

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2400

To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. SAXTON, and Mr. PALLONE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ocean and Coastal
3 Mapping Integration Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. INTEGRATED OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING PRO-**
5 **GRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
7 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall es-
8 tablish a program to develop, in coordination with the
9 Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping,
10 a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coast-
11 al mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state
12 waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone,
13 and the Continental Shelf of the United States that en-
14 hances ecosystem approaches in decisionmaking for con-
15 servation and management of marine resources and habi-
16 tats, establishes research priorities, supports the siting of
17 research and other platforms, enhances safety of naviga-
18 tion, and advances ocean and coastal science.

19 (b) PROGRAM PARAMETERS.—In developing such a
20 program, the Administrator shall work with the Com-
21 mittee to—

22 (1) identify all Federal and federally funded
23 programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean
24 or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-
25 quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject

1 matter focus of the data and location of data ar-
2 chives;

3 (2) facilitate cost-effective, cooperative mapping
4 efforts that incorporate policies for contracting with
5 non-Federal entities among all Federal agencies con-
6 ducting ocean and coastal mapping, by increasing
7 data sharing, developing appropriate data acquisi-
8 tion and metadata standards, and facilitating the
9 interoperability of in situ data collection systems,
10 data processing, archiving, and distribution of data
11 products;

12 (3) facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-
13 nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and
14 coastal mapping technologies, including through re-
15 search, development, and training conducted among
16 Federal agencies and in cooperation with non-Fed-
17 eral entities;

18 (4) develop standards and protocols for testing
19 innovative experimental mapping technologies and
20 transferring new technologies between the Federal
21 Government and non-Federal entities;

22 (5) provide for the archiving, management, and
23 distribution of data sets as well as provide mapping
24 products and services to the general public in service
25 of statutory requirements;

1 (6) develop data standards and protocols for
2 use by Federal, State, and other entities in mapping
3 and otherwise documenting locations of federally
4 permitted activities, living and nonliving coastal and
5 marine resources, marine ecosystems, sensitive habi-
6 tats, submerged cultural resources, undersea cables,
7 offshore aquaculture projects, offshore energy
8 projects, and any areas designated for purposes of
9 environmental protection or conservation and man-
10 agement of living and nonliving coastal and marine
11 resources;

12 (7) identify the procedures to be used for co-
13 ordinating the collection and integration of Federal
14 ocean and coastal mapping data with State and local
15 government programs; and

16 (8) set forth a timetable for completion and im-
17 plementation of the plan referred to in subsection
18 (a).

19 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-**
20 **AL MAPPING.**

21 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established
22 an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Map-
23 ping.

24 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Committee shall be com-
25 prised of senior representatives from Federal agencies

1 with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibil-
2 ities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of
3 their respective agencies or departments and, whenever
4 possible, the head of the portion of the agency or depart-
5 ment that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act.
6 Membership shall include senior representatives from the
7 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
8 Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological
9 Survey, the Minerals Management Service, the National
10 Science Foundation, the National Geospatial-Intelligence
11 Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the
12 Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, the
13 Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National
14 Aeronautics and Space Administration, and other appro-
15 priate Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal map-
16 ping.

17 (c) CHAIRMAN.—The Committee shall have as its
18 chairman the representative from the National Oceanic
19 and Atmospheric Administration. The chairman may cre-
20 ate subcommittees chaired by any member agency of the
21 committee. The full Committee may form working groups
22 to address issues of short duration.

23 (d) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet on a
24 quarterly basis, but each subcommittee and each working
25 group shall meet on an as-needed basis.

1 (e) COORDINATION.—The Committee shall coordinate
2 activities, when appropriate, with—

3 (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital
4 Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-
5 graphic Data Committee;

6 (2) international mapping activities;

7 (3) States and user groups through workshops
8 and other appropriate mechanisms; and

9 (4) representatives of non-Federal entities.

10 **SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
13 sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to
14 the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal
15 mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-
16 mospheric Administration.

17 (b) PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall—

18 (1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal
19 mapping programs within the agency, including
20 those that conduct mapping or related activities in
21 the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic
22 surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine re-
23 source conservation and management programs,
24 coastal zone management projects, and ocean and
25 coastal science projects;

1 (2) establish priority mapping programs and es-
2 tablish and periodically update priorities for geo-
3 graphic areas in surveying and mapping across all
4 missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
5 Administration, as well as minimum data acquisition
6 and metadata standards for those programs;

7 (3) encourage the development of innovative
8 ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applica-
9 tions through research and development through co-
10 operative or other agreements with joint or coopera-
11 tive research institutes and with other non-Federal
12 entities;

13 (4) document available and developing tech-
14 nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-
15 tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other
16 Federal agencies, and non-Federal entities;

17 (5) identify training, technology, and other re-
18 source requirements for enabling the National Oce-
19 anic and Atmospheric Administration's programs,
20 vessels, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean
21 and coastal mapping program;

22 (6) identify a centralized mechanism or office
23 for coordinating data collection, processing,
24 archiving, and dissemination activities of all such

1 mapping programs within the National Oceanic and
2 Atmospheric Administration, including—

3 (A) designating primary data processing
4 centers to maximize efficiency in information
5 technology investment, develop consistency in
6 data processing, and meet Federal mandates
7 for data accessibility; and

8 (B) designating a repository that is re-
9 sponsible for archiving and managing the dis-
10 tribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data
11 to simplify the provision of services to benefit
12 Federal and State programs; and

13 (7) set forth a timetable for implementation
14 and completion of the plan, including a schedule for
15 submission to the Congress of periodic progress re-
16 ports and recommendations for integrating ap-
17 proaches developed under the initiative into the
18 interagency program.

