

FGDC Marine Boundary Working Group

May 29, 2008 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Email</u>
Steve Kopach	Mineral Management Service	Stephen.Kopach@mms.gov
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**Roger Johnson	National Park Service	Roger_M_Johnson@nps.gov

**On the phone

Notes

- Minutes from previous meetings have been posted on the MBWG web site. NOAA CSC has also posted presentations from previous meetings.
- Cindy Fowler opened with the meeting with a welcome to the participants and guests and gave a brief introduction of the working group.

- David Stein provided a highlight of action items and discussions from the previous meeting held in November. Two action items that were met from the previous were:
 - Post meeting notes and presentations to the MBWG web site
 - Inviting someone from the U.S. Census Bureau to give a presentation at a working group meeting

- Agency Updates
 - **FGDC:** David Stein reported that the Coastal Services Center submitted an idea for an FGDC Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) funding category to be considered for the FY 2009 funding cycle. If accepted by the FGDC, the funding category will provide seed money to states and NGOs for the further development of the Coastal and Ocean NSDI. Follow up items included looking for other mechanism or groups to start promoting this idea. (champions within our agencies, Geospatial Line of Business representatives, etc.)
 - **Maritime Boundaries:** Meredith Westington provided an update on maritime boundary creation. The work is currently 90% complete and future work will include trying to integrate updated boundaries into Electronic Nautical Charts.
 - **IWG-OCM:** Roger Parsons gave a short presentation that provided an overview of the work that the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping has been doing. The presentation also outlined and defined Geospatial One-Stop and the plans for its future. For more information, visit: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/iwg>
 - **Baseline Committee:** Brian Van Pay discussed the work that has been done on updating the Federal Register notice. Accuracy will be taken out to 5 decimal degrees and projections will be WGS84/NAD83.
 - **Continental Shelf Task Force:** Brian Van Pay presented the work that has been done by the task force. A number of meetings have already been held and future meetings are planned to host discussions between scientists, researchers, and a number of Federal agencies to help better define the extent of the outer continental shelf (OCS). Several data collection cruises have been conducted in the Atlantic, Arctic, and others are planned for other regions.
 - **National Marine Sanctuaries and Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission** updated the group.
 - **National Park Service:** Roger Johnson provided updates and links to the following National Park Service website:
 - **NPS Data Store** - <http://science.nature.nps.gov>

- John Brown (United Kingdom Hydrographic Office) gave a presentation on maritime boundary issues in the United Kingdom

- All boundary-related work is addressed within the U.K. Hydrographic Office Law of the Sea Division
- Four people address all boundary- and maritime-related issues
- There is no baseline committee within the UK Hydrographic Office
- Office is part of the Ministry of Defense. Inherently, a lot of work is conducted for the Royal Navy.
- U.K. maritime boundaries include:
 - U.K. 6 and 12 mile limits
 - 12 mile Territorial Sea
 - No Contiguous Zone
 - No Exclusive Economic Zone
 - 200 mile Pollution, Renewable Energy, and Fisheries Zone
- Stephen Bowler (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) gave a presentation on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) offshore responsibilities.
 - Covered background information describing the management structure of the Commission
 - Described the Commission's 2002 and 2003 Declaratory Orders on jurisdiction, pointing out that a footnote explained that the Commission interpreted the jurisdiction of the Federal Power Act as extending at least to twelve miles from shore.
 - Mentioned that there are differences of interpretation regarding federal agency jurisdiction on the Outer Continental Shelf between the Minerals Management Service and FERC. He explained that the differences stem from readings of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and other statutes, but that the discussion had to be limited to a broad outline of the issue because it is up for rehearing.
 - Depicted some of the latest technology and ideas relevant to alternative energy:
 - Tidal – Northeast and Pacific Northwest
 - Wave – West Coast and Hawaii
 - Ocean Current – Florida Gulf Stream
- Jim Fulmer (MMS) and David Stein (NOAA CSC) gave a presentation on Version 1 of the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre (MMC)
 - The goal of the MMC project is to develop a single, authoritative source for federal marine cadastral information. The supporting objectives are that the data should be Web-accessible, in a standardized format, and managed by the agency of responsibility
 - David Stein gave a demo of Version 1 of the ArcIMS mapping application and depicted its utility dealing with alternative energy siting. This example focused off of the coast of Massachusetts and exemplified some of the data that the application contains.
 - Background information on the MMC can be accessed here: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/htm/multipurpose.html>. Version 1 of the U.S. Marine Cadastre can be accessed at the following location: <http://csc-s-maps-q.csc.noaa.gov/MMC/viewer.html>

- Following the demonstration, there was a discussion on what data will be included in the application, current partnerships that are currently being formed, and how other agencies can get involved with the project.
- Zach Ferdana from The Nature Conservancy gave a presentation on The Nature Conservancy's marine spatial planning approach and collaboration with the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre
 - Illustrated The Nature Conservancy's marine spatial planning approach through marine ecoregional assessment process.
 - Discussed the possibility of collaboration with the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre in terms of utilizing data from the MMC and contributing key biodiversity datasets.
 - Presented a coastal resilience project in Long Island, NY that focuses on multiple objective marine spatial planning. This collaborative project with the NOAA CSC will focus on:
 - Predicting sea-level rise and hazards
 - Developing visualization tools for decision makers
 - Addressing sea-level rise and hazards in land-use planning
 - Limiting post-disaster reconstruction
 - Promoting tax-incentives for landowners to pursue conservation
 - Prioritizing key areas for conservation.
 - Discussed integrating key biodiversity datasets into the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre and how TNC could integrate primary and supporting data themes from the MMC in ecoregional assessment process.
- Mike Ratcliffe from the U.S. Census Bureau presented on Marine Boundary Delineation work at the U.S. Census Bureau
 - Opened with a brief description of the mapping work being conducted at the Bureau and some of the history behind their census collection work and how this has been translated into boundaries in the past.
 - Discussed how the Bureau is currently dealing with marine boundary delineation and how they are proposing to address this issue in the future.
 - The Bureau is interested and see the need to update seaward boundaries available in their TIGER database to a higher precision.
 - Are interested in working with partner agencies to start using a more accurate base.

Action Items

- NOAA CSC will work with Ole Varmer to craft a disclaimer for the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre.
- U.S. Census Bureau will start discussions with NOAA Office of Coast Survey on utilizing a more accurate base for boundary delineation.
- Zach Ferdana will follow up with the MMC project team regarding the inclusion of biodiversity data.
- Invite representatives from the MPA center to present on their recent data development efforts.

