National Ocean Policy

A National Policy for the Stewardship of the Oceans, Our Coasts and the Great Lakes –

Established by Presidential Executive Order on July 19, 2010

Healthy Oceans Matter

SERVICE CATEGORIES	SERVICES
PROVISIONING	Seafood, medicines, fuel
REGULATING	Climate, flood, and disease regulation; water purification; coastal protection
CULTURAL	Aesthetic, spiritual, educational, recreational
SUPPORTING	Nutrient cycling, primary production

Ocean Feast...or Famine

Approximately 60% of the planet's ecosystem services are degraded

At risk:

- **Food security**
- **water**
- **health**

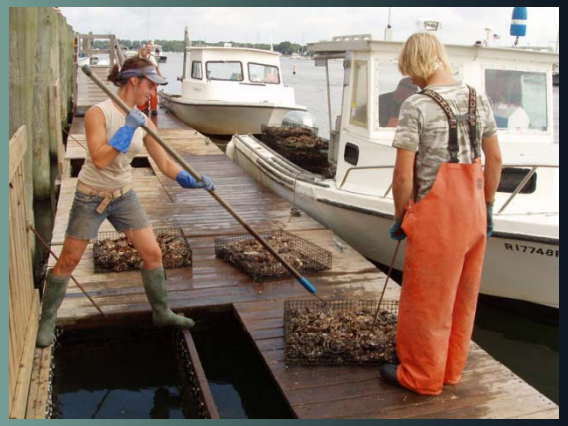
Changing How We Do Business

Over 140 statutes, regulations, & policies govern use of our oceans, coasts & Great Lakes

The National Ocean Policy will help agencies:

- Coordinate instead of Isolate
- Cooperate instead of Compete

Shared Values



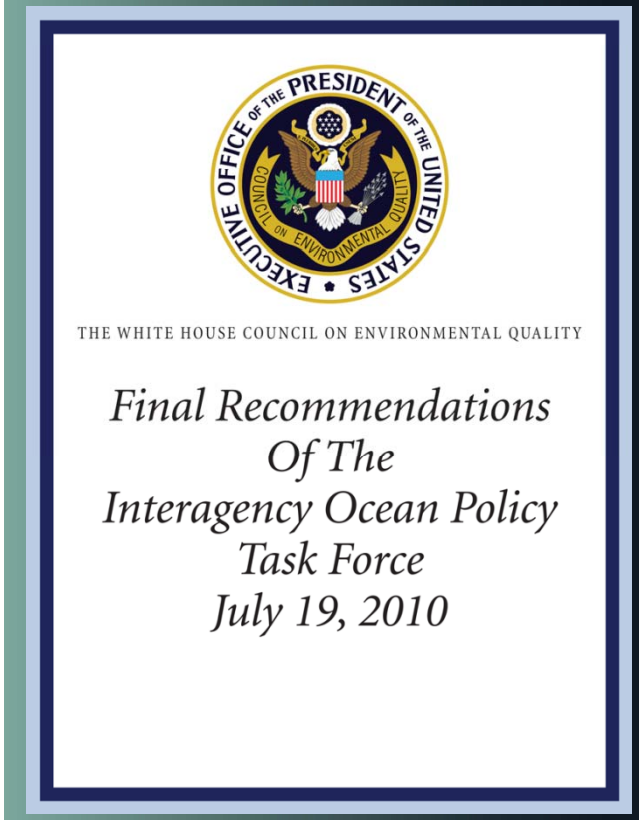
Balance Ocean Health and Community Prosperity

Level the Playing Field for All Stakeholders

Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Science

Respect the Unique Character of Each U.S. Region

Building Blocks



- National Ocean Council
- National Priority Objectives
- Framework for Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
- Regional Planning Bodies

National Ocean Council Website

whitehouse.gov/oceans

National Ocean Policy

Nine Priority Objectives

HOW WE DO BUSINESS

- Ecosystem-Based Management
- Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning
- Inform Decisions & Improve Understanding
- Coordinate & Support

AREAS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- Resiliency & Adaptation to Climate Change & Ocean Acidification
- Regional Ecosystem Protection & Restoration
- Water Quality & Sustainable Practices on Land
- Changing Conditions in the Arctic
- Ocean, Coastal, & Great Lakes Observation, Mapping & Infrastructure

Moving Toward Implementation

Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP)

