



Ocean Action Plan

The President, through the *Ocean Action Plan (OAP)*, has recognized the challenges in developing management strategies that ensure continued conservation of coastal and marine habitats and living resources, while at the same time ensuring that the American public enjoys and benefits from the same resources. NOAA has played a key role in implementing the OAP, acting lead or co-lead for roughly half of the 88 assigned items in the OAP. Given the significant progress the Administration has made in completing the commitments of the OAP, NOAA is moving forward with new activities to continue to improve our management and protection of ocean resources. NOAA's FY 2008 request includes \$123M in new increases in support of advancing responsible use and stewardship of ocean and coastal resources.

Program changes support three vital areas of coastal and marine conservation efforts:

- Sustainable use of ocean resources (\$25M).
- Protection and restoration of marine and coastal areas (\$38M).
- Enhanced ocean science and research (\$60M).

Ensuring Sustainable Use of Ocean Resources

Implement a number of requirements of the recently reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, including improvements in data collection to increase the quality and accuracy of recreational fishing information and the development of Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs) that provide exclusive privileges to harvest a quantity of fish to facilitate market-based approaches to fisheries management. LAPPs move fisheries management away from inefficient regulatory practices and have been shown to lead to lengthened fishing seasons, improved product quality, and safer conditions for fishermen (\$20M).

Enhanced domestic seafood supply through offshore aquaculture to encourage and facilitate the development of environmentally sustainable commercial opportunities, as called for in the National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2005 (\$3M).



Protect and Restore Marine Coastal Areas

Implement priority management needs for the recently designated Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, including vessel tracking and enforcement, and ecosystem characterization (\$8M).



Protect important coastal and estuarine land areas that have significant conservation, recreational, ecological, or historical value (\$15M).

Support the Gulf of Mexico Alliance coastal resource priorities as identified in the *Governor's Action Plan for Healthy and Resilient Coasts* through competitive grant programs (\$5M).

Enhanced Ocean Science and Research

Deploy and maintain multi-purpose observing platforms and establish the regional components and data integration framework for the Integrated Ocean Observing System to enhance models and information products (\$16M).

Map and characterize the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to define the limits of the U.S. continental shelf, enabling the U.S. to establish sovereign rights for exploration, exploitation, and conservation of natural resources (\$8M).

Support for the Ocean Research Priorities Plan through (1) the development of decision-support tools to help policy makers prepare and respond to hurricane hazards and watershed influences; (2) the development of new marine biosensors for rapid detection of toxins; (3) improved understanding of fluctuations in ocean circulations and its relation to climate change; and (4) advancement in quantitative models and science-based forecasting tools to assess how marine ecosystems respond to human impacts and environmental variation (\$20M).

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office: (202) 482-4600 – or – AskNOAABudget@noaa.gov

	FY 2008 Pres Budget Increases over FY07 (\$M)
Ocean Science and Research	60
<i>Ocean Research Priorities Plan Implementation</i>	
Coastal Decision Support	5.0
Develop sensors for rapid toxin detection (HABs)	5.0
Ocean Circulation and Climate	5.0
Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystems	5.0
<i>Integrated Ocean Observing System</i>	
IOOS - Regional Observations	11.5
NOAA - Data management and coordination	2.5
IOOS - weather sensors on NWLON stations	1.0
IOOS - Ocean Sensors on NWS buoys	1.4
<i>Vessel Time and Equipment for Ocean Science</i>	
O&M for Newer NOAA Fisheries Research Vessels	4.6
OKEANOS EXPLORER O&M	1.0
Additional support for vessel crews	1.7
Vessel Equip. and Technology Refresh	1.0
Autonomous Underwater Vehicles for Hydrographic Surveying	0.7
Mapping the Extended Continental Shelf	8.0
Saltonstall-Kennedy Competitive Fisheries Research Grants (mandatory funds)	3.5
Right Whales Research	2.0
Ocean Health Initiative	1.0
International Polar Year - Marine survey in the Antarctic	0.6
 Protecting and Restoring Sensitive Marine and Coastal Areas	 38
Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Monument	8.0
Penobscot River Restoration	10.0
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation	15.0
Gulf of Mexico Collaboration	5.0
 Ensuring Sustainable Use of Ocean Resources	 25
<i>Magnuson Stevens Implementation</i>	
Reauthorization - new requirements	6.5
Klamath River Recovery	3.0
Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs)	6.0
Observers and Training	3.0
Survey and Monitoring Projects	1.7
Aquaculture	3.0
Marine Mammals and Sound	1.8
 NOAA TOTAL	 123