



National Association of Conservation Districts

Coastal Zone Management

NATIONAL

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration – Ocean & Coastal Resource Mgt

www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov

The NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) mission is to enable federal, state, local and tribal managers to protect, restore, and manage ocean and coastal resources through ecosystem-based management. OCRM provides national leadership, strategic direction, and guidance to state and territory coastal programs and estuarine research reserves. The Office further works with state and territory coastal resource managers to develop a scientifically-based, comprehensive national system of marine protected areas (MPAs) and supports effective management and sound science to protect, sustain and restore coral reef ecosystems. These activities are mandated by the Coastal Zone Management Act, the MPA Executive Order, and the Coral Reef Conservation Act.

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) oversees six major programs within its six divisions. Each program has a national reach, but is designed to account for local resources and needs. The Coastal Management Program is a partnership between 34 coastal and Great Lakes states, territories and commonwealths that works to preserve, protect, develop, and, where possible, restore and enhance the resources of the nation's coastal zone. The Coral Reef Conservation Program supports effective management and sound science to preserve, sustain, and restore valuable coral reef ecosystems. The National Estuarine Research Reserves System (NERRS) is a partnership between NOAA and the coastal states that oversees 27 research reserves which have been established for the purpose of research, education, and coastal stewardship. The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) protects coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic values by providing funding to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on these lands, from willing sellers. The National Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Center uses science, technology, and training to plan, manage, and evaluate the nation's system of marine protected areas that include not only marine ecosystems, but also an array of cultural and historical artifacts found underneath the surface, including shipwrecks. The Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program encourages better coordination between state coastal zone managers and water quality experts to reduce polluted runoff in the coastal zone.

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), in conjunction with other offices of the National Ocean Service, produces many publications on coastal management issues. In addition, in its unique role under the Coastal Zone Management Act, OCRM has established close partnerships with many government agencies and non-governmental organizations with joint interests in coastal issues facing our nation today.

STATE

State Coastal Zone Management Programs

www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/programs/coast_div.html

The National Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program is a voluntary partnership between the federal government and U.S. coastal states and territories authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Thirty-four coastal and Great Lakes states, territories and commonwealths have approved coastal management programs. Together, these programs protect more than 99 percent of the nation's 95,331 miles of ocean and Great Lakes coastline. Policy advice and planning assistance to states and their local governments on issues ranging from growth management to hazard mitigation is a critical component of coastal management. Additionally, coastal zone management programs address water quality issues through the Coastal Nonpoint Program (CNP), authorized by Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990. CNPs are designed to promote interagency coordination that facilitates the implementation of management measures to control nonpoint source pollution from six main sources: agricultural, forestry, urban development, marinas, hydromodification (such as dams or stream channel modifications), and the loss of wetland and riparian areas. For information on your state's or territory's ocean and coastal management activities, go to www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/welcome.html.

National Sea Grant Program

www.seagrants.noaa.gov

Sea Grant is NOAA's primary university-based program in support of coastal resource use and conservation. Sea Grant's research and outreach programs promote better understanding, conservation and use of America's coastal resources. In short, Sea Grant is "science serving America's coasts."

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Coastal Services Center

www.csc.noaa.gov

The NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) is an office within NOAA devoted to serving the nation's state and local coastal resource management programs.

Coastal States Organization

www.coastalstates.org

The Coastal States Organization (CSO) represents the Governors of the nation's 35 coastal states, commonwealths and territories on legislative and policy issues relating to the sound management of coastal, Great Lakes and ocean resources.

GETTING YOUR DISTRICTS INVOLVED

- ✓ Visit with your state lead agency about coastal zone management programs and resources, and learn how districts can contribute.
- ✓ Work with your state agency and groups like the Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials Program (<http://nemo.uconn.edu>) to educate your districts about coastal issues, programs, resources, and how these complement their conservation goals and services.
- ✓ Help your districts educate key decision-makers and others about coastal management requirements and needs.