



The CSO Weekly Report

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Coastal States Organization

<http://www.coastalstates.org>

"The Voice of the Coastal States and Territories on Ocean, Coastal & Great Lakes Affairs"

At CSO...

CSO HOSTS WINTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN WASHINGTON D.C.

This week, CSO hosted representatives from over thirty states, territories, and commonwealths in Washington D.C. for its Winter Membership Meeting. The CSO members convened to discuss the following: CSO's 2008 priorities; federal appropriations; *Coastal Zone Management Act* (CZMA) reauthorization; adaptation to climate change; and the Coastal States Stewardship Foundation. For the CZMA reauthorization discussion, CSO welcomed Jack Dunnigan, Assistant Administrator from NOAA's National Ocean Service, David Kennedy, Director of NOAA's OCRM, and Emily Woglom, Senior Policy Advisor at The Nature Conservancy, to present their ideas for reauthorization. The members also hosted a roundtable with Congressional staff to hear about Congress' upcoming legislative priorities for the year. A major action by the CSO Governing Board was the adoption of principals for CZMA reauthorization and a climate change policy. CSO also hosted a Legal Council meeting, where policy and legal experts in coastal management met for a one-day session to discuss recent litigation on sonar, to hear about legal issues affecting the states, and to hear from federal agencies about alternative energy.

CSO MEMBERS HONORED WITH SUSAN SNOW-COTTER AWARD

Mr. Brian Baird, CSO Chair and Assistant Secretary for the CA Resources Agency, and Ms. Kathleen Leyden, CSO Regional Ocean Governance Work Group Chair and Director of ME Coastal Program, received the 1st Annual *Susan Snow-Cotter Award for Excellence in Ocean and Coastal Resource Management*. Mr. Baird and Ms. Leyden were recognized for initiating innovative practices and bringing positive change to the management of ocean or coastal resources at the state and national level. Originally a NOAA excellence award, it was renamed to honor Ms. Susan Snow-Cotter, who was an exceptional leader in improving both policy and management of ocean and coastal resources on the national and state levels, and in the Gulf of Maine region.

COASTAL COMMUNITY HOSTS SUCCESSFUL HILL EVENT

On Wednesday night, CSO along with the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, the National Association of Marine Laboratories, the National Estuarine Research Reserve Association, and the Sea Grant Association, with additional sponsors and contributors, co-hosted a reception on Capitol Hill for congressional staff. Attended by over 300 people, the event featured lots of great networking, discussions about issues along our coasts, and *Smalltown*, who entertained the crowd

with beach music. CSO thanks all of the hosts, sponsors, and contributors, as well as staff from Senator Sheldon Whitehouse's (D-RI) office who made the event such a great success.

On the Hill...

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE HOLDS HEARING ON CZMA BILLS; CSO MEMBERS TESTIFY

The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held a hearing on H.R. 5451, *Coastal Zone Reauthorization Act of 2008*, H.R. 5452, *Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2008*, H.R. 5453, *Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act of 2008*, and H.R. 3223, *Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act of 2007*. H.R. 5451 reauthorizes the *Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)* and includes language to authorize appropriations until 2011 for various programs under the Act. H.R. 5452 would amend the CZMA to authorize grants to coastal States to support state efforts to initiate and complete surveys of both state and federal waters adjacent to a state's coastal zone to identify potential areas suitable or unsuitable for the exploration, development, and production of renewable energy. H.R. 5453 would amend the CZMA to authorize assistance to coastal states to develop coastal climate change adaptation plans pursuant to approved management programs under section 306. H.R. 3223 would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) to establish a Working Waterfront Grant Program in order to develop and implement plans to preserve and expand our nation's working waterfronts, which would provide coastal access to persons engaged in commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and other water dependent businesses.

The Subcommittee received testimony from Representative Thomas Allen (D-ME); Mr. David Kennedy, Director of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Mr. Bob Bailey, CZMA Reauthorization Work Group Chair for the Coastal States Organization and Manager of the Oregon Coastal Program; Dr. Jaime C. Kooser, President of the National Estuarine Research Reserves Association and Manager of the San Francisco Bay NERR; Ms. Evangeline Lujan, Director of the Guam Coastal Management Program and Member of the All Islands CZM Group; Mr. Robert Stokes, Chairman of the Board for Restore America's Estuaries; Mr. Jim Connors, Representative for the Maine Working Waterfront Coalition; and Ms. Carolyn Elefant, General Counsel for the Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition. At the hearing, Chairwoman Bordallo (D-GU), Ranking Member Brown (R-SC), and Representatives Capps (D-CA) and Wittman (R-VA) asked questions regarding potential improvements to the CZMA, particularly how it can better provide for the unique needs of islands and cultural resources, coastal communities facing sea level rise and climate change impacts, the use of science in coastal decision-making. Discussion also included the interaction of federal, state and local governments and particularly the impact of the CZMA on local land use decisions. The emerging alternative energy industry, including tidal, wave, and coastal and offshore wind, was addressed in the context of how best to plan for siting, whether to institute ocean zoning principles or wait for technology to develop in order to inform siting plans. To view witness testimony from the hearing, visit:

http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=27&extmode=view&extid=144

