

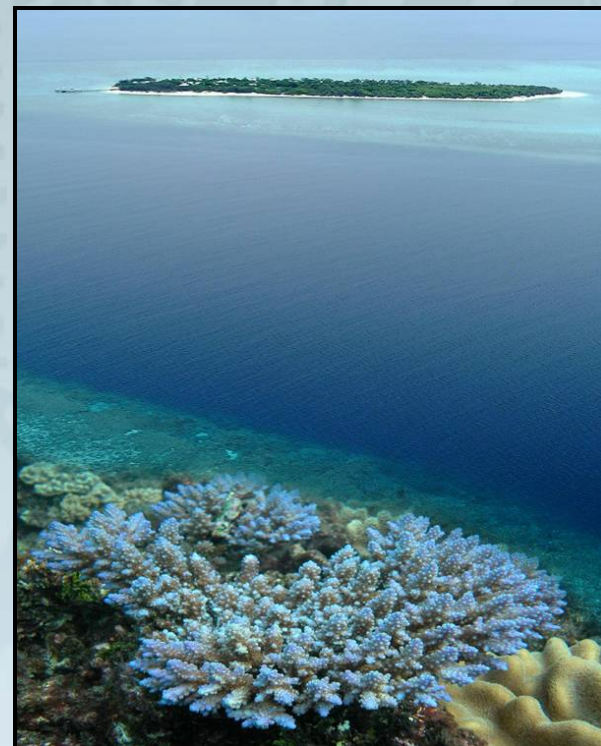
# Steering Committee Update

October 21, 2011  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

*Working to preserve and protect  
coral reef ecosystems*

## 2011 Washington Meeting Follow-Up

- Resolution 25.1
  - National Ocean Policy Engagement
  - Place-based Partnerships
  - Trans-jurisdictional Issues
  - Opportunities for Engagement



## ***National Ocean Policy – Implementation planning:***

- Resiliency to Climate Change and Ocean Acidification
- Water Quality and Sustainable Practices on Land
- Regional Ecosystem Protection and Restoration



## ***National Ocean Policy – Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning:***

- Panel and Executive Lunch planned today
- Informed the proposed Federal CMSP Regional Planning Body members of interest in engaging
- Informed National Information Management System coordinator of interest in contributing

## ***Place-based Partnerships – Guanica Bay, PR:***

- Specific individual and collaborative Federal agency activities continue (primary agencies engaged: USDA, NOAA, DOI, EPA, and local PR partners)
- FY11 funds awarded to 5 projects to build local capacity and promote education and outreach

## ***Place-based Partnerships – West Maui, HI:***

- USACE and HI Cost Share agreement pending
- EPA injection well tracer study
- NOAA initiated development of watershed management plan
- NFWF partnership funds identified for hiring watershed coordinator

## *Place-based Partnerships – Plus One Site:*

- American Samoa has proposed Nu'uili as the Pacific plus one site
- Federal agencies and American Samoa identify current and potential activities in Nu'uili
- Finalize selection of American Samoa watershed (Feb 2012)
- Initiate activities (August 2012)



## ***Trans-jurisdictional Issues – Coral Reef Injury Working Group:***

- Active since April 2011
- Membership across NOAA, DOI, EPA, USACE, DOD, Florida, Puerto Rico, CNMI, Hawaii and American Samoa
- Developed a terms of reference which includes tangible goals and objectives



## ***Trans-jurisdictional Issues – Coral Reef Injury Working Group (continued):***

- Compiled a list of relevant references, case studies, and reports
- Identified a suite of smaller sub-groups charged with compiling current state of knowledge, gaps in data and information, and providing draft recommendations for how to fill data gaps.

## *Opportunities for engagement:*

- Coastal Zone 2011 Conference panel sessions
  - Coral Reef Ecosystems in a Changing Climate
  - Managing Coral Reef Ecosystems from Ridge to Reef
- Looking for future opportunities

## ***Additional Steering Committee Action Items:***

- Identify agency tools and resources to facilitate more effective and proactive response to emergency events in coral reef jurisdictions
- Secure funding and host agencies for summer 2012 Sunia Scholars



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# Steering Committee Action Items

- National Ocean Policy (NOP):
  - Federal members continue to engage in the NOP process as the National Ocean Council staff finalize action plans for review and comment.
  - When the NOP implementation **plan** is available, ensure the full USCRTF staff has access to and take the opportunity to provide public comments.
  - Work among primary Federal agencies to finalize specific coral-related action in the Regional Ecosystem Protection and Restoration action plan.

# Steering Committee Action Items

- Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP):
  - Continue to engage as the National Ocean Council moves forward on CMSP and setting up Regional Planning Bodies
  - Consider how the USCRTF can advance the tenets of CMSP in our jurisdictions