

## Summary of GAO Recommendations and NOAA Response

Recommendation 1: Review and revise regulations and grant award practices to address minimum funding allocation and competitive funding in enhancement programs.

*OCRM will review and revise as needed procedures and rules that establish minimum funding amounts and competitive funding implementation by December 2010.*

Recommendation 2: NOAA needs to establish performance goals so that evaluators have criteria for evaluating state coastal programs to improve evaluations.

*OCRM is developing and approach as discussed during the program managers meeting. OCRM will work with partners to develop a framework and approach for state development of performance goals. Implementation of a performance goals framework will be implement in February 2011.*

Recommendation 3: Ensure that evaluations are independent by revising the role of state coastal management officials in the review process.

*OCRM will develop written guidance regarding the role of state CZM staff and representatives in the evaluation process by June 2009.*

Recommendation 4: Create targets for performance measures already developed that can be used to assess the effectiveness of the national program.

*OCRM will pilot draft national level targets for performance measures reported annually by December 2010. By December 2011, OCRM will establish final national targets.*

Recommendation 5: Develop appropriate internal controls for verifying that the data received for the performance measurement system are reliable and consistent across participating states.

By June 2009, OCRM will develop internal guidance for the review and approval of performance measures data. In 2009, OCRM will work with state partners to pilot draft metadata reporting requirements. By December 2010, OCRM will finalize metadata reporting requirements based on experience gained and program comments.

(Continued)

### Summary of GAO Recommendations and NOAA Responses (Cont.)

Recommendation 6: Develop measures to assess state programs' effectiveness in improving processes.

This recommendation was at odds with OMB direction to NOAA, and therefore NOAA did not agree to recommendation. No action is proposed.

Recommendation 7: Develop an approach to integrate the qualitative data from its periodic state evaluations with the quantitative data in its performance measurement system.

OCRM will establish a work group of NOAA and State CZM program representatives to investigate and develop alternative approaches to integrating 312 evaluation qualitative information and quantitative performance measures information. OCRM will implement the selected approach by December 2012.