

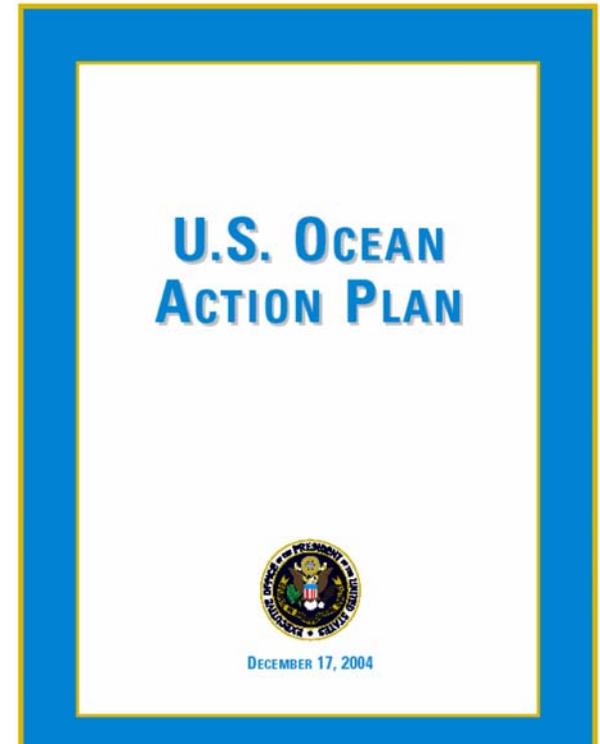
# Charting the Course for Ocean Science in the United States: Research Priorities for the Next Decade





# Ocean Research Priorities Plan & Implementation Strategy

**“Develop an Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy.** The NSTC Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology will develop an Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy by December 31, 2006. The Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy will seek enhanced collaboration, coordination, cooperation, and synergies, and will identify gaps and deficiencies along with related infrastructure needs.”  
(U. S. Ocean Action Plan)





# Ocean Research Priorities Plan & Implementation Strategy

## *Principles for Ocean Research*

- Seek enhanced coordination, collaboration, and synergies between USG, academia, nongovernmental organizations, state and local governments, and industry
- Address challenges through integration of capabilities of federal, state, & local governments; academia; industry; & NGOs
- Identify how all ocean sectors should be engaged in preparation and execution of the Plan and Strategy
- Develop the Plan and Strategy in an open and transparent manner
- Develop performance metrics on meeting goals
- Identify areas of highest priority and opportunity



# Ocean Research Priorities Plan & Implementation Strategy

## *Development Steps*

- Document framework
  - released by JSOST in April 2005
- Research recommendation summaries
  - provided by National Research Council
- Public workshop
  - Denver, CO; April 18-20, 2006
- Public comment period on planning materials
  - March 27-May 15, 2006



# Plan Outline

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Focusing The Nation's Ocean Research Enterprise
  - Protecting Lives, Enhancing Livelihoods, and Improving Quality of Life
  - Framing the Approach
  - Expanding the Scientific Frontier: The Need for Fundamental Science
  - Identifying Ocean Research Priorities
- Societal Themes
  - Stewardship of Our Natural and Cultural Ocean Resources
  - Increasing Resilience to Natural Hazards
  - Enabling Marine Operations
  - The Ocean's Role in Climate
  - Improving Ecosystem Health
  - Enhancing Human Health
- Opportunities for Success
  - Developing the Tools
  - Making a Difference
- The Path Ahead
- Next Steps



