

Coastal States Organization
Winter Business Meeting
February 28, 2011

Attendees: Lisa Angelos (MN), Bob Bailey (OR), Brian Baird (CA), Carolyn Boltin-Kelly (SC), Diana Bowen (CSO), Jan Boyd (MS), Lou Buatt (LA), Bruce Carlisle (MA), Dave Carter (DE), Sandy Chesnut (MS), Rita Chong-Dela Cruz (CNMI), Jeff Clark (MS), Sarah Cooksey (DE), Ernesto Diaz (PR), Ted Diers (NH), Emily Finnell (MI), Kristen Fletcher (CSO), Mike Friis (WI), Dorina Frizzera (NJ), Brad Gane (GA), Andrea Geiger (CSO), Steve Goldbeck (BCDC), Phillip Hinesley (AL), Nathan Ilaoa (AS), Michelle Jespersen (CCC), Mary Lou Kobayashi (HI), Sheri Land (TX), Kathleen Leyden (ME), Vange Lujan (GU), Brian Lynn (WA), Laura McKay (VA), Mike Molnar (IN), Sean Morrison (AS), Gary Obleski (PA), Rose Pangelinan (CNMI), Lelei Peau (AS), Chris Riggio (CSO), Gwynne Schultz (MD), John Watkins (OH), Kate Zultner (TX).

Mr. Davis calls the meeting to order at 8:35am.

Welcome and Introductions

After welcoming the group, Mr. Davis asks members to briefly introduce themselves. Mr. Davis discusses the difficult political and fiscal climate, noting the decade of level funding for CZMA. He announces and congratulates the members of the CSO family that have been named to Governance Coordinating Committee. Mr. Davis notes the CZMA anniversary in 2012 and suggests that the anniversary is an opportunity to advocate for reauthorization. He also highlights the need to think of new partners and funding opportunities to help support state coastal programs.

Review of Agenda and Meeting Objectives

Action: Approval of October 2010 Minutes

Mr. Davis asks if there are any changes to the Fall 2010 CSO Annual Meeting minutes. Mr. Baird asks for one change to a comment attributed to him. Hearing no other changes, Ms. Cooksey motions to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Leyden seconds. The minutes as amended are approved.

Mr. Davis reviews the day's agenda and meeting objectives. During the remainder of the CSO Members Business Session: Ms. Cooksey will provide a treasurer's and grants report; Ms. Geiger will provide a federal and legislative update; Ms. Leyden will discuss the annual fall meeting to be held in Maine; Mr. Davis will offer ideas for a chair's initiative and provide an update on Regional Ocean Partnerships and CSO's role; and Ms. Cooksey will report on the Coastal States Stewardship Foundation.

During the open session, there will be a National Ocean Council partner panel. Mr. Davis says that the NOC is currently seeking comments on National Ocean Policy (NOP) Strategic Action Plan (SAP) development. The NOC is seeking input to guide the drafting and development of the SAPs. He notes that the panel is a good opportunity for members to get further clarification about CMSP efforts and the role of the Regional Planning Bodies. Mr. Davis also notes that the panel should be able to respond to questions about whether the CMSP effort is intended to have enforceable policies or guide/play a support role of organizations with enforceable policies, as well as where funding will come from in the absence of congressional appropriations.

After lunch, there will be a discussion with the NOS/OCRM. Mr. Davis notes the panel as a good opportunity to inquire about Mr. Kennedy's strategic vision for NOS and where budget cuts might be seen. Mr. Davis also notes that OCRM has a contract with The Meridian Group and will put together a panel to explore how to improve communication with respect to CZMA reauthorization. Mr. Davis wants to better understand this process. Ms. Leyden asks if it is ok to ask NOAA about its role with the NOC. Ms. Fletcher says that the NOC panel is expected to address agency leads for NOP but that it would also be good to get Mr. Kennedy's and Ms. Wieting's perspectives.

Mr. Davis notes that Miki Schmidt of the NOAA Coastal Services Center will then speak about the Digital Coast partnership, followed by a Congressional roundtable featuring two Senate staff (Cat Hazlewood, majority staff, and Todd Burteson, minority staff). He says that the minority staff from the House Committee unfortunately cannot attend. Ms. Fletcher notes that, although there will not be a House staff representative at the roundtable, the House Resources Committee priority document is available online.

Mr. Davis says that the day will conclude with workgroup reports. Representative Capps will also join the meeting to thank us for the award CSO issued her in the fall. Following the closing session, there will be an Executive Committee reception with NERRA and ANEP. Mr. Davis also reminds members that Tuesday is Capitol Hill Coast Day. CSO and NERRA will host a joint Hill briefing at 9:30am. The CSO Legal Council will also meet, and the evening Coastal and Ocean Celebration will be held at the U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory starting at 6:00pm.

Ms. Fletcher asks members to review the CSO membership directory and confirm that their contact information is accurate.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Cooksey provides the Treasurer's Report. She says that CSO is in good shape financially and reviews the 2010 dues payments. She notes that the budget is based on historical dues payments and understands that some states have not been able to pay. Ms. Cooksey also acknowledges that there has been a drop off in ex-officio members. She says that the budget runs over the calendar year and notes that the negative \$21,000 does not reflect the true fiscal status because the grant and drawdown schedule does not follow the calendar year. Ms. Cooksey also reminds members that CSO receives sponsorships (for events like the ocean and coastal celebration) and that dues come in innovative ways. She also notes that CSO is audited every other year and that for this year's audit, CSO will be using a new firm.

