

The IWG-OCM Inventory

What is IWG-OCM?

IWG-OCM is the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping. It is one of five working groups established by the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (JSOST).

What is the authority for the IWG-OCM inventory?

The inventory answers the U.S. Ocean Action Plan, the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and OMB Circular A-16.

<http://ocean.ceq.gov/>

<http://www.energy.gov/about/EPAct.htm>,

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a016/a016.html>

What will the inventory do?

The inventory is designed to increase the efficiency of the nation's ocean and coastal mapping activities. It will offer a clearinghouse for data and interpretive information, and a registry of completed and projected mapping activities. This will reduce duplication of efforts and enable cooperative activities.

The web-based data portal will initially help users discover and access to data to meet their needs. Later the portal will facilitate integration of data and map products from different agencies. Ultimately the inventory should serve as a platform for the development of new tools for data integration and investigation.

How is the inventory related to other mapping inventories?

The inventory will be consistent with Geospatial One-Stop. It will also be consistent with inter-agency efforts to develop an Integrated Ocean Observing System. To the extent possible, the inventory will take advantage of services offered by existing inventories.

What will the inventory include?

Timing: The inventory will provide up-to-date information about planned and completed mapping activities in an activity registry.

Mapping activities: The activity registry will include federally funded activities that fund/collect/provide data within the scope of the inventory, and federally funded activities that use or need such data.

Data types: The inventory will be inclusive for all types of geospatial data, and also non-geospatial data that describe the solid earth (for example, aerial photographs and seismic profiles).

Geographical boundaries: The IWG-OCM Inventory will include the US Exclusive Economic Zone, extended continental shelf areas claimed under the Law of the Sea, and the Great Lakes. On land, it will include regions that fall within the U.S. coastal zone.

What are initial priorities?

High priority services: The inventory's first task will be the construction of the activity registry, and a searchable inventory (using both geospatial display and advanced query options) of available data with information on how to get the data.

High priority data types: The inventory will initially focus on elevation data (bathymetry/hydrography/topography) shorelines, surface characterization (sea floor mapping, landcover classifications), and seismic data. Data and products with national scope or temporal changes such as elevation, shoreline, and surface characterization will be a major focus.

What will be included in the future?

Future efforts will focus on inclusion of real-time data and interactive models; information and data that are not federally funded; and tools for data integration, visualization and analysis.

What is the next step?

In September 2007, an interagency workshop will be held to recommend a design for the inventory and set timelines for implementation

Who is going to pay for the inventory?

The inventory is being developed through coordination of agency activities that are already funded.

Who should I contact for more information?

Contact a member of the IWG-OCM Technical Working Group

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Where can I find Inventory examples?

Geospatial One-Stop

<http://www.geodata.gov>

RAMONA GIS Inventory

<http://gisinventory.net>

NOAA Data Explorer

<http://www.oceanservice.noaa.gov/dataexplorer>

National Digital Elevation Program (NDEP)

<http://www.ndep.gov>

Priority Habitat Information System (PHINS)

http://ecowatch.ncddc.noaa.gov/habid_public