Fair and Objective

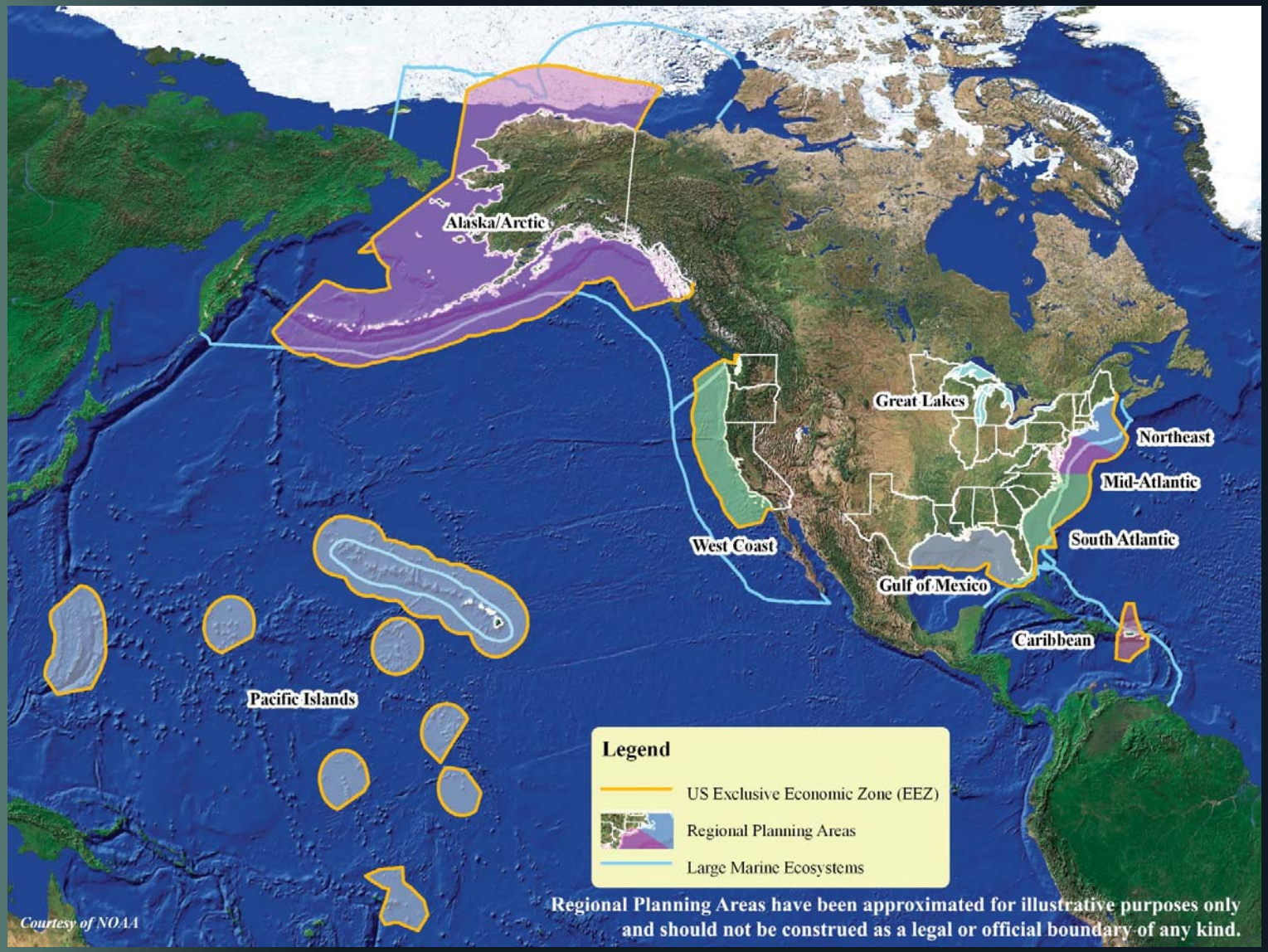
Regional and community focused

Ecosystem Based Management

Transparency

NOT an added layer of regulation or bureaucracy

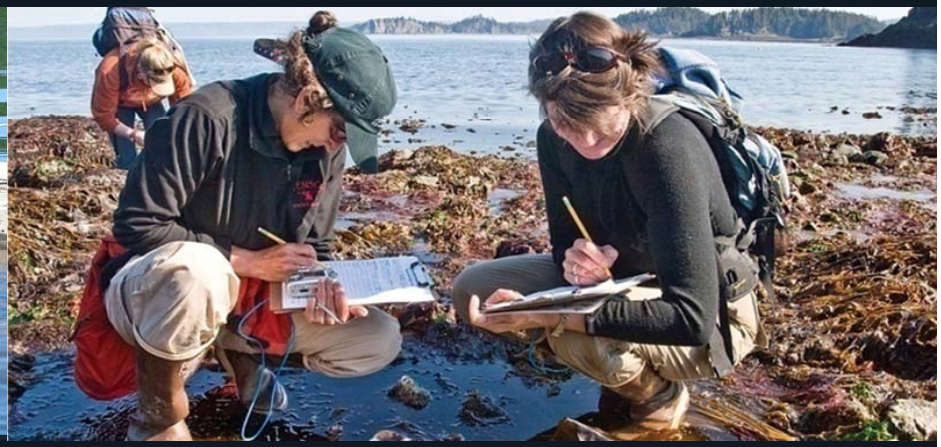
Regional Focus



Steps Toward Better Management

Successful CMSP will:

- Restore focus to regions and communities, away from Washington, DC
- Allow all stakeholders to have an equal voice
- Make decisions based on the best available science



Cooperation...not Competition

Preserve current uses

Embrace new uses

Grow relationships of trust and mutual respect

Respect for Local Authority

The National Ocean Policy rests on existing legal authority

Builds upon and informs current plans, projects and decision-making

Cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments

Science: Common Ground for Stakeholders

Science-based Decision Making needs:

- A clear understanding of a communities ecosystems
- Objective measures of ocean, coast, and Great Lakes health
- Scientists who are effective communicators

Role of Fishery Management Councils

Regional Fisheries Management Councils will play an important role in Regional CMSP

Experience —bringing their expertise from decades of involvement in the science- and ecosystem-based management of fisheries.

Science — providing research on fisheries biology and a wealth of economic data to support management goals.

Constituents — representing commercial and recreational fishing interests.

Management responsibilities — have authority to develop management and protection measures for fisheries, habitat, and deep-sea corals

Commercial and Recreational Fishing Community

Commercial and recreational fishery interests will have the opportunity to engage in CMSP in two ways through:

- Regional Fishery Management Council consultations with RPBs
- RPB Stakeholder Engagement Processes

Toward a New Ocean Ethic

Responsibility to both our communities and our oceans, coasts, and Great lakes