Ms. Cooksey shifts to a discussion about the endowment fund, now the investment account. She notes that there had been no policy for how the money was spent and says that the Executive Committee worked to draft such a policy. Ms. Cooksey details the policy and outlines instances for when and how the investment account funds could be withdrawn. Ms. Frizzera asks about source of the funding. Ms. Cooksey says that the funds come from a variety of sources. Ms. Fletcher notes that CSO has not added to the fund since she became Executive Director. Ms. Frizzera asks if there would be any value to establishing a policy for how to grow the fund. Ms. Fletcher says that current expenditures exceed dues received. She notes that if states can offset an item in the CSO budget, CSO can add that amount to the fund.

Dues Task Force

Ms. Cooksey addresses the question Mr. Peau raised at the fall meeting about how dues are calculated. She notes that the current dues formula is similar to how OCRM grants are awarded (combination of state population and shoreline miles). Ms. Cooksey says that a dues task force will look at how dues are assessed and report back to the full membership in the fall. Ms. Cooksey also notes that while CSO is a dues based organization, CSO is currently very dependent on the NOS cooperative agreement.

Grants Report

Ms. Fletcher provides a snapshot of the status of grant funds. She says that CSO is in the middle of year three of the NOS Cooperative Agreement and that the grant runs August 1st to July 31st. Ms. Fletcher is currently in the process of negotiating a work plan for year four and will then begin discussions on a new cooperative agreement. She says that an agreement beyond year four is uncertain given the current political and fiscal climate. Ms. Fletcher has proposed a cooperative agreement that might involve other federal agencies in order to diversify CSO's grant portfolio. She notes that including additional agencies would also provide an opportunity to look at different pots of funding. Ms. Fletcher notes that it will be helpful for NOS to hear from members about how grants have been helpful as she tries to incorporate CSO priorities into the grant plan. Ms. Bowen then provides a Digital Coast update and shares how CSO uses the Digital Coast grant to participate on partnership planning calls and attend conferences in support of Digital Coast.

Federal Update

Ms. Geiger discusses Capitol Hill Coast Day. She says that breakfast will start at 7:30am and that materials will be available for member Hill visits. There will be folders that include: five fact sheets, invitations to the Coastal and Ocean Celebration, and NOAA, NCCOS, and Digital Coast factsheets. Ms. Geiger then provides an update on the Continuing Resolution and the FY '11 appropriations process. She notes that the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, which makes significant cuts. The NOAA general operations line would be cut by \$454 million, but it would be left to NOAA to implement specific program cuts. Ms. Geiger also mentions an amendment to H.R. 1 which would prohibit funds for the creation of a NOAA Climate Service. She notes that the Senate would like to see the CR at FY '10 enacted levels and is unlikely to support the House-passed legislation. Ms. Geiger says that the House has floated a two-week CR with prorated cuts and that negotiations are still underway to find cuts that are amenable to the Senate. However, she says that a government shutdown is still possible.

Ms. Fletcher says that she met with NOAA budget to discuss how the agency may implement the \$354 million cut and notes that \$99 million of the cuts will likely be earmarks. She expects NOAA to cut areas where Congress has appropriated more than the President's request. Ms. Fletcher does not think that the states grants line is threatened at this stage. Ms. Geiger notes that if cuts are implemented in FY '11, specific cuts will likely to be internal to NOAA and not determined by Congress. She says that NOAA historically tends to cut procurement, acquisition and construction funds, which would impact programs like CELCP and the NERRS.

Ms. Geiger reviews the 2011 Congressional calendar, notes the relevant House and Senate committee rosters, and discusses the federal report, which includes FY '12 budget numbers

(NOAA, DOI, EPA, and the Army Corps) as well as a list of ocean and coastal legislation introduced in the 112th congress to date.

Ms. Geiger then walks through the CSO factsheets and talking points. She says that the CZM request for FY '12 is \$91 million (level with last increase in 2002, adjusted for inflation). Ms. Geiger notes that the FY '11 President's request for CZM grants was \$67 million. She acknowledges that the CSO request is a tough ask given the current fiscal climate, but that members need to push for at least level funding and communicate the specific impacts of cuts. Ms. Geiger says that the key message is level funding. Mr. Molnar notes that level funding would actually be \$69.5 million because the Illinois coastal program is expected to come on line in FY 12. Ms. Fletcher notes that Illinois hopes to make an announcement at the CZ conference in July, but that the program may not be approved until the end of this year or early next year. She has had conversations with NOAA about requesting an increase in the state grants line to cover the addition of Illinois. Ms. Geiger continues to run through the CSO appropriations requests. The CELCP request is \$60 million (the authorized level); the President's CELCP request is \$25 million. The Coral Reef Conservation request is \$41 million. Of that total, it is requested that \$7 million be granted out for each jurisdiction.

Mr. Baird requests that the ROP appropriations information included in the factsheet. Mr. Davis raises the cap issue in the talking points and asks if it is still relevant for this year. Ms. Geiger says that the cap has been included in every appropriations bill, but that there is no new funding to have it come into play this year. She notes that CSO has requested language that if funds are provided above and beyond current levels, the cap would not prohibit each state from receiving increases.

