



# 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

PROVISIONING

REGULATING

CULTURAL

SUPPORTING

## SERVICES

Seafood, medicines, fuel

Climate, flood, and disease regulation; water purification; coastal protection

Aesthetic, spiritual, educational, recreational

Nutrient cycling, primary production

# Ocean Feast...or Famine

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

At risk:  
Food  
security  
water  
health



# The National Ocean Policy

## 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

# The President's National Ocean Policy

# 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

# The President's National Ocean Policy

# Building Blocks



THE WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Final Recommendations  
Of The  
Interagency Ocean Policy  
Task Force  
July 19, 2010*

National Ocean Council

National Priority Objectives

Framework for Coastal and  
Marine Spatial Planning

Regional Planning Bodies

# National Ocean Council Website

whitehouse.gov/oceans

the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

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Home | What's New | FAQ | Contact Us | About the Council | National Policy | Priority Objectives

The ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes provide jobs, food, energy resources, ecological services, recreation, and tourism opportunities, and play critical roles in our Nation's transportation, economy, and trade, as well as the global mobility of our Armed Forces and the maintenance of international peace and security.

— President Barack Obama



# 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

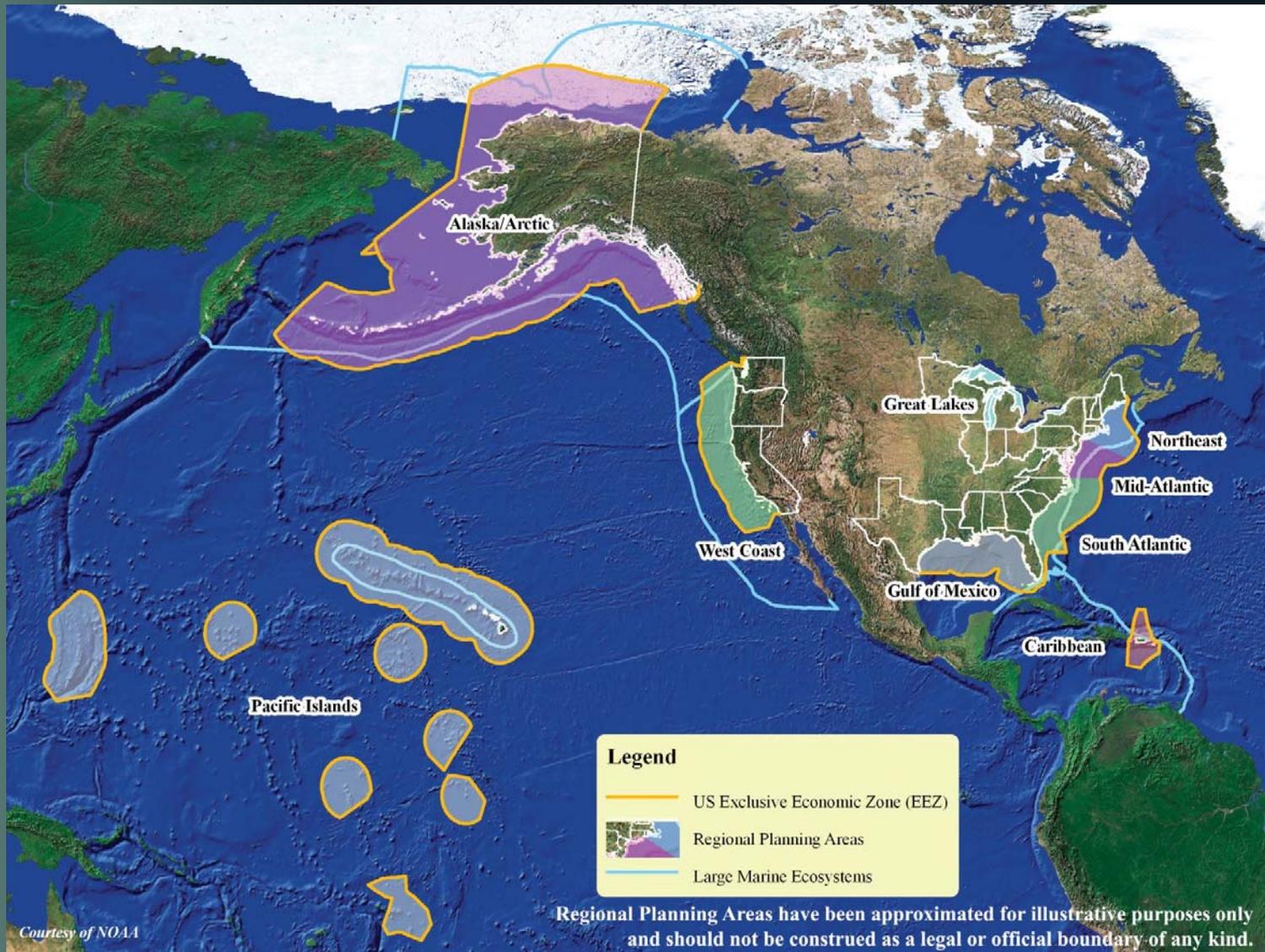
Regional and community focused

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