



**STEWARDS OF OUR NATION'S  
OCEAN, COASTAL, AND GREAT LAKES RESOURCES**



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## Interior's Ocean Role

The Interior Department is one of our Nation's principal stewards for our Ocean,

Coastal and Great Lakes resources. Interior recognizes the vital connection between the health of our Nation's natural resources and human health and economy.

Interior Bureaus manage, protect and provide access to significant ocean and coastal resources:

- ▶ 34 million acres in 84 marine and coastal National Parks,
- ▶ More than 35,000 miles of coastline,
- ▶ 180 marine and coastal National Wildlife Refuges,
- ▶ Energy and mineral development on 1.7 billion underwater acres of the Outer Continental Shelf,
- ▶ Nearly all Federal land, and the majority of all land in the U.S. Arctic,
- ▶ Hundreds of thousands of square miles in Marine National Monuments,
- ▶ 1,100 miles of coastline of the California Coastal National Monument.

### Interior Bureaus:

- ▶ Provide robust scientific programs that inform decisions and reduce risk,
- ▶ Ensure safe and responsible development of natural, mineral and energy resources,
- ▶ Promote healthy and productive ecosystems through informed management and monitoring,
- ▶ Protect native species and their habitats,
- ▶ Provide rich cultural and recreational opportunities for the public, and
- ▶ Support Tribal, state, regional and local partnerships.

## What We Do

**Interior uses science-based management** to increase our understanding of natural resources for informed responsible use and effective conservation practices. Interior experts provide data, tools, and information to inform and support multiple levels of leaders and decision makers.

**Interior conducts diverse scientific and resource monitoring programs** through extensive ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes research coordinated with other Federal agencies and non-federal partners, to effectively manage energy, cultural, wildlife, and natural resources for the Nation.

**Interior manages natural resources at the landscape and ecosystem scale** to work across political boundaries and through community engagement that promotes health, reduces risk, and supports sustainable and resilient watersheds, from uplands to coastal waters.

**Interior collaborates, coordinates with and supports** other Federal agencies, Tribes, states, and a wide array of partners to achieve shared goals.

**Interior supports The National Ocean Policy** and is committed to responsible stewardship that ensures the ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes are healthy and resilient, safe and productive, and understood and treasured so as to promote the well being, prosperity, and security of present and future generations.

**Interior co-leads the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force with NOAA** that includes 10 other Federal agencies, states, Territories, Commonwealths and three Freely Associated States to preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. <http://www.coralreef.gov/>

**Interior Participates in Regional Ocean Partnerships** and co-chairs many of the Federal Interagency Working Groups that provide support to the nine Regional Ocean Partnerships across the Nation. These partnerships strengthen and enhance regional initiatives to more effectively manage our resources.

### Regional Ocean Partnerships:

- ▶ Governor's South Atlantic Alliance (SAA), <http://www.southatlanticalliance.org/>
- ▶ Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA), <http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/index.php>
- ▶ Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC), <http://collaborate.csc.noaa.gov/nroc/default.aspx>
- ▶ West Coast Governors' Alliance (WCGA), <http://www.westcoastoceans.org/>
- ▶ Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC), <http://www.glrc.us/>
- ▶ Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP), <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/>
- ▶ Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO), <http://www.midatlanticocean.org/>
- ▶ Caribbean,
- ▶ Pacific Islands

## Keep up with Interior's Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Activities

**NEWSWAVE** is a quarterly newsletter from the Interior Department featuring ocean, coastal and Great Lakes activities across the Bureaus. **NEWSWAVE** reports on new Interior initiatives, exciting science discoveries, relevant meetings, conferences and events, policy updates, and valuable contact information. The Surfing Bison feature highlights Interior web pages that host in-depth information on a wide range of ocean, coastal and Great Lakes topics.

### Other Interior Newsletters of Interest

**USGS -- Sound Waves**

<http://soundwaves.usgs.gov/>

**BOEM -- Ocean Science**

<http://www.boem.gov/BOEM-Newsroom/Library/Ocean-Science/Ocean-Science.aspx>

**USFWS -- Refuge Update**

<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/refugeUpdate/>

**USFWS -- On the Wild Side!**

<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/newsletter/index.html>

**USFWS -- Eddies-Reflections on Fisheries Conservation**

<http://www.fws.gov/eddies/>

**BLM -- Frontiers**

<http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/info/frontiers.html>

### Visit us online:

<http://www.doi.gov/pmb/ocean>