Ms. Leyden asks if CSO will make any requests with respect to the Army Corps of Engineers budget. She notes the impacts for States with small ports and asks if there are any partnerships to help bring attention to that issue. Mr. Diers notes important programs that have been zeroed out in the Army Corps' budget. Ms. Fletcher says CSO can reach out to partners that are more actively engaged on the issue, including the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA). She notes that the Hill is not hearing about the unintended consequences of spending cuts and encourages members to take this message to the Hill. Ms. Fletcher says that the conversation about FY '11 cuts lead into FY '12 budget discussions.

Mr. Lynn asks if there has been any analysis on the impact of spending cuts on dredging projects. Ms. Fletcher says that she will inquire with AAPA. Mr. Watkins discusses the Great Lakes Commission and the "Free the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund." He suggests that funds could potentially be freed to support dredging projects at commercial and recreational ports and harbors. Mr. Watkins notes that there are currently small amounts used for dredging projects and harbor maintenance, but the remainder of the funds are used to offset debt. Mr. Thompson asks about the total annual investment. Mr. Diers and Mr. Goldbeck note that the investment is significant. Mr. Watkins distributes handout with additional details.

2011 Fall Membership Meeting

Ms. Leyden discusses the annual fall meeting, which will be held in Maine on October 17-20th. Ms. Fletcher notes that the hotel contract should be finalized by the end of this week or early next week. The save the date will be sent after the contract is finalized.

Chair's Initiative

Mr. Davis discusses his upcoming chair's initiative. He is focused on a paper or report reinforcing the CZMA. Mr. Davis sees the paper as an educational piece about CZMA history and its successes, and an opportunity to link the CZMA to the NOP priorities. He notes that the 40th anniversary of the CZMA is approaching. Mr. Davis asks members for additional thoughts or suggestions.

Regional Ocean Partnership Discussion

Mr. Davis addresses CSO's role in supporting ROPs and highlights what CSO has done in the past, including helping to develop joint appropriations requests and setting up and facilitating meetings. He wants to be clear to staff, delegates and the ROPs about what CSO can and cannot offer. Members share ideas. A suggestion is made to have an ROP liaison in Washington D.C., a floating liaison that would communicate and coordinate messaging. Members note that the collective needs of ROPs remain unclear and agree that it would be best to identify needs first. Mr. Davis shares the idea of starting with a national conference call with the ROPs, hosted by an ROP with CSO as an invited guest. He notes that the West Coast Governors have offered to organize an initial call.

Coastal States Stewardship Foundation (CSSF) Report

Ms. Cooksey reports that CSSF will require additional funding to be more active. She notes that MARCO hopes to use CSSF as a fiscal agent for the ROP grant funds and suggests that CSSF could be used to help ROPs distribute funds in other regions as well.

Other Business/Announcements

Ms. Fletcher notes that some ROP factsheets are available. Mr. Baird asks about when a decision will be made with respect to the ROP FFO. Ms. Fletcher responds that it is uncertain given the funding issues. Ms. Fletcher says that she has had discussions with NOAA and has pressed them to not "fund nothing" and make the process a wasted effort. Ms. Cooksey has heard that NOAA has ranked proposals. Ms. Fletcher says that she thinks the evaluation is complete, but that NOAA is waiting to learn about funding. Ms. Boltin-Kelly has heard that letters will be sent out in the next couple of weeks to those who did not meet the criteria. Mr. Lynn notes that a tribal group has already received a letter saying they were ineligible.

Ms. Fletcher says that there will be an opportunity at the end of the day to discuss the day's meeting in a wrap up session. Ms. Fletcher says that the Executive Committee often has the opportunity for robust conversation and asks the full membership to let her know if they would benefit from a "pre-meeting" and getting more information in advance.

Mr. Baird notes the importance of the NOP panel discussion and having a focused response to the NOP request for comments on the SAPs. Ms. Fletcher says that there will be a coordinated approach to these comments through the CSO workgroups. She encourages members that have a particular interest on a certain priority (or priorities) to join the relevant workgroup. Ms. Fletcher says that staff will ensure workgroup comments are consistent, concise, and specific. Mr. Baird asks if there will be an opportunity for the full membership to review an outline and/or the full comments. Ms. Fletcher agrees to the extent that there is time. Mr. Davis notes that each workgroup has at least one executive committee member and encourages them to

actively participate on the workgroup calls. Ms. Fletcher says that most of the work on the comments will begin after the meeting. She also notes that CSO is not working from a “blank page” and that past CSO comments on these issues will serve as a foundation. Mr. Watkins suggests the comment process will be helpful to inform CSO policy positions and could result in succinct, pointed positions to carry forward. Mr. Watkins encourages workgroups to continue efforts to define policy positions post NOP comments. Ms. Fletcher agrees that the workgroups can be the foundation for many other efforts. Mr. Gane asks what OCRM’s interest in CSO comment might be. Ms. Fletcher hopes that CSO’s comments will inform their efforts. She notes OCRM’s next steps and says that OCRM will be sending a survey to CZ and NERRS Managers in the near term. Ms. Fletcher also says that the question about how comments will be used as NOS moves forward would be a good question for the afternoon session.

