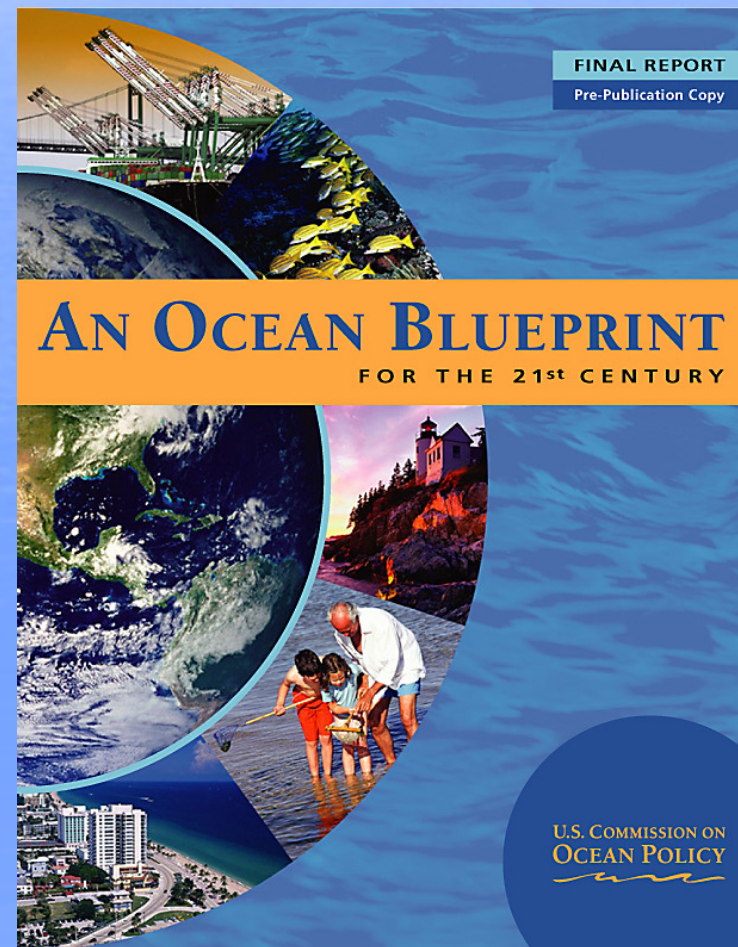
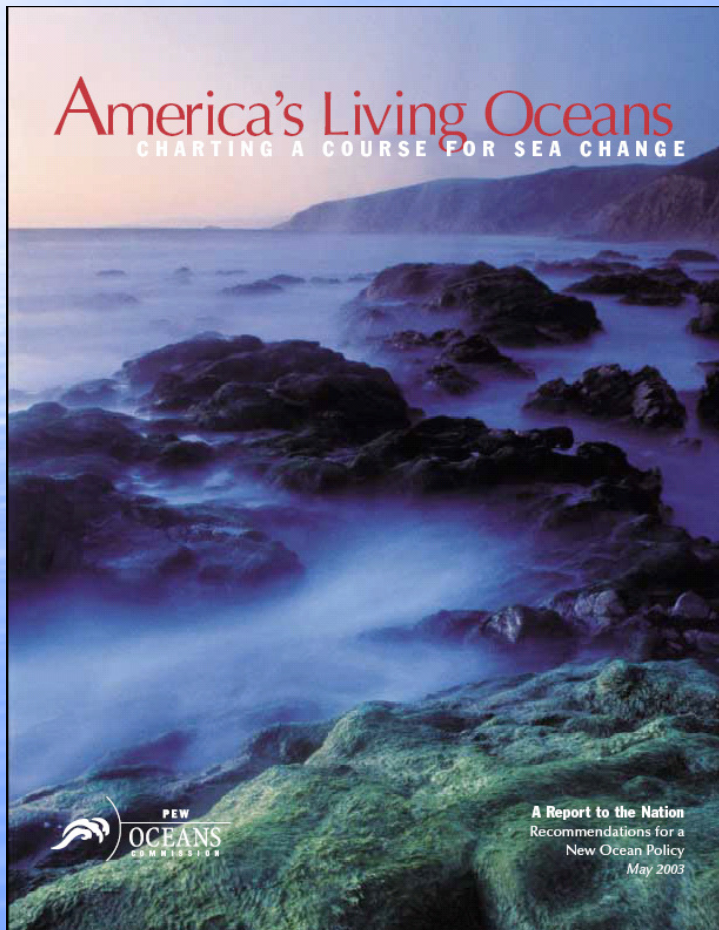


