

Memorandum of Understanding

Northeast Regional Ocean Council &
Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems
October 2009

Parties

The Northeast Regional Ocean Council is a state and federal partnership with the goal of engaging in regional protection and balanced use of ocean and coastal resources. NROC's coordinated approach reaches across state boundaries to find and implement solutions to the region's most pressing ocean and coastal issues.

The Northeastern Regional Association for Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) is a nonprofit organization established as one of the regional associations within the National Federation of coastal ocean observing systems. The mission of NERACOOS is to (1) to lead the development, implementation, operation, and evaluation of a sustained, regional coastal ocean observing system for the northeast United States and Canadian Maritime provinces, as part of the United States Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS); (2) to promote the development and dissemination of data and data products that meet the needs of end users; and (3) to advocate for the regional, national, and global ocean observing system through education and outreach.

Overview

Our organizations have a shared interest in the wise management of coastal and ocean resources for the benefit of current and future generations. Further we have a common geographic focus that extends from the Gulf of Maine to Long Island Sound and shared priority theme areas in Ocean and Coastal Ecosystem Health, Coastal Hazards Resiliency, and Ocean Energy. As such we have a strong interest in collaborating with each other and leveraging human and financial resources to the benefit of our shared ecosystem.

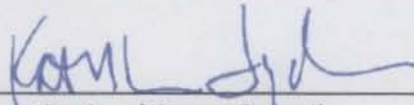
Methods of collaboration

Our organizations agree to partner on the following:

1. Regional priorities – On an annual basis the organizations will work together to identify regional coastal and ocean management themes and priorities. The organizations will then use these materials in their work plans and fund development processes.
2. Committee activities – Each organization will share committee / working group meeting materials (e.g., briefing items, agendas, minutes, etc.) and committee reports.
3. Joint projects – SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE FUNDING, the organizations will jointly support projects of shared interest that are identified during development of annual work plans.
4. Progress reports – The organizations will periodically report to their respective boards on progress in implementing this MOU and solicit suggestions for other collaboration opportunities.

Duration and termination of Agreement

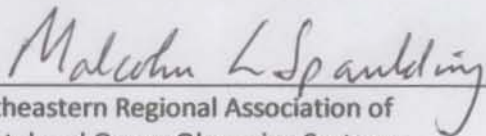
The duration of the agreement will be for one year. Renewal will be automatic unless specifically cancelled. Termination of the agreement may be initiated by either party in writing with a notice period of 30 days.



Northeast Regional Ocean Council

Oct. 27, 2009

Date



Northeastern Regional Association of
Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems

10/28/2009

Date