Break

National Ocean Council Partners Panel

Michael Weiss (CEQ) addresses members and says that the National Ocean Council (NOC) is looking to the GCC to assist with the development of the SAPs, the national CMSP workshop, the composition of RPBs, and the regional dispute resolution process. He highlights the nine NOP priority objectives and notes that there are nine corresponding federal interagency writing teams. Mr. Weiss notes that the SAPs will outline near, mid, and long-term actions and identify key agency leads. He says that the SAPs need to be achievable and well-defined, a targeted set of actions not just list of ideas. He notes that the comment period is open for stakeholder engagement. The NOC expects draft SAPs to be completed and open for comment in the summer. Mr. Weiss shifts the discussion to CMSP. He notes that CMSP will be a regionally based process with the RPBs developing CMSP plans, which is expected to be a three to five year process. Acknowledging regional differences, he says that regional CMSP workshops will be planned after the national workshop. Mr. Weiss expects the RPBs to be set up a couple months after the national CMSP workshop.

Eileen Sobeck (DOI) talks about agency coordination and aligning related agency programs. Ms. Sobeck notes that DOI has members on all nine interagency writing teams and that internal DOI teams (representing each of the bureaus) have been tasked with coming up with one DOI message to forward to the NOC. Ms. Sobeck anticipates DOI will be the lead federal agency in one or more regions but acknowledges that it is early in the process and DOI is still working to identify staff leads. She outlines other DOI partner areas including: coral reefs with NOAA and Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay efforts with EPA. Ms. Sobeck also discusses the collaborative climate initiative and the landscape conservation cooperatives, which provide technical assistance and forms voluntary partnerships within the regions. Ms. Sobeck highlights the national climate change and wildlife center and notes that DOI is establishing eight new regional climate centers that will be linked to the LCCs. She also mentions the Secretary’s America’s Great Outdoors Initiative and the priority of protecting working landscapes that advance conservation goals. Ms. Sobeck says that DOI is committed to applying the principles of the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative to coasts and oceans.

Paul Cough (EPA), co-chair of the NOP Water Quality Team, says that he is working to connect the NOP to water quality, place-based programs, and other existing efforts. He notes that EPA experts are working on each priority. Mr. Cough and the water quality team are considering

how to best leverage the combined efforts already underway to address various water quality threats. He is also working to identify interconnections and links between priorities.

Sally Yozell (NOAA) discusses what the NOP means to NOAA. She says that Dr. Lubchenco and Secretary Locke represent two of the seats on the NOC. Ms. Yozell also notes that NOAA co-chairs the ocean resource management interagency policy committee with DOI. She mentions the quick timeline for agencies: SAP outlines are due this week and drafts are due at the end of March. Ms. Yozell says that the writing teams are taking comments to inform drafting of SAPs. She shifts the discussion to the ROP FFO, which was issued in response to the \$20 million included in the FY '11 budget. Ms. Yozell says that the FFO is on hold until funds are available. She notes that the FY '12 budget includes funds for implementation of the NOP as well as \$6.7 million for CMSP. Ms. Yozell also highlights the CZM program and 309 grants as an opportunity to work on CMSP and align data gathering. She says that part of NOAA's strategic plan is to better align resources around a set of priorities, including the NOP. She also identifies sea level rise and climate adaptation as priorities and highlights the need to better understand climate change and adaptation options.

Mr. Baird says that he is delighted with the coastal and ocean focus of the administration, but expresses concern that the effort looks process oriented. He notes that the CMSP effort in California has been driven by LNG siting. Mr. Baird suggests a need to think about messaging. He wants to see progress in climate adaptation, habitat, shoreline erosion, and many other issues that may not be spatially oriented. Mr. Baird asks how those issues will be addressed. He also asks what the regional bodies will look like.

Mr. Weiss says that the nine priorities have great synergies and that the NOP is not all about CMSP/process. He notes that any emphasis on CMSP will be on a regional basis and that the regions will consider how best to work with federal, state, local authorities to erase redundancies. Mr. Weiss suggests that the process is an opportunity for regions to identify the objectives of a CMSP plan and says that regions are not precluded from having a driver (ie. renewable energy development) that guides planning. He also says that the adherence mandate only applies to federal agencies and that state and local involvement is incentive based.

Ms. Yozell echoes Mr. Weiss' comment that the effort is an opportunity to limit redundancies. She says that not all states and regions will take the same action, but highlights the need for an integrated and consistent data stream. Ms. Yozell says that the most important piece of CMSP is data and states that CMSP is about planning not zoning. There are no regulations. She says that the effort is an opportunity to acquire and share data.

Mr. Baird asks if the regional plans would be expected to be site specific or broad, guiding principles. Mr. Weiss says that it would be up to the RPBs. The RPBs have the opportunity to maximize conservation and minimize conflict. When states and tribes sign on, they are required to adhere to the plan, along with federal agencies. Mr. Weiss says that the process would ideally provide base knowledge and data to guide future decision making.