19 (c) NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING
20 CENTERS.—The Administrator may maintain and operate
21 up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers, including
22 a joint hydrographic center, which shall each be co-located
23 with an institution of higher education. The centers shall
24 serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and may con-

1 duct activities necessary to carry out the purposes of this
2 Act, including—

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

6 (2) mapping of the United States Outer Conti-
7 nental Shelf and other regions;

8 (3) data processing for nontraditional data and
9 uses;

10 (4) advancing the use of remote sensing tech-
11 nologies, for related issues, including mapping and
12 assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-
13 sources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration;
14 and

15 (5) providing graduate education and training
16 in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members
17 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
18 tration Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of
19 other agencies with ocean and coastal mapping pro-
20 grams, and civilian personnel.

21 (d) ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIVATE SEC-
22 TOR CONTRACTING.—The Administrator shall continue
23 developing a strategy for expanding contracting with non-
24 Federal entities to minimize duplication and take max-
25 imum advantage of non-Federal capabilities in fulfilling

1 the Administration’s mapping and charting responsibil-
2 ities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this
3 Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report describing
4 the strategy developed under this subsection to the Com-
5 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
6 Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the
7 House of Representatives.

8 **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY PROGRAM REPORTING.**

9 No later than 18 months after the date of enactment
10 of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Chairman of
11 the Committee shall transmit to the Committee on Com-
12 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
13 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
14 resentatives a report detailing progress made in imple-
15 menting this Act, including—

16 (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping
17 data within the territorial sea and the exclusive eco-
18 nomic zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of
19 the United States, noting the age and source of the
20 survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the
21 data;

22 (2) an inventory and description of any new
23 Federal or federally funded programs conducting
24 shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping
25 since the previous reporting cycle;

1 (3) identification of priority areas in need of
2 survey coverage using present technologies;

3 (4) a resource plan that identifies when priority
4 areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping
5 surveys can be accomplished;

6 (5) the status of efforts to produce integrated
7 digital maps of ocean and coastal areas;

8 (6) a description of any products resulting from
9 coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that im-
10 prove public understanding of the coasts and oceans,
11 or regulatory decisionmaking;

12 (7) documentation of minimum and desired
13 standards for data acquisition and integrated
14 metadata;

15 (8) a statement of the status of Federal efforts
16 to leverage mapping technologies, coordinate map-
17 ping activities, share expertise, and exchange data;

18 (9) a statement of resource requirements for or-
19 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
20 ing technology needs for data acquisition, proc-
21 essing, and distribution systems;

22 (10) a statement of the status of efforts to de-
23 classify data gathered by the Navy, the National
24 Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other agencies
25 to the extent possible without jeopardizing national

1 security, and make it available to partner agencies
2 and the public;

3 (11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal
4 programs with State and local government programs
5 and leverage those programs; and

6 (12) a description of efforts of Federal agencies
7 to increase contracting with non-Federal entities.

8 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the amounts au-
10 thorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Im-
11 provement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are au-
12 thorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry
13 out this Act—

14 (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

15 (2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

16 (3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

17 (4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

18 (5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
19 through 2015.

20 (b) JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-
21 TERS.—Of the amounts appropriated under subsection
22 (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry out sec-
23 tion 4(e):

24 (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

25 (2) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

1 (3) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

2 (4) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

3 (5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
4 through 2015.

5 (c) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—Notwithstanding
6 any other provision of law, from amounts authorized to
7 be appropriated for fiscal years 2008 through 2015 to the
8 departments of the agencies, and the independent agen-
9 cies, specified in section 3(b), the head of each such de-
10 partment or agency may make available not more than
11 \$10,000,000 per fiscal year to carry out interagency ac-
12 tivities under section 3.

13 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this Act:

15 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
16 trator” means the Administrator of the National
17 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

18 (2) COASTAL STATE.—The term “coastal state”
19 has the meaning given that term by section 304(4)
20 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16
21 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

22 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
23 means the Interagency Committee on Ocean and
24 Coastal Mapping established by section 3.

1 (4) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term
2 “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive eco-
3 nomic zone of the United States established by Pres-
4 idential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

5 (5) NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.—The term “non-
6 Federal entities” includes State governmental orga-
7 nizations, non-governmental organizations, members
8 of the academic community, and private sector orga-
9 nizations.

10 (6) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term
11 “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,
12 processing, and management of physical, biological,
13 geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-
14 tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-
15 sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics,
16 satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging,
17 direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

18 (7) OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.—The term
19 “Outer Continental Shelf” means all submerged
20 lands lying seaward and outside of lands beneath
21 navigable waters (as that term is defined in section
22 2 of the Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1301)),
23 and of which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the
24 United States and are subject to its jurisdiction and
25 control.

1 (8) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial
2 sea” means the belt of sea measured from the base-
3 line of the United States determined in accordance
4 with international law, as set forth in Presidential
5 Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27,
6 1988.

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