

§ 3502. Interagency committee on ocean and coastal mapping

(a) In general

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, within 30 days after March 30, 2009, shall convene or utilize an existing interagency committee on ocean and coastal mapping to implement section 3501 of this title.

(b) Membership

The committee shall be comprised of senior representatives from Federal agencies with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibilities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of their respective agencies or departments and, whenever possible, the head of the portion of the agency or department that is most relevant to the purposes of this chapter. Membership shall include senior representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological Survey, the Minerals Management Service, the National Science Foundation, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other appropriate Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal mapping.

(c) Co-chairmen

The Committee shall be co-chaired by the representative of the Department of Commerce and a representative of the Department of the Interior.

(d) Subcommittee

The co-chairmen shall establish a subcommittee to carry out the day-to-day work of the Committee, comprised of senior representatives of any member agency of the committee. Working groups may be formed by the full Committee to address issues of short duration. The subcommittee shall be chaired by the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The chairmen of the Committee may create such additional subcommittees and working groups as may be needed to carry out the work of Committee.

(e) Meetings

The committee shall meet on a quarterly basis, but each subcommittee and each working group shall meet on an as-needed basis.

(f) Coordination

The committee shall coordinate activities when appropriate, with—

- (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geographic Data Committee;
- (2) international mapping activities;
- (3) coastal states;
- (4) user groups through workshops and other appropriate mechanisms; and
- (5) representatives of nongovernmental entities.

(g) Advisory panel

The Administrator may convene an ocean and coastal mapping advisory panel consisting of

representatives from non-governmental entities to provide input regarding activities of the committee in consultation with the interagency committee.

(Pub. L. 111–11, title XII, § 12203, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1423.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

The Minerals Management Service was abolished and functions divided among the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. See Secretary of the Interior Orders No. 3299 of May 19, 2010, and No. 3302 of June 18, 2010, and chapters II, V, and XII of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, as revised by final rules of the Department of the Interior at 75 F.R. 61051 and 76 F.R. 64432.

§ 3503. Biennial reports

No later than 18 months after March 30, 2009, and biennially thereafter, the co-chairmen of the Committee shall transmit to the Committees on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report detailing progress made in implementing this chapter, including—

- (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping data within the territorial sea and the exclusive economic zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of the United States, noting the age and source of the survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the data;
- (2) identification of priority areas in need of survey coverage using present technologies;
- (3) a resource plan that identifies when priority areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping surveys can be accomplished;
- (4) the status of efforts to produce integrated digital maps of ocean and coastal areas;
- (5) a description of any products resulting from coordinated mapping efforts under this chapter that improve public understanding of the coasts and oceans, or regulatory decision-making;
- (6) documentation of minimum and desired standards for data acquisition and integrated metadata;
- (7) a statement of the status of Federal efforts to leverage mapping technologies, coordinate mapping activities, share expertise, and exchange data;
- (8) a statement of resource requirements for organizations to meet the goals of the program, including technology needs for data acquisition, processing, and distribution systems;
- (9) a statement of the status of efforts to declassify data gathered by the Navy, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other agencies to the extent possible without jeopardizing national security, and make it available to partner agencies and the public;
- (10) a resource plan for a digital coast integrated mapping pilot project for the northern Gulf of Mexico that will—

- (A) cover the area from the authorized coastal counties through the territorial sea;
- (B) identify how such a pilot project will leverage public and private mapping data

and resources, such as the United States Geological Survey National Map, to result in an operational coastal change assessment program for the subregion;

(11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal programs with coastal state and local government programs and leverage those programs;

(12) a description of efforts of Federal agencies to increase contracting with nongovernmental entities; and

(13) an inventory and description of any new Federal or federally funded programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping since the previous reporting cycle.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12204, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1423.)

§ 3504. Plan

(a) In general

Not later than 6 months after March 30, 2009, the Administrator, in consultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) Plan requirements

The plan shall—

(1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal mapping programs within the agency, including those that conduct mapping or related activities in the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine resource conservation and management programs, coastal zone management projects, and ocean and coastal observations and science projects;

(2) establish priority mapping programs and establish and periodically update priorities for geographic areas in surveying and mapping across all missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as well as minimum data acquisition and metadata standards for those programs;

(3) encourage the development of innovative ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applications, through research and development through cooperative or other agreements with joint or cooperative research institutes or centers and with other non-governmental entities;

(4) document available and developing technologies, best practices in data processing and distribution, and leveraging opportunities with other Federal agencies, coastal states, and non-governmental entities;

(5) identify training, technology, and other resource requirements for enabling the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's programs, vessels, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean and coastal mapping program;

(6) identify a centralized mechanism or office for coordinating data collection, processing, archiving, and dissemination activities of all such mapping programs within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that meets Federal mandates for data accuracy and accessibility and designate a repos-

itory that is responsible for archiving and managing the distribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data to simplify the provision of services to benefit Federal and coastal state programs; and

(7) set forth a timetable for implementation and completion of the plan, including a schedule for submission to the Congress of periodic progress reports and recommendations for integrating approaches developed under the initiative into the interagency program.

(c) NOAA joint ocean and coastal mapping centers

The Administrator may maintain and operate up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers, including a joint hydrographic center, which shall each be co-located with an institution of higher education. The centers shall serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and may conduct activities necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including—

(1) research and development of innovative ocean and coastal mapping technologies, equipment, and data products;

(2) mapping of the United States Outer Continental Shelf and other regions;

(3) data processing for nontraditional data and uses;

(4) advancing the use of remote sensing technologies, for related issues, including mapping and assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral resources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration; and

(5) providing graduate education and training in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of other agencies with ocean and coastal mapping programs, and civilian personnel.

(d) NOAA report

The Administrator shall continue developing a strategy for expanding contracting with nongovernmental entities to minimize duplication and take maximum advantage of nongovernmental capabilities in fulfilling the Administration's mapping and charting responsibilities. Within 120 days after March 30, 2009, the Administrator shall transmit a report describing the strategy developed under this subsection to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12205, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1424.)

§ 3505. Effect on other laws

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to supersede or alter the existing authorities of any Federal agency with respect to ocean and coastal mapping.

(Pub. L. 111-11, title XII, § 12206, Mar. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 1426.)

§ 3506. Authorization of appropriations

(a) In general

In addition to the amounts authorized by section 892d of this title, there are authorized to be