

Annotated Agenda
MAFAC Meeting – October 25-October 27, 2011
Washington, DC

1. Title of Discussion: NOAA Caribbean Strategy

2. Presenter: Dr. Jeff Payne, Deputy Director, NOAA Coastal Services Center

3. Objective/Purpose: The purpose of this briefing is to build with the MAFAC members an awareness of the draft NOAA Caribbean Strategy, elicit any initial impressions and/or recommendations during the briefing, and invite the MAFAC to provide additional comments when the public review period commences.

4. Background/Synopsis: The Caribbean Strategy is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-wide strategic approach to coordinate and integrate the abilities of all NOAA staff and line offices to address regional issues and improve mission effectiveness and international cooperation in the Caribbean region. A principal motive for this strategy is to create efficiencies in NOAA's current and future engagement and leadership in the Caribbean. NOAA has many faces in the Caribbean (i.e., fisheries management, hurricane forecasting, tsunami warning, coastal and marine protected area management, mapping and monitoring of marine ecosystems), yet it is important that NOAA's presence in the region be better integrated and coordinated within NOAA and with our constituents. Promoting a *One-NOAA* approach can help ensure time and resources are utilized to best support NOAA's domestic and international goals.

NOAA recognizes that stronger participation of Caribbean countries will extend benefits to both U.S. and Caribbean interests, but the agency does not have a comprehensive strategy for either addressing the multifaceted issues within the region or interfacing with these countries and organizations. The Strategy will better coordinate NOAA's work to leverage NOAA and partner resources, and enhance leadership and collaboration in the region. NOAA expertise, services, and products can also be transferred through training partnerships with local Caribbean-based agencies to support interagency cooperation and development of a sustainable technical and knowledge-base in the region. This Strategy is based on NOAA's Next Generation Strategic Plan and consistent with the National Ocean Policy.

5. Options listed from 1 to n: Feedback from the MAFAC on the Strategy, both real time in the meeting and through the public comment period, expected to be open approximately between Nov 10 – Nov 30 (to be announced in the Federal Register).

6. Preferred Recommendation:

Record of Decision:

Decision, Next Step(s) and/or Action:

Assigned to:

Due Date: