State Coastal Programs Deliver Community Resilience: Let’s Avoid Reinventing the Wheel with New Programs and Allow the CZMA to Realize its Potential At Last!

Mary Munson
Executive Director, Coastal States Organization
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CSO was founded in 1972 and represents the Governors of the nation’s thirty-five coastal states, commonwealths and territories on legislative and policy issues relating to sound coastal, Great Lakes and ocean resource management, protection and development.
Moreover, there are 35 coastal states, territories and commonwealths. Each have their own laws & policies about how their local governments build, design, allow development (or not) and zone in the coastal zones…
Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

The Congress finds that—

(a) There is a national interest in the effective management, beneficial use, protection, and development of the coastal zone.

(b) The coastal zone is rich in a variety of natural, commercial, recreational, ecological, industrial, and esthetic resources of immediate and potential value to the present and future well-being of the Nation.

(c) The increasing and competing demands upon the lands and waters of our coastal zone occasioned by population growth and economic development, including requirements for industry, commerce, residential development, recreation, extraction of mineral resources and fossil fuels, transportation and navigation, waste disposal, and harvesting of fish, shellfish, and other living marine resources, have resulted in the loss of living marine resources, wildlife, nutrient-rich areas, permanent and adverse changes to ecological systems, decreasing open space for public use, and shoreline erosion.

(d) The habitat areas of the coastal zone, and the fish, shellfish, other living marine resources, and wildlife therein, are ecologically fragile and consequently extremely vulnerable to destruction by man's alterations.

(e) Important ecological, cultural, historic, and esthetic values in the coastal zone which are essential to the well-being of all citizens are being irretrievably damaged or lost.

(f) New and expanding demands for food, energy, minerals, defense needs, recreation, waste disposal, transportation, and industrial activities in the Great Lakes, territorial sea, exclusive economic zone, and Outer Continental Shelf are placing stress on these areas and are creating the need for resolution of serious conflicts among important and competing uses and values in coastal and ocean waters;

(g) Special natural and scenic characteristics are being damaged by ill-planned development that threatens these values.

(h) In light of competing demands and the urgent need to protect and to give high priority to natural systems in the coastal zone, present state and local institutional arrangements for planning and regulating land and water uses in such areas are inadequate.

(i) The key to more effective protection and use of the land and water resources of the coastal zone is to encourage the states to exercise their full authority over the lands and waters in the coastal zone by assisting the states, in cooperation with Federal and local governments and other vitally affected interests, in developing land and water use programs for the coastal zone, including unified policies, criteria, standards, methods, and processes for dealing with land and water use decisions of more than local significance.

(j) The national objective of attaining a greater degree of energy self-sufficiency would be advanced by providing Federal financial assistance to meet state and local needs resulting from new or expanded energy activity in or affecting the coastal zone.

(k) Land uses in the coastal zone, and the uses of adjacent lands which drain into the coastal zone, may significantly affect the quality of coastal waters and habitats, and efforts to control coastal water pollution from land use activities must be improved.

(l) Because global warming may result in a substantial sea level rise with serious adverse effects in the coastal zone, coastal states must anticipate and plan for such an occurrence.

(m) Because of their proximity to and reliance upon the ocean and its resources, the coastal states have substantial and significant interests in the protection, management, and development of the resources of the exclusive economic zone that can only be served by the active participation of coastal states in all Federal programs affecting such resources and, wherever appropriate, by the development of state ocean resource plans as part of their federally approved coastal zone management programs. …
Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

Purposes:

(1) to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the Nation's coastal zone for this and succeeding generations;

(2) to encourage and assist the states to exercise effectively their responsibilities in the coastal zone …

(3) to encourage the preparation of special area management plans….

(4) to encourage the participation and cooperation of the public, state and local governments, and interstate and other regional agencies

(5) to encourage coordination and cooperation …

(6) to respond to changing circumstances affecting the coastal environment and coastal resource management ….

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Science and support

From NOAA
Success Stories collected by CSO’s Adaptation Work Group in a Report by Bari Greenfeld
The stories exemplify the range of ways that state coastal programs empower Coastal Communities to become resilient, protect economies and enhance quality of life
NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan

It unites more than 100 localities with support from Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) staff, State Planners, and world-class planning. Localities are eligible to receive awards ranging from $3 million to $25 million as they implement strategies that will support local recovery and resiliency efforts.
The Beach SAMP will include:
• Gathering new data
• Developing tools and best practices to deal with shoreline change;
• Providing educational and outreach;
• Creating a policy framework to assist others in evaluating and dealing with the risk posed by changing shorelines;
• Improving state policies to better address the impacts of shoreline change.

The Ocean SAMP includes comprehensive regulations outlining Rhode Island's process for ensuring the management and protection of its ocean resources and activities, was adopted. In 2015
Coastal States Organization: How Do We Get There?

Maryland
Coast-Smart: Training, Tools and Technical Assistance

 Assist local communities assess/prepare for SLR impacts and storms

 Identify steps for communities to reduce vulnerability

 Invest in research/computer models/mapping tools to plan

 Provide centralized access to coastal data and mapping tools to visualize, share, map and analyze data

 Provide training workshops for contractors, local managers and private landowners on implementing living shoreline protection practices

 Develop new mechanisms to provide outreach and education for engaging stakeholders and building community support
The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency coordinates a Hazard Mitigation Interagency Committee, which assists with updating the state hazard mitigation plan and selecting projects to recommend to FEMA for funding.

The Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program participates on this committee and has a seat in the state emergency operations center during coastal events.

CZM program provides direct technical assistance to regional planning agencies and municipalities.
Puerto Rico
Territory-wide Study & Implementation

In partnership with IOOS, Sea Grant & and universities, the CZ program to developed a PR Climate Change, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Hazards Adaptation Strategy
Texas

2009 Coast Wide Erosion Response Plan

The Coastwide Erosion Response Plan was created in 1996, updated in ‘04 and ‘09 by the Texas Land Office. It identifies critical coastal erosion areas to assist in prioritizing coastal erosion response projects and studies.

Local governments must establish and implement Local Government Erosion Response Plans (ERP) to address erosion and storm damages. The plans may include provisions for establishing building setbacks, protecting public beach access and easements, and procedures for preserving, restoring, and enhancing sand dunes.
Adaptation planning includes the evaluation of climate-related vulnerabilities and risks and the identification of ways to reduce these risks to increase the resilience of communities, organizations and assets.
Coastal States Organization

Presenters:

Leo Asuncion
Director, Office of Planning, State of Hawai’i
Chair, Coastal States Organization Executive Committee

Steve Couture
New Hampshire Coastal Program Manager
Treasurer, Coastal States Organization Executive Committee

Phillip Hinesley
Coastal Section Chief, State Lands Division, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Past Chair, Coastal States Organization Executive Committee
Past Chair, The Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Alliance Management Committee, The Gulf of Mexico Alliance

Rebecca Prado
Deputy Director, Florida Coastal Office, Florida Department of Environmental Protection