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**Council Coordination Committee  
May 1- 3, 2012**

**Discussion Questions**

**Agenda Item: Administration's activities on CMSP/NOC                      Sam Rauch/Paul Howard**

The National Ocean Council (NOC) is continuing to implement the National Ocean Policy, despite any clearly identified appropriations by Congress to do so. Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP), which is one of the Nine National Priority Objectives, has received significant attention in relation to the National Ocean Policy, because it holds potential to create ocean zoning through the establishment of regional Coast and Marine Spatial plans.

The regional CMSP plans are to be developed by the Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs). The NOC is currently initiating the formation of these RPBs, and inaugural meetings will occur in 2012. The Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMCs) have been provided a seat (government representative) on the RPBs, and the Science and Statistical Committees of the RFMCs have been identified as playing an important role. Many of the RFMCs have been developing spatial management regimes for decades.

NOAA has a major role in relation to the implementation of the National Ocean Policy. NOAA is currently funding grants to advance CMSP on the regional level. Furthermore, NOAA personnel are identified as federal co-leads for CMSP in many regions of the Nation.

**Q1: What NOAA funds are being used to conduct CMSP or National Ocean Policy activities in 2012?**

**Q2: Are any NMFS funds being used to support CMSP activities? If so, how is NMFS prioritizing the funding of CMSP activities vs. core programs?**

**Q3: How will the Science and Statistical Committees be engaged in the regional CMSP process?**