

**NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) will host a 2-day National Ocean and Coastal Mapping (OCM) Inventory Workshop on 12 and 13 January 2011 in Boulder, CO.**

The purpose of this workshop is to:

- 1) review the goals, objectives and efforts of the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM) to develop a National Inventory;
- 2) understand and compare ongoing efforts by Data.gov, Geospatial One-Stop, the National Ocean Council Information Management System and Data Portal, the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre , Digital Coast, and other geospatial data tools and management activities to identify whether gaps, areas of overlap or opportunities for coordination exist; and
- 3) determine how best to proceed forward in the development an integrated and publically-accessible National OCM Inventory.

In response to the U.S. Ocean Action Plan , the IWG-OCM began the development of a National OCM Inventory in September 2007 following a multiagency workshop in Charleston, SC. The charge from that workshop was to develop an inventory that would offer a clearinghouse for data and interpretive information, and a registry of completed and projected mapping activities via a single web portal. The inventory was envisioned to reduce duplication of mapping efforts and facilitate cooperative mapping activities and data accessibility. Consensus was reached to use Geospatial One-Stop (GOS) as the tool in which to build the inventory. The Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act of 2009 additionally directs the Federal mapping community to develop an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping data.

Although much has been achieved over the past three years with respect to registering OCM metadata in GOS, for a variety of reasons we have fallen short in realizing the vision of an interactive national mapping inventory. It is time to reassess how this community is to move this effort forward and to understand how we might leverage other ongoing activities to achieve this goal.

**We request that you identify the appropriate individuals in your agency to participate in this workshop.** Knowledge of your agency's geospatial data management efforts and their relationship to ongoing interagency data management activities is important. It is envisioned that a follow-on technical workshop will be scheduled within several months to begin focusing on an implementation plan for recommendations that surface at January's workshop.

Respectfully,

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Co-chair, IWG-OCM

Fran Lightsom (USGS)  
Chair, OCM Inventory Project Management Team