HOUSE HOLDS HEARINGS ON FY2009 NOAA BUDGET

This week, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the FY 2009 Budget Request for NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The hearing, chaired by Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU), had testimony from Mary Glackin, NOAA Deputy Undersecretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Kenneth Stansell, Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Chairwoman Bordallo noted that the FY 2009 budget undermines the Administration's commitment to its own ocean action plan. Delegate Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS) noted that

proposed increases for polar satellites could be better used for other programs, such as coral conservation and whale disentanglement. NOAA Deputy Undersecretary Mary Glackin recognized the concern and stated that the agency was "stressed for resources" and attempted to prioritize implementation of the new provisions under the Magnuson-Stevens Act in its fiscal 2009 budget. To view witness testimony from the hearing, visit:
http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=27&extmode=view&extid=143.

Federal Register . . .

NOAA REQUESTS COMMENTS ON DRAFT SEA LEVEL RISE REPORT

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is seeking comments on the draft report, U.S. Climate Change Science Program Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.1: Coastal elevation and sensitivity to sea level rise (73, Federal Register, p.10005, February 25). The report analyzes information from the ongoing mapping efforts by federal and non-federal researchers related to the implications of rising sea level. The report will also develop a plan for sea level rise research to answer the questions that are most urgent for near-term decision-making. The deadline for comments is April 10, 2008. For more information, visit
<http://www.climatechange.gov/Library/sap/sap4-1/public-review-draft/>.

In the News . . .

JOINT INITIATIVE RELEASES U.S. OCEAN POLICY REPORT CARD

This week, the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative released its third annual U.S. Ocean Policy Report Card. The report card assesses the nation's progress in 2007 toward implementing the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission, as well as the actions described in the Administration's U.S. Ocean Action Plan. The 2007 U.S. Ocean Policy Report Card gave its highest grade, A-, to Regional and State Ocean Governance Reform. The Joint Initiative noted that significant progress had been made establishing and implementing state ocean legislation as well as in Gulf of Mexico and West Coast regions. While state and regional initiatives continue to move forward on ocean governance reform, the Joint Initiative noted the lack of significant progress at the federal level on ocean governance reform and scored it with a D, which is down from last year's C-. Overall, the Joint Initiative's Report Card averaged to a C for the nation's collective progress towards implementing the Commissions' recommendations. This is up from last year's C- average due to the progress of states and regions, as well as the recent momentum to ratify the U.N. Law of the Sea Convention. To see the full report card and supporting documents, please follow the link:
http://www.jointoceancommission.org/resource-center/2-Report-Cards/2008-02-27_2007_Ocean_Policy_Report_Card.pdf.

In the States...

DELAWARE LAUNCHES "THANK YOU DELAWARE BAY" CAMPAIGN

A new campaign designed to showcase the beauty and amenities of the Delaware Bay was unveiled February 12th. Program partners Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's (DNREC) Delaware Coastal Programs, The Nature Conservancy, and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary held a special ceremony announcing the new campaign, designed to raise awareness of the need to protect the bay. Campaign partners hope the campaign will instill a personal connection to the bay and encourage the public to actively protect the bay. The campaign includes a new logo, website, and slogan, "The Delaware Bay Takes Care of Us. Let's Return the Favor", all aimed at bringing identity and recognition to the initiative. The website, www.tydb.org, encourages citizens to explore the bay by visiting its wildlife refuges, nature centers, museums, and cultural sites. The website also provides information on recreational activities on the bay as well as links to state and federal government sites where information on

policy work impacting the bay can be found. For more information on Thank You Delaware Bay, visit: www.tydb.org.

Science to Management...

