

Coastal States Organization  
Climate Change Work Group  
2008 Adaptation Survey

# CSO Mission Statement

To support the shared vision of the coastal states, commonwealths and territories for the protection, conservation, responsible use and sustainable economic development of the nation's coastal, ocean and Great Lakes resources.

# Climate Change Work Group

- ◆ September 2007 Report “The Role of Coastal Zone Management Programs in Adaptation to Climate Change.”
- ◆ September 2008 2nd Annual Report, highlighting detailed results of the Adaptation Survey

# Executive Summary

- ◆ This report further explores the current and future roles of state coastal zone management programs in addressing climate change.
- ◆ Work Group accomplishments to date this year include:
  - ◆ Testimony before Congressional committees, federal agencies and other coastal conferences to inform these groups of the role of state coastal zone management programs in addressing climate change;
  - ◆ Completion of a survey to further delineate not only the unmet needs of coastal states in regard to climate change planning and data, but an attempt to quantify the cost of these unmet needs;
  - ◆ Providing an information exchange among coastal states and territories; and
  - ◆ Working to identify the various coastal groups working on climate change initiatives to reduce redundancy.

# Purpose of 2008 Survey

- ◆ To obtain up to date information on the status of adaptation planning, priority information needs, and the anticipated resource needs of coastal states, commonwealths, and territories.
- ◆ For use to help inform members of Congress, federal agencies, and others about the status, anticipated costs, and the needs of the coastal states, commonwealths, and territories to address the impacts of climate change.

- ◆ Goal to obtain as much information as possible from coastal states, commonwealths, and territories on their collective planning strategies and resource needs of climate change adaptation, specifically sea level rise and lake level change.
- ◆ 29 questions based on a closed ended survey format consisting of multiple choice questions, categorical questions and Likert scale style questions. Space was provided for comment on each question.

- ◆ Survey sent to 34 coastal states, commonwealths, and territories.
- ◆ 30 partially completed survey, 27 fully completed the survey as of September 2008.

# Process

- ◆ Designed with input and direction from the CC Work Group.
- ◆ Utilized online survey tool, Survey Monkey, for user ease.

# Results

**Does your state, commonwealth or territory, currently have an adaptation plan for sea-level rise or lake level change?**

**84% of the participating states do not have a SLR plan completed, and are either currently working on one, plan on having one ready within a year, or are considering drafting one. Only 3 states currently have one or are beginning to formalize one.**

# Results

How long did or will development of a sea level rise/lake level change adaptation plan take?

80% of respondents believe that in order to be thorough and inclusive, 1 to 2 years (36%) or more than 2 years (44%) will be needed to develop a SLR adaptation plan

# □ Results

What was the total or projected cost of data collection and analysis for use in the sea level rise/lake level change adaptation plan?

63% of respondents believe data collection and analysis for SLR in their state will cost in excess of \$400k.

Comments focused on the majority of funds needed to obtaining and utilizing LIDAR.

# Results

On a scale of 1-5, respondents averaged a 4.73 score for the importance of Detailed Topographical Data (ie LIDAR).

43% of respondents anticipate cost of elevation data to be between \$1-3 million or greater. 29% need more information before they can estimate this cost.

# Results- "Do not know"

Respondents indicated the need for models (storm surge, sediment transport, incremental sea level rise, wetland changes, river flow/flood, ground water, high resolution atmospheric) in developing a SLR adaptation plan.

61% of respondents do not feel they have adequate knowledge to predict the cost in obtaining these models.

# Results

When asked the cost or estimated cost of obtaining socioeconomic data sets and geologic data sets, 66% and 63% of respondents did not know how much this data will cost.

45% of respondents did not know how much it will cost to obtain infrastructure data, while 32% believe it will cost in excess of \$200k.

45% of respondents did not know how much it will cost to obtain policy and regulatory information for program needs.

# Results

When asked for the estimated cost of obtaining climate, wave, and current data sets for a SLR plan, 74% of respondents responded "Don't Know."

52% of respondents did not know the cost of obtaining habitat data for SLR plans.

Overall, 48% of respondents did not have a "best estimate" for cost of implementing an adaptation plan annually for the next five years.

# Conclusions

More information is needed.

States need assistance in planning and executing adaptation plans.