Mr. Diers notes the concerns of the fishing community. Mr. Diers says that the role of the RPBs needs to be clear, specifically how the RPBs (a federal construct) relate to ROPs (a state construct). He would like to see the RPBs be advocates of ROP priorities. Mr. Diers expresses

concern about the timeline and the fact that draft SAP outlines are being developed before all stakeholder comments are submitted. He asks how comments will be considered and asks what the interagency writing teams need from the states. Mr. Diers also says that there needs to be clear understanding that if there are not sufficient resources set aside for NOP implementation, states will focus on their own priorities.

Ms. Soback agrees that regional efforts should be driven by ROPs, from the bottom up. The writing teams are preparing outlines using input from stakeholder comments that have already been submitted. She is aware of the need to have a more specific interaction policy.

Mr. Baird says that the specifics of the SAPs and “next steps” are less tangible. Mr. Cough says that his writing team has already read 20+ pages of water quality comments and reviewed ROP overlap of the nine priority objectives as guidance for SAP drafting. Mr. Weiss also notes that all comments are publically available and posted on the web.

Mr. Davis expresses concern that there is currently no guidance on how the NOP fits into existing state efforts and 309 programs. He would like to see more recognition as well as an endorsement and support of existing CZMA efforts. Mr. Hinesley notes that the language about the CMSP plans sounds like federal consistency. Ms. Yozell offers a Gulf example and says that the idea is to have plan in place before an emergency happens.

Mr. Weiss says that the process and decisions will be driven in the regions, with the regions defining the composition of RPBs as well as the policy directions. He emphasizes that the effort will be in, by and for the regions and that the implementation would occur under existing authority. Mr. Weiss says the CMSP process will offer a better construct under which to work.

Ms. Yozell acknowledges the difficult fiscal climate and encourages members to remind Congress of the work NOAA does with the states. Ms. Schultz agrees that there is a need to acknowledge the problems needing solutions and emphasize the history of the CZMA as a tool to address these challenges. She asks for guidance on how to message the successes of the CZMA on the hill. Ms. Yozell says that the conversation on the hill is all about jobs, increasing efficiency, and reducing redundancy.

Mr. Lynn mentions tribal concerns and asks what the government is doing to look at these issues. Mr. Weiss says that CEQ is working with partners and experts to identify tribal representatives for the RPBs and formally engage other stakeholders. He says that another role for the GCC will be to provide guidance and ensure that the right representatives are selected. Ms. Soback says that tribes have their own enforceable policies and believes it is in everyone’s the best interest to involve tribes in an appropriate way.

Mr. Bailey notes that ROP participation is voluntary. He supports the institutionalization of these entities to ensure more consistent funding and the ability to hire staff but says that there could be significant logistical concerns with the new RPBs. He expresses concern that the RPBs could take funds from existing CZM programs and efforts. Mr. Bailey supports supplemental funds in the existing CZM program for states to do CMSP. He sees the CZMA as a mechanism for funding these efforts. Mr. Bailey also says that he would like to see a statement from the

administration clarifying where the CMSP policy is going, what it is, and what it isn't. He says that such a statement would be helpful to gather support for the effort.

Lunch

Dialogue with NOAA/NOS

David Kennedy (NOAA) discusses NOS priorities, emphasizing science and service in support of stewardship. He says that science has to be the underpinning for NOS action and that he is working to better consolidate science and advance NOS priorities. He is evaluating how NOS can be more efficient and is working on better, measurable performance with a focus on jobs and the economy. He mentions the next generation strategic plan and the process of rethinking what is important to NOAA and how to move forward. Mr. Kennedy discusses NOAA's Coastal Goal of Resilient Coastal Communities and Economies. He also notes that the goal will guide budget formulation within the agency. Mr. Kennedy says that FY '13 is the first time the NOS budget will be formed around this coastal goal. He notes that the objectives of the coastal goal align with the NOP priority objectives, and that Donna Wieting is goal team lead. Mr. Kennedy believes that there is an opportunity to deliver climate services to partners (NOAA Climate Service) and that the coastal goal should be at table as products and services are being developed. He also discusses ROP funding and says that NOS will do what they can but that funding will likely be less than \$20 million. Mr. Kennedy highlights the FFO as an opportunity to work with ROPs and advance issues like offshore energy and working waterfronts. He notes that working waterfronts are a new line item in the OCRM FY '12 budget. The funds are intended to look at waterfront communities and help guide redevelopment. Mr. Kennedy also notes an increase in land conservation and acquisition funding and place-based initiatives. He highlights sentinel sites as discrete locations in coastal and marine environments that have operational capacity for intensive study and sustained observations to detect and understand changes in the ecosystem they represent. Mr. Kennedy discusses the NOS CZMA outreach strategy (via Meridian). He says that a team is putting together a thorough piece, focusing on engagement with current and new stakeholders, as well as strengthening and expanding the existing stakeholder network.

Mr. Baird asks how often NOS hears from environmental groups about the need to reauthorize CZMA. Mr. Kennedy says that NOS does not hear from groups about the importance of CZMA reauthorization. Ms. Wieting says that Congress and Administration need to hear about priority of reauthorizing CZMA from other groups. Ms. Wieting acknowledges that CZM is where CMSP will be implemented, where CMSP is already happening.

