



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council Work Session

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Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Spending Plan

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Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning

Law has required process, policies, and elements. Final plan must include:

- Ecosystem assessment and indicators
- Management measures
- Series of maps
- State recommendations for federal waters
- Implementation plan
- Framework for renewable energy



Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning

Legislative Report provided recommendations on:

- Data needs
- Data management & delivery
- Public involvement
- Ecosystem indicators
- Goals and objectives



Budget Proviso

The department will work with the marine interagency team, tribes, and the Washington state marine resource committee to develop a spending plan

consistent with the priorities in chapter 252, Laws of 2012,

for conducting ecosystem assessments and mapping activities related to marine resources use and potential economic development,

developing marine management plans for the state's coastal waters, and

otherwise aiding in the implementation of marine planning in the state.

As appropriate, the team shall develop a competitive process for projects to be funded by the department in fiscal year 2013.



RCW 43.372.040 *Marine resources stewardship trust account*

The law was amended in 2012 to limit expenditures from the account until July 2016 to the following activities:

- *Conducting ecosystem assessment and mapping activities in marine waters consistent with the RCW, with a focus on assessment and mapping activities related to marine resource uses and developing potential economic opportunities;*
- *Developing a marine management plan for the state's coastal waters as that term is defined in RCW 43.143.020; and*
- *Coordination under the west coast governors' agreement on ocean health and other regional planning efforts.*



Developing the Spend Plan

- May: Categories “bucket list” drafted based on the law, the legislative report recommendations, and the budget proviso; approved by WCMAC.
- May- June: Sought project ideas from MRCs, WCMAC, tribes and state agencies.
- June: agencies did initial prioritization of projects received.
- July: meetings on draft list with tribal staff and MRCs, WCMAC work session.



What's Next?

- Final tribal input
- Finalize spend plan by mid-August and begin executing contracts.
- Develop a long term spend plan
 - DNR will submit plan to legislature on September 1, 2012 that includes categories of needs.
 - DNR and Ecology will work with stakeholders through January 2013 to develop detailed projects for the next biennium.



Mapping

Goal: *Map baseline conditions (i.e. distribution, abundance, intensity, and temporal/spatial patterns) and forecast potential future conditions (e.g. patterns).*



Mapping

Summary of comments -

- Strong support for projects from many stakeholders and Tribes, including seafloor mapping and forage fish.
- Concerns:
 - MH-3 Desire for more detailed fishing maps (Ecotrust).
 - MP-1 Overall cost and priority level of project.
 - MHB-1 Adequacy of information (1 year).
 - ME-1 Question need for project.
 - Lack of shellfish aquaculture mapping project.
- Next biennium:
 - Need more detailed economic analysis.
 - Desire to expand seafloor mapping surveys.



Mapping

How it supports MSP -

Law requires plan to include a series of maps that, at a minimum, summarize available data on:

- The key ecological aspects of the marine ecosystem, including physical and biological characteristics, as well as areas that are environmentally sensitive or contain unique or sensitive species or biological communities that must be conserved and warrant protective measures;
- Human uses of marine waters, particularly areas with high value for fishing, shellfish aquaculture, recreation, and maritime commerce; and
- Appropriate locations with high potential for renewable energy production with minimal potential for conflicts with other existing uses or sensitive environments.

(State has conducted workshops to begin to determine data gaps)



Mapping

Summary of Deliverables -

Series of maps that characterize:

- Human uses: recreational, tribal, fishing, and shipping use patterns. Assessment of marine economy on coast (i.e. jobs).
- Physical & Biological: nearshore seafloor maps, forage fish surveys, and compiling existing data on oceanography, biology and ecology (ONRC and NOAA Biogeographic Branch).
- Renewable Energy: suitability map based on energy availability and physical parameters.



Data Tools

Goal: *Enable access, sharing, analysis and management of data for the planning process. Ensure robust technical and scientific input on data quality, access and management issues.*



Data Tools

How it supports MSP-

- Law requires state to compile marine spatial information and to incorporate this information into ongoing plans as well as the final Marine Spatial Plan.
- Legislative report recommended an open-access system for viewing and analyzing marine spatial data. Also included recommendations on providing access to raw data through a GIS portal and mechanism for providing technical input to planning process.



Data Tools

Summary of Deliverables –

- Data system (Planning Platform) that provides access to viewing data in map form and performs some analyses of data.
- GIS portal that provides access to raw data and metadata for download and analysis.
- Technical teams to provide review of data.
- Seafloor mapping strategy for the coast that identifies existing data and leverages federal and other partnerships.
- Improved website.



Data Tools

Summary of Comments –

- Generally broad support for data tool projects.
- DT- 1 Planning Platform
 - Desire for input on Request for Proposal (RFP) criteria.
 - Capability for handling sensitive information separately.
 - Suggested review of recent analysis of Marine Planner.



Stakeholder Engagement

Goal: *Increase awareness, participation, and involvement of various groups in pre-planning process. Improve communication and coordination among groups involved in the process.*

How it supports MSP:

- Need to “foster public participation in decision-making and significant involvement of communities adjacent to the state’s marine waters.”



Stakeholder Engagement

Summary of Deliverables –

Increased awareness of and participation of community in MSP through:

- Overview sessions and training workshop.
- Developing draft objectives in series of work sessions.
- Facilitation of WCMAC activities related to MSP.



Stakeholder Engagement

Summary of Comments –

- General support for stakeholder engagement projects, particularly SEP-2 Draft objectives work sessions.
- SET-2: Concern about time commitment required and lack of tangible benefits for planning process.
- Interest in training on how to engage (e.g. Communities of Practice).
- Concern about travel costs and capacity to engage.
- Next biennium: desire to engage next generation of decision-makers in process.



Ecosystem Assessment

Goal: *Assess status and trends of ecosystem (ecological, social, and economic factors) and threats to resources. Develop ecosystem indicators.*



Ecosystem Assessment

How it supports MSP -

Law requires an ecosystem assessment that:

- Analyzes the health and status of Washington marine waters including key social, economic, and ecological characteristics and incorporates the best available scientific information, including relevant marine data.
- Identify key threats to plan goals, analyze risk and management scenarios, and develop key ecosystem indicators.



Ecosystem Assessment

Summary of Deliverables -

- Ecosystem Indicator Assessment & Strategy.
Understand status of current ecosystem indicator processes and methodologies and develop recommended actions and process for Washington that leverages existing expertise, where appropriate.



Ecosystem Assessment

Summary of Comments:

- Generally supportive.
- Concerns about lack of additional projects under this category, but understandable giving sequencing and phasing required.

