

Envisioning the Next 30 Years of Coastal Management

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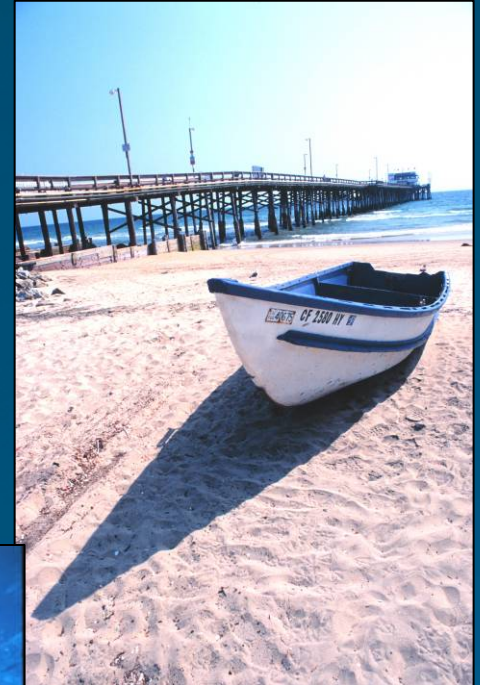


April 2007

Coastal Management Visioning Initiative

Purpose:

To conduct an examination of coastal management, and identify options for improving the CZMA.



Outcome and Timeline

- A **report** that compiles *core principles and specific options* to be considered by NOAA, the Coastal States Organization, and the National Estuarine Research Reserve Association in their reauthorization proposals for the CZMA.
- **May 2006 – September 2007**

Going Beyond the Status Quo

Both the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the U.S. Ocean Action Plan recommended there be **better coordination** among federal agencies.

The Office of Management and Budget expects proposed changes in the CZMA to include *national* or *regional priority-setting*, with outcome-oriented performance measures.

Coastal Management Visioning Initiative

A year-long process to identify core issues and ideas on which the CZMA, or other coastal management legislation will be drafted.

- **Phase 1: Identify Challenges and Key Questions for Discussion**

Discussion Paper (*available on <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/>*)

- **Phase 2: Learn from Managers Within the System**

Interviews with 33 CZM, 13 NERR and 10 other coastal managers (*available on <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/>*)

- **Phase 3: Meet with Stakeholders throughout the Country**

- (5 Meetings held April – June 2007: Boston, San Francisco, Chicago, Atlanta and Hawaii)

Key Findings of State Manager Interviews

- *Managing growth* was the most commonly identified challenge, with water quality as the second most common.
- *Local governments* were identified as the primary partner with which to address growth pressures.
- *Climate change* (inundation, impacts to habitat biodiversity) was the top emerging issue.
- *Federal interagency coordination is ineffective*, and that access to assistance is inefficient and confusing.

Innovative Ideas from Managers

- Implement a *tiered approach to coastal management*, allowing states to opt-in to new program initiatives to become eligible for increased funding and authorities.
- Require states to develop *strategies* for engaging *local governments* to achieve coastal management objectives, and enable *formal partnerships* with local governments.
- Implement a *regional approach* to priority setting, and conduct priority assessments and reevaluations periodically.

Stakeholder Meetings

- Planning *5 Regional Meetings*: Boston, San Francisco, Chicago, Atlanta, and Hawaii
- Two *small groups* of experts (including Reserve, and Coastal Program managers) charged to deliver innovative thoughts to include in regional discussions.
- Two *topic-based National Workshops* to refine or hone set of ideas.
- Ongoing meetings with *key constituents* (industry, environmental groups) and *Congressional staff* to test idea support.
- *Timeline: April - July 2007*

We Need Your Help

- Identify individuals from your partner and local networks to participate in stakeholder meetings.
- Develop ideas for improving partnerships, through the CZMA or otherwise, between NOAA, state coastal and estuarine programs, other marine management agencies, and stakeholder groups.

Contacts



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Submit a comment on-line at:

OCRM web site: <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov>

Discussion Question 1

Is the current land-side focus of CZMA adequate, or is there a need to integrate wet-side management? If more integration:

- What important wet-side ocean and coastal issues should coastal management and CZMA address with new or expanded efforts?
- From your perspective, what is preventing coastal management from addressing these ocean and Great Lake issues?
- What policy, governance, coordination, funding, science and/or other efforts could CZM add or expand upon to better address wet-side issues?

Discussion Question 2

How could coastal zone management better integrate with and/or support:

- Other state and federal legislative initiatives (*e.g., National Historic Preservation Act, and California Marine Life Protection Act*), and
- Regional governance efforts (*e.g., regional fishery management councils, ocean commission recommendations*)?

Discussion Question 3

Are there key constituents, particularly outside the traditional coastal management community, that should be aware of this coastal visioning effort and from whom NOAA should solicit input?