Mr. Kennedy provides an overview of the FY '12 budget compared to FY '10 enacted. He notes that NOS fared relatively well. Mr. Kennedy says that there are no cuts to NOAA in the proposed 2 week Continuing Resolution recently introduced in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Molnar notes that states are working to improve performance measures and asks if NOS has considered including a "jobs created" measure or metric to help support CZMA. Mr. Kennedy says that it would be helpful to see examples of how that is working in the states. Ms. Wieting agrees it would be helpful to have examples, even anecdotally.

Mr. Lynn asks for more information about the new working waterfronts line in the budget. Ms. Wieting says that the partnership between the Economic Development Administration and NOAA is of interest to the Department of Commerce. The effort will support the redevelopment of coastal communities through a competitive grants program, but the details are still being worked out. Mr. Kennedy notes that the grants program came to NOS because of its ability to get funds out through the state CZ programs. Ms. Lujan gives an example of coral reef valuations that identify the dollar value of corals to tourism and quality of life, and notes that it has been well received by partners and government representatives. Ms. Wieting says that there is a good opportunity to learn from the coral valuation effort.

Donna Wieting (OCRM) discusses the direction of OCRM. She says that it is important for OCRM to be a player in the administration's priorities. Ms. Wieting notes that climate change adaptation is taking off in OCRM. She highlights continued Hill outreach and the need to more effectively and efficiently communicate the importance of the federal-state partnership. Ms. Wieting discusses the "OCRM in Your State" website. She says that the site is currently on a soft launch and that OCRM is seeking input from states before the hard launch. The site is intended to show how the partnership benefits both the federal government and the states.

Mr. Molnar offers comments on "OCRM in Your State" website. He asks if there is a way to further broaden the message. Mr. Molnar also asks if performance measure reports showing specific state successes will eventually be highlighted. Ms. Wieting says that is OCRM's vision. The will start with something manageable but Ms. Wieting says that she would like to hear ideas from states on how to make it bigger and better.

Mr. Bailey says that he is pleased to see the resilient coastal communities and economies goal and notes that NOS and OCRM already have a built in service delivery system to meet their goals and objectives: State CZM Programs. He says that states are ready and willing but need funds to help deliver these services and carry NOAA's message. Mr. Bailey notes that he would like to address other issues like climate adaptation but that he cannot take funds from the core mission of his state CZ program. Ms. Wieting highlights the potential of using 309 grants. Mr. Watkins reiterates Mr. Bailey's point about the unique position of state CZ programs to assist NOAA. Ms. Angelos says that if NOAA is looking to increase efficiency, it could direct more funds to the 309 program. Mr. Bailey notes that mandatory policy outcomes are difficult to achieve. Mr. Carter asks if there is an opportunity within NOAA or NOS to assign staff (even short term) to help states get programs (i.e. climate and regional efforts) up and running. He says that staffing support, in addition to funding, would be very helpful.

Ms. Fletcher thanks Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Wieting for their support and continued partnership with CSO. Ms. Schultz also thanks Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Wieting and highlights the importance of the cooperative agreement to CSO and the states and territories.

Digital Coast

Miki Schmidt (NOAA Coastal Services Center) discusses efforts to grow and improve the Digital Coast. He says that the Digital Coast is an effort to provide solutions to coastal management barriers by offering improved coastal data and accessibility, technical and non-technical tools, training programs, outreach and awareness, and case studies. Mr. Schmidt notes that Digital Coast is a user directed, NOAA-led consortium. He also highlights that there are

products and tools designed for non-technical staff. Mr. Schmidt shows several Digital Coast tools and discusses how Digital Coast integrates data sets into visualization tools to help inform planning and coastal management efforts. He says that many state and federal agencies as well as academic institutions are contributing content and notes that the diverse partner groups (including CSO) set the priorities. Mr. Schmidt says that one of the goals of Digital Coast is to increase coordination and efficiency among federal agencies. He highlights a new Digital Coast project, the ocean jobs snapshot, which will launch at the Geotools conference in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He asks members to help with outreach to their technical staff to showcase the uses and value of Digital Coast data, tools, and products. Mr. Schmidt also details what Digital Coast could accomplish with increased resources, including expanding the partnership, filling critical data gaps, increasing technical assistance, and offering new fellowships.

Ms. Leyden asks for more information about Digital Coast's involvement with the development of a coastal and marine cadastre and CMSP. Mr. Schmidt notes CSC is leading the NOAA team along with contributions from regional offices. Mr. Carter talks about how CMSP fits into the Digital Coast framework. Ms. Frizzera notes that MMS extended the New Jersey marine cadastre but that the state has not published it. She asks if Digital Coast could help. Mr. Schmidt says that they could discuss offline. Mr. Diaz asks about the accuracy of the inundation model. Mr. Schmidt says that the methodology is available on the website, where users can see what data goes into the development of the tool. Mr. Carter notes target audience is state technical staff and encourages members to ensure that their technical staff is aware of Digital Coast's resources and training opportunities.

