Promote market-based systems for fisheries management
- Propose legislation to reauthorize Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Guidelines for use of science in fisheries management



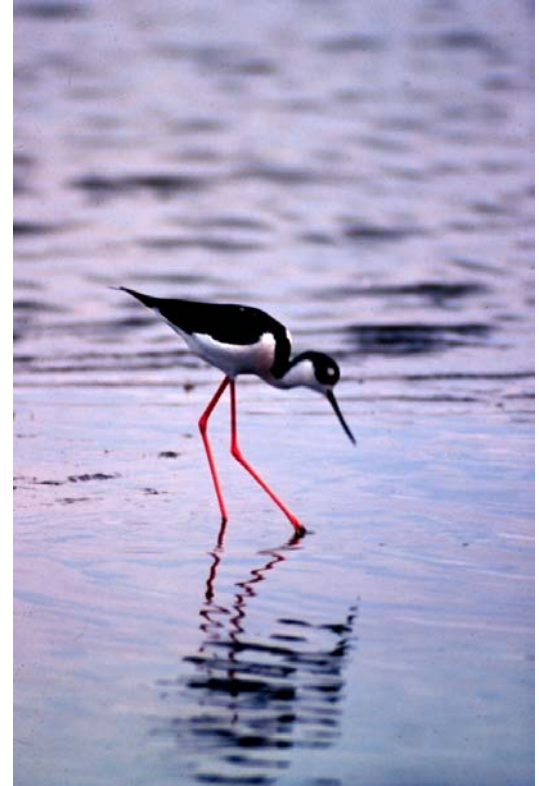
Managing Coasts and Their Watersheds



- Coastal & Watershed Management
- Coastal Habitat: Wetland Initiative
- Invasive species: "*Habitattitude*"
- Water Pollution Reduction

Future Actions: Congressional

- Oversight hearings
- Reauthorizations
 - MSFCMA
 - MMPA
 - CZMA
 - Marine Sanctuaries
 - Corals
- Other Legislation
 - NOAA Organic Act
 - Aquaculture
- Appropriations



Future Actions: Executive



- Develop ***Committee on Ocean Policy*** 18 month work plan
- Implement Action Plan
 - Determine resource needs
 - Identify agency-specific actions