JOINT OCEAN COMMISSION INITIATIVE



Overview

- What is the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative?
- What are the Initiative's current priorities?
- How is the Initiative pursuing those priorities?
 - Engagement at the national level
 - Engagement in states and regions
 - Recent activity and upcoming opportunities

What is the Joint Initiative?

- Led by Admiral James D. Watkins and the Honorable Leon E. Panetta
- Guided by a ten-member Task Force (five from each Commission)
- Meridian Institute coordinates the design and implementation and serves as the secretariat for the Joint Initiative

Joint Ocean Commission Initiative

- Accelerate the pace of change toward meaningful ocean and coastal policy reform at all levels of government
- Build upon the consensus processes, diverse membership, and outcomes of the two Commissions
- Broaden the base of involved parties and build awareness of the importance of ocean policy reform

Current Priorities

- Oceans and climate change
- National ocean governance reform
- Regional and state ocean governance reform
- International leadership
- Research, science, and education
- Fisheries management reform
- New funding for ocean policy and programs

Engagement at the National Level

- Seek and create opportunities to inform members of the Administration and Congress of the Initiative's priorities
- Build diverse coalitions to send coordinated messages
- Coordinate activities and messages with others in the ocean community
- Place articles and op-eds in national media

Engagement in States and Regions

- Identify, engage in, and help catalyze action on local, state, and regional ocean-related initiatives
- Seek involvement in states and regions where the Joint Initiative's presence brings value added to existing or potential efforts
 - Gulf of Mexico
 - California/West Coast
 - Mid-Atlantic
 - Northeast
- Regional ocean governance workshop

- Developed in response to letter from bipartisan group of 10 Senators
- Asked Joint Initiative for top 10 priorities to implement Commissions' recommendations
- Requested associated funding analysis
- Released June 2006 at press conference with Senators Mikulski and Dodd

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA
PRIORITIES FOR OCEAN POLICY REFORM

1. Adopt a statement of national ocean policy.
2. Establish the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in law and work with the Administration to identify and act upon opportunities to improve federal agency coordination on ocean and coastal issues.
3. Foster ecosystem-based regional governance.
4. Reauthorize an improved Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.
5. Enact legislation to support innovation and competition in ocean-related research and education consistent with key initiatives in the Bush Administration's Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy.

- Developed as a resource for Congress, Administration, and others regarding ocean policy reform
- Recently accompanied a “dear colleague” letter from chairs of House Ocean Caucus urging House leadership on ocean policy

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA
PRIORITIES FOR OCEAN POLICY REFORM

6. Enact legislation to authorize and fund the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS).
7. Accede to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
8. Establish an Ocean Trust Fund in the U.S. Treasury as a dedicated source of funds for improved management and understanding of ocean and coastal resources by federal and state governments.
9. Increase base funding for core ocean and coastal programs and direct development of an integrated ocean budget.
10. Enact ocean and coastal legislation that has already progressed significantly in the 109th Congress.

Recent Activity

JOINT OCEAN COMMISSION INITIATIVE U.S. OCEAN POLICY REPORT CARD	
2006	
Subject	Grade
National Ocean Governance Reform (2005=D+)	C-
Regional and State Ocean Governance Reform (2005=B-)	A-
International Leadership (2005=F)	D-
Research, Science, and Education (2005=D)	D+
Fisheries Management Reform (2005=C+)	B+
New Funding for Ocean Policy and Programs (2005=F)	F

Assesses the nation's collective progress toward implementing a coordinated, comprehensive, and coherent national ocean policy that is consistent with the recommendations of the two Commissions.