Break

Congressional Roundtable

Cat Hazlewood (Senate Commerce Committee) says that Chairman Rockefeller has a personal interest in coastal and ocean issues and that letters to the Chairman on issues of interest are very helpful. She notes that the Chairman is interested in MPAs, corals, and governance. Ms. Hazlewood indicates that there have been discussions about CZMA reauthorization but the assumption remains that a reauthorization bill would not get through Committee with consistency untouched. She says, however, that there has been talk about introducing a bill to simply begin the discussion. Ms. Hazlewood also sees a challenge with setting authorizing levels. She notes that uncertainty surrounding the current budget scenario has put much of the other legislative action on hold. Ms. Hazlewood says that the Senate Commerce Committee hearing on the NOAA budget has yet to be scheduled. She also mentions that there have been discussions with the NERRs on drafting a NERRS bill. Ms. Hazlewood discusses the reorganization of the Subcommittee and notes that Senator Cantwell (WA) has taken over Aviation Subcommittee and Senator Begich (AK) will chair the Oceans Subcommittee. Some conversations will stay about the same (namely fisheries), but there may be a new conversation about offshore energy development. Ms. Hazlewood also talks about oil spill response legislation as an opportunity to increase funding resources to the states. She says that the first opportunity to mark a bill will likely be late March. As for corals legislation, Senator Inouye has reintroduced the Coral Reef Conservation Act. Ms. Hazlewood is hopeful that the bill will get marked up by the end of March. She also says that a National Marine Sanctuaries Act is being considered, but it is unclear about how to get the bill through the House of Representatives. Ms.

Hazlewood also discusses the Coastal Jobs Act, which would include a new authorization for funding, which, given the current fiscal climate, would likely compete with existing programs.

Ms. Cooksey asks if it is ok to say that state jobs are supported with federal funding when taking the message to the hill. Ms. Hazlewood says that most members would likely be sympathetic and would want to hear about jobs in their states. She encourages members to be clear about how they use their grants and share success stories.

Mr. Bailey asks about how hill staff perceives CMSP. Ms. Hazlewood acknowledges that it is difficult to advance CMSP with no new dollars. She notes that Members of Congress are hearing constituent concerns but not hearing as much from the administration. Ms. Hazlewood says that the uncertainties surrounding CMSP have been a challenge. She says that hill briefings on state CMSP initiatives and lessons learned would be helpful. Ms. Hazlewood also says that more clarity is needed on how to coordinate the Executive Order with existing statutory authority. She offers to help reserve a room and circulate briefing invitations to hill staff.

A representative from the House of Representatives could not attend the meeting, so Ms. Fletcher highlights some key points from the House Natural Resources Committee priorities document. Committee priorities include: ocean governance, insular affairs, CMSP, MPAs, wildlife, NOAA education, mapping programs, national marine sanctuaries and marine mammals. Ms. Hazlewood notes that there are certain items that the Senate will simply not consider, but that it is helpful for Senate staff to hear from members.

Mr. Goldbeck asks if defense is needed on climate adaptation funding and similar efforts. He also asks if the discussion should shift to resiliency. Ms. Hazlewood says yes. She notes that the full year Continuing Resolution considered by the House targeted EPA climate programs and the proposed NOAA Climate Service. Ms. Hazlewood says it's important to highlight the work states are doing with agencies on climate adaptation, communicate what is at risk, and clearly articulate state needs. She says that more discussion is needed about where and how climate adaptation funding can effectively be spent and how to get resources to the states. Ms. Hazlewood encourages members to highlight the challenges, what is working and what is not with federal efforts, and emphasize the need for better information and monitoring capacity.

Ms. Geiger discusses the Shore Act (the oil spill legislation Ms. Hazlewood mentioned earlier) and the provisions related to oil spill response planning under the CZMA. Ms. Fletcher notes that CSO testified before a House Committee last year and received great feedback from CSO members. Ms. Hazlewood reiterates that the Senate Commerce Committee staff is looking for suggestions to strengthen oil spill response legislation and is open to new ideas.

Break

CSO Members Wrap-Up Session

Mr. Davis calls attention to the document regarding CSO's strategy for developing NOP Strategic Action Plan comments. Ms. Fletcher provides background and updates about the 6217 workgroup, which will draft comments for the water quality SAP. She notes that Randy Shaneyfelt (AL) is the Chair. Ms. Fletcher acknowledges that the 6217 workgroup is very

targeted but says that the conditionally approved states would appreciate participation and perspective from approved states on the workgroup.

Mr. Molnar discusses the CELCP workgroup and notes that the previous year's work addressed updates to the CELCP guidelines. He says that NOAA is now moving forward, looking at compatible uses and working through differences in the match program. NOAA is also reviewing how to address climate considerations. Once NOAA releases new, revised guidelines, the workgroup may set up a monthly call. Mr. Diers asks if groups like The Nature Conservancy are engaged. Ms. Fletcher notes that work groups are closed, but there are times when partners are invited to participate. Ms. Geiger is actively involved with coalition work which includes those groups. Mr. Hinesley asks if all states have an approved CELCP plan. Mr. Molnar says no. Some state programs are still conditionally approved. He says that the NERR set aside has stalled some of the programs.

Mr. Bailey provides an update on CZMA workgroup and the SAP comment process. He says that the workgroup will be brainstorming ideas to recognize the 40th anniversary of the CZMA and improve outreach for reauthorization efforts. The workgroup will also respond to legislation as appropriate. He asks members for key thoughts and comments for the workgroup, which can be refined later.

Mr. Goldbeck offers an update on the climate adaptation workgroup, which is now preparing comments for climate change adaptation as well as mapping and infrastructure SAPs. He notes that the workgroup will explore how resiliency could fit into the adaptation discussion.

