

***Ocean Policy Task Force Update:  
Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning***

**David M. Kennedy  
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator  
National Ocean Service  
NOAA**

**Northeast CZMA Region Virtual Meeting  
Dec. 1, 2009**

# Ocean Policy Task Force

- Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force
  - Established June 12, 2009 by Presidential Memorandum
  - Chair Nancy Sutley, CEQ
  - 24 senior policy officials
- Working Committee
  - Senior career officials
- Five Subgroups
  - Policy
  - Coordination Framework
  - Implementation Strategy
  - Public Engagement
  - **Marine Spatial Planning** \*

# Four Deliverables

- **Within 90 Days = September 10**
  - National Policy
  - Framework for Policy Coordination
  - Implementation Strategies
- **Within 180 Days = December 9**
  - Marine Spatial Planning Framework

# Interim Report

Statement of a national ocean policy

- Protect, maintain, and restore the health of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems and resources;
- Improve the resiliency of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems, communities, and economies;



# What is Marine Spatial Planning

**MSP: Analyzing and allocating ocean spaces for multiple uses in order to achieve ecological, economic, and other societal objectives.**

## *Goals of MSP:*

- Reduce impacts in ecologically sensitive areas
- Minimize disputes among incompatible activities sharing marine locations.



# Emerging Themes for CMS Plans

- Create collaboratively by regional planning bodies
- Integrate with existing state/regional plans
- Non-regulatory; voluntary adherence
  - Implement using existing authorities
- May vary in emphasis among regions
- Will not halt or delay ongoing decisions
- Will enhance regional governance
- Will be completed in 5 years

# Some Federal Contributions

## National Ocean Council will:

- Develop objectives, criteria, guidance
- Coordinate with Regional Planning Bodies
- Coordinate federal activities
- Certify regional plans
- Evaluate adherence to regional plans
- Provide data and decision support tools



# A Phased Approach to Implementation

**Phase 1** = getting organized

**Phase 2** = building capacity, engaging stakeholders

**Phase 3** = planning begins