STUDY SAYS NO AREA OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS IS UNAFFECTED BY HUMAN IMPACT

A recent study published in the Feb. 15th edition of *Science* magazine proposes that all of the world's oceans have been impacted by humans to some extent. The study, *A Global Map of Human Impact on Marine Ecosystems*, purports that more than 40% of the world's ocean-based ecosystems are severely compromised due to human contact. The study analyzes the impact of 17 human-related factors such as fishing, warming water temperature linked to human-induced climate change, coastal runoff and pollution. The study notes that the largest impacts are felt near the continental shelf and slope, where both land-based and ocean-based human impacts occur. The study also notes that areas less affected are those where year-round ice limits human access, such as the Arctic and Antarctic. The study suggests this will change with the projected future polar ice loss due to human-induced global warming. The authors of the study hope that their findings can be used to identify areas of concern and reduce future human impact through mitigating measures, such as altering fishing zones or shipping channels. More information and how to access the full article can be found at:

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/319/5865/948>.

STUDY SAYS OVERFISHING OF SEA PREDATORS MAY LEAD TO UNHEALTHY REEFS

A recent report notes a great difference in fish diversity and population in inhabited versus uninhabited reefs. Scientists attribute this disparity to fishing pressure on shark, snapper, grouper, and other large predators. The report is based on a survey of every form of life during the summer of 2007 in the Northern Line Islands, a chain south of Hawaii. In the report, scientists note an explosion of smaller fish but a decrease in fish size on reefs where predators have been depleted due to overfishing. Eric Sala, an ecologist formerly of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where some of the research was conducted, describes the reefs as "ecological machines." "You can hit the system with a disturbance, but the system comes back," Sala said. However, if you remove pieces of the system, such as the predatory fish, "the machine is going to malfunction." For more information see:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/26/science/earth/26reef.html?_r=3&ref=science&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin.

The report can be found at: <http://biology.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371/journal.pbio.0060054>.

Vacancies...

LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP SEEKS FINANCE OFFICER

The Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership seeks a part-time (32 hrs/week) Finance Officer. Full service bookkeeping experience required in addition to experience managing and tracking major grants, including federal, state and private. The candidate must have QuickBooks experience. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Please submit letter with detailed resume by 4:00 pm, March 6, 2008 to 811 SW Naito Pkwy, Suite 120, Portland, OR 97204. A position description can be found at www.lcrep.org.

PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME SEEKS A COASTAL MANAGEMENT ADVISER

The Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is seeking a Coastal Management Adviser to provide technical assistance and advice to Pacific Island Member countries and territories as well as advice and support to other programme areas of the Secretariat. The CMA is responsible for the delivery of components of the SPREP Strategic Programmes relating to

coastal and marine ecosystem conservation, integrated coastal management, marine species issues and relevant multilateral environmental agreements to assist island Members implement the SPREP Action Plan. The CMA also contributes to the implementation of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands and the Regional Ocean Policy and Framework for Integrated Strategic Action. The closing date for this position is March 28th, 2008. For more information and details on this position go to:

<http://www.sprep.org/vacancies/CoastalManagementAdviserCMA-ReAd.htm> .

ALASKA MARINE CONSERVATION COUNCIL SEEKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Alaska Marine Conservation Council (AMCC) is seeking an Executive Director to lead a financially healthy organization into an exciting new phase of growth and development. Founded in 1994, AMCC is a community-based organization dedicated to protecting the long-term health of Alaska's oceans and sustaining the working waterfronts of our coastal communities. The Executive Director is the chief executive officer of the organization with responsibility for shaping and administering all functions of the organization including strategies, communications, financial management, membership, fundraising plans and the conservation program. The Executive Director operates under the direction of the Board, oversees lead staff and manages all personnel matters. He or she must have a clear commitment to AMCC's mission and guiding principles. The new executive director will work out of our Anchorage office. AMCC is offering a salary competitive with similar positions in the non-profit sector, adjustable depending on experience. An excellent package of employee and health benefits is included. To apply please send a letter of interest, salary requirements, resume and contact information for three references to the Search Committee: email: edapplicants@akmarine.org All applications should be received by March 17, 2008. For a complete job description and qualifications, please visit AMCC's website at <http://www.akmarine.org/>

PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME SEEKS A CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION OFFICER

The Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is seeking a Climate Change Adaptation Officer. Duties include but are not limited to: develop and implement adaptation proposals to assist Pacific Island countries and territories in their efforts to respond to climate change, climate variability and sea level rise; assist Pacific Island parties to implement the relevant provisions and decisions of the UNFCCC related to adaptation, subject to priorities and resources of the organization; and provide the Secretariat with advice on the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the Kyoto Protocol and where requested, facilitate the development or implementation of national adaptation projects to be funded by the Adaptation Fund of the CDM. The closing date for this position is March 28th 2008. For more information and detail on this position go to:

<http://www.sprep.org/vacancies/ClimateChangeAdaptationOfficerCCAOReAdvertised.htm>

*** The next Weekly Report will be published on March 7, 2008. ***

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