Mr. Peau mentions the climate summit held in American Samoa. He notes that an advisory group will be established and that a representative from CSO will be asked to participate on the Governor's Advisory Group. The position would require a one-year commitment. While mostly consisting of conference calls, there could be some travel to American Samoa required.

Ms. Schultz, the governance workgroup Chair, provides an update on the efforts of the Governance workgroup. She identifies three key themes: serving as a sounding board for CMSP and regional ocean governance issues; supporting the advancement of ROPs when consistent with CSO priorities; and providing feedback to Congress on potential legislation. Ms. Schultz says that the first task of the Governance workgroup is the NOP SAP comments.

Ms. Dela Chong Cruz discusses the islands workgroup. She says that the workgroup is getting organized and raises concern that the timing of conference call limits the engagement of the islands. Mr. Peau says that it would be helpful if CSO helped to facilitate conference calls with islands. Ms. Fletcher says that she will discuss ways to better accommodate the islands on calls as well as firm up the island workgroup plan and identify priorities.

Ms. Leyden talks about the new strategic planning workgroup, which will create goals and objectives for 2012-2014. She notes that the workgroup's goal is to bring a draft strategic plan to the annual meeting in October and approve a final plan in November.

Ms. Cooksey discusses the dues task force. She says that the task force will look back at historical CSO documents and discuss how dues should be assessed. Ms. Cooksey notes that the task force was formed to address concerns raised by Mr. Peau at the Fall meeting in Monterey.

Mr. Carlisle asks which workgroup will address CMSP. Ms. Fletcher says that CMSP will be addressed by the governance workgroup. Mr. Davis suggests that the SAP comment process could be an opportunity for CSO to develop a new policy position on CMSP. Mr. Davis raises a question about whether regional plans would have enforceable policies. Ms. Cooksey asks about the purpose of adopting a new policy on CMSP. Mr. Davis says that it sounded like CSO members were on a similar page with respect to CMSP and that the collective views could be pulled together to support CSO outreach efforts. Mr. Carlisle asks what a CSO CMSP policy would look like. Mr. Baird notes that a CSO CMSP policy should not place too much focus on process; he suggests that CSO instead strongly support the NOP with CMSP mentioned as a tool. Mr. Carter notes that CSO has taken similar action on other issues in the past, namely climate change. He agrees that the effort is valuable and would give clear guidance to CSO so the organization can quickly respond to Congressional action and/or needs. Ms. Schultz says that there is value in understanding CSO's point of consensus, but she does not think it is would be good to rush the development of a CMSP policy. Ms. Schultz believes that the SAP comment process is a healthier way to go about conveying CSO's position. Ms. Jespersen raises concern that the message about CZMA and its relevance to NOP and CMSP has been muddled. She says it is important to more clearly identify what states are already doing and highlight the CMZA links. Ms. Fletcher mentions the CSO white paper on CZMA and CMSP which highlights how states are already using existing CZMA authority to advance efforts like CMSP. Ms. Fletcher continues to do outreach on CMSP and share state success stories. She sees CSO's role as an arbiter of objective information and perspectives. Mr. Bailey is uncertain that the full membership does, in fact, have a coherent CMSP message. Mr. Peau says that the CMSP effort should be bottom up and hopes that the regional workshops will solicit input from local communities. He notes the importance of sharing what is being done in other coastal states and getting local stakeholder to buy into process and agree to goals and objectives. Mr. Peau is hesitant to move forward with a CSO policy without partner input. Ms. Schulz says one question that remains for her is whether or not the process would result in enforceable policies and standards. Mr. Carlisle says that CMSP can be used to reduce resource conflicts but that the focus of the conversation should be on states. Ms. Cooksey notes that NOAA CSC is reviewing grants under the ROP FFO as well as CMSP grants. She thinks that it would be valuable to share plans among the membership.

Ms. Frizzera mentions working waterfront revitalization efforts and says that New Jersey is looking at working waterfronts from the energy supply side. She hopes that there will be flexibility to include ocean energy projects in revitalization efforts and expresses concern about working waterfronts focusing on fishing communities. Ms. Frizzera also notes a green ports report, which considered the impact of climate change and sea level rise on ports. Ms. Fletcher thinks that it would be appropriate for a workgroup (possibly CMZA) to pick up that issue. She says BoatUS has expressed interest in working waterfronts and looking at a broader definition. Ms. Fletcher has a partner meeting in the coming week and will discuss with BoatUS. Ms. Fletcher also notes that the current working waterfront efforts have a fisheries focus. CSO has been monitoring the issue but has yet to engage. Ms. Fletcher indicates that CSO could possibly increase engagement after the NOC comments are submitted. Ms. Frizzera says that if there is

new pot of money, it would be valuable to tie to current efforts. Ms. Fletcher notes that it is nice to hear what working waterfronts means to the states. Ms. Leyden says that there is an emerging working waterfront coalition underway and notes that legislation sponsored by Representative Chellie Pingree and Senator Susan Collins supported keeping working waterfronts available for commerce. Mr. Goldbeck agrees that it would be good to gather state definitions of working waterfronts.

Hearing no other business, Ms. Leyden motions to adjourn. Ms. Frizzera seconds. The meeting is adjourned at 5:30pm.