CMSP Implementation in the Alaska/ Arctic Region

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Key Elements of CMSP

• Balance Ocean Health and Community Prosperity
• Fair and Open Process for All Stakeholders
• Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Science
• Respect the Unique Character of Each U.S. Region
Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) will prepare and implement unique CMS Plans for their region.

The planning exercise will be stakeholder informed, engaging local, state, regional, and tribal entities.

Federal agencies such as NOAA will assist the RPBs with science, data and logistical support.
Current National Level CMSP Activities

• National Workshop and Simulation Exercise
• Formation of Regional Planning Bodies
• Strategic Action Plan Development
• Information Management System & Prototype Portal
CMSP is a proactive **planning** process that gathers information and identifies issues before decisions have to be made.

- CMS plans themselves will not contain regulations and are not “ocean zoning”

- **Zoning** defines specific areas where uses are controlled, restricted or limited using statutory or regulatory authority.

“P” is for planning, not zoning
CMSP requires Partnerships

- Federal partners (e.g., DOI, EPA, Coast Guard, etc.)
- State partners (e.g., ADFG, UAF, DEC, etc.)
- Tribal partners
- Non-governmental organizations
- Local organizations
Eg: Oil Spill Response in the Arctic

**Issues**

- Increased marine transportation and energy exploration increases the risk of oil spills and marine debris.
- Many standard approaches to oil spill clean-up and restoration are not applicable in ice and permafrost. Poor understanding of the ecology of near-ice habitats and associated ecological injuries.
- Climate-induced changes in ecological conditions provide challenges for assessment and restoration. Lack of baseline data on habitat and marine species prevent appropriate restoration following a spill.
Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme
AMAP Assessment Report: Arctic Pollution Issues, Fig 10.5
CMSP – eg, ecosystem concern – bowhead whales
Where voluntary cooperation could work

- CMSP in Alaska
  - Timing of open water seismic operations
  - Timing of open water drilling operations
  - Timing of oil and gas production (year round)
  - Distribution of assets to respond to a spill
  - Timing of subsistence hunting
  - Timing and spatial distribution of shipping
  - Timing and spatial distribution of research
President’s Budget Request FY 11 and 12:

NOAA - $6.77M and $20M Regional Grants
DOI - $4M USGS and $1M BOEMRE (FY 11 only)

Despite budget uncertainty - we still need to move forward with implementation as the Executive Order directs – so much of what NOAA already does contributes to CMSP implementation
• Thanks for your attention

• Let us know how NOAA can help implement the necessary partnership to make this work!
Regional Focus

Legend

- **US Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**
- **Regional Planning Areas**
- **Large Marine Ecosystems**

Regional Planning Areas have been approximated for illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as a legal or official boundary of any kind.

NOAA’s Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Program