# Prioritization Criteria

- Transformational?
  - Impact many societal theme areas?
  - Address high priority needs of resource managers?
  - Provide understanding of high value to the broader scientific community?
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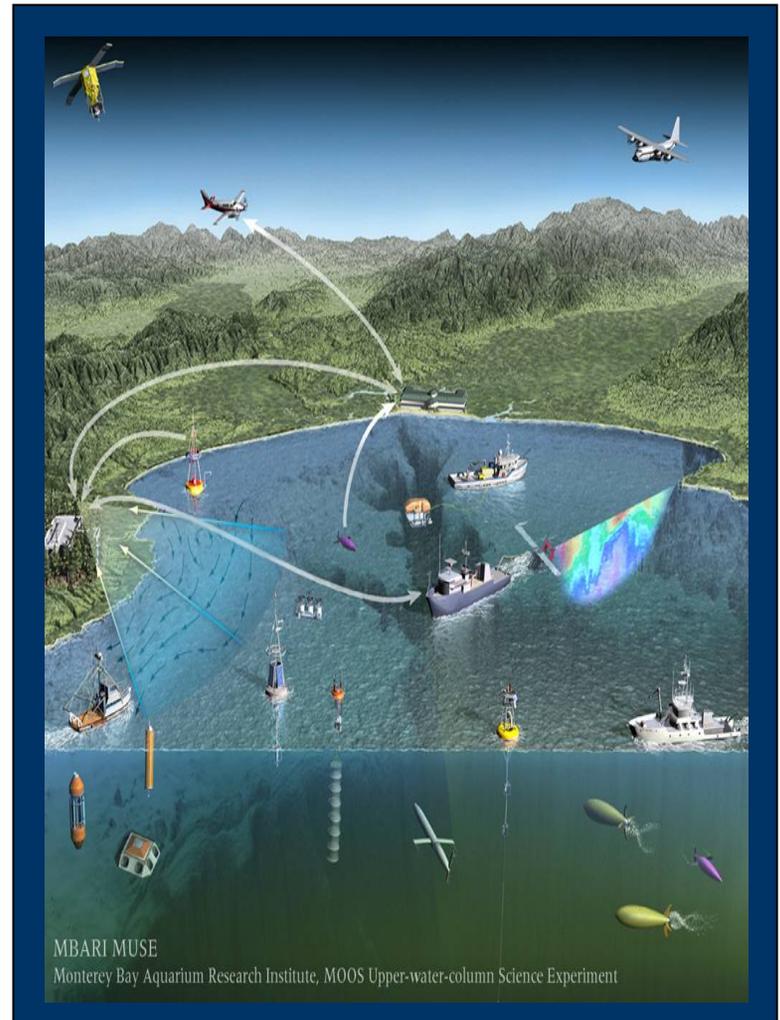


# Prioritization Criteria (*cont.*)

- Promote partnerships to expand our capabilities?
  - Serve to contribute to or enhance the leadership of the United States in ocean science?
  - Contribute to a greater understanding of ocean issues at a global scale?
  - Address mandates of governing entities?
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# Overarching Opportunities

- Understanding and Capability to Forecast Ocean Processes
- Enhanced Scientific Support for Ecosystem-Based Management
- Targeted Deployment of an Integrated Ocean Observing System





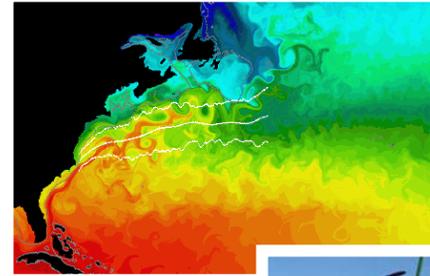
# Societal Themes- Research Priorities

- A total of 21 research priorities were developed for the societal themes
  - Stewardship of Our Natural and Cultural Ocean Resources
  - Increasing Resilience to Natural Hazards
  - Enabling Marine Operations
  - The Ocean's Role in Climate
  - Improving Ecosystem Health
  - Enhancing Human Health

# Cross-Cutting Themes

- **Developing the Tools**

- Observing Systems
- Models



- **Making a Difference**

- Information to Support Decision-Making
- Establishing an Ocean Literate Nation





# Implementation Strategy

- **Articulate a set of operational principles and conceptual guidelines defining how to address the identified priorities.**
  - Roles and responsibilities of each constituent sector in planning, programming, budgeting, and execution of the priorities defined herein.
  - Use of existing mechanisms for collaboration among the federal agencies and with international, state, local, and tribal entities, and the private sector.
  - Concepts for new public/private mechanisms of coordination.



# Implementation Strategy (*cont.*)

- Enhanced coordination between resource management communities and the ocean science community.
- Emphasis on enhanced translation of ocean research to expand ocean literacy and promote public discourse.
- Articulate and implement meaningful performance measures and regular evaluation mechanisms for ensuring continued progress on the research priorities.
- Develop and implement an annual planning cycle that will allow the JSOST to coordinate planning for ocean research investments among the federal agencies in support of their budget requests.



# Outreach

## Regional Briefings

- New England
- Mid-Atlantic
- Florida
- Gulf Coast
- Hawaii
- Pacific Northwest
- Alaska
- Great Lakes
- California

## Panels and Town Halls

- California and the World Ocean 2006
- Oceans 2006
- American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

## Organization Briefings

- Coastal States Organization
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# Timeline

- **May-July**

- Develop draft ocean research priorities document, incorporating workshop input and public comments

- **August-November**

- Finalize near-term priorities
- NRC review of document
- Public comment on draft document (45 days)
- Development of Implementation Strategy

- **November ->**

- Incorporate NRC and public comments
  - Internal review of 3rd draft
  - Release of final plan
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*For More Information:*

<http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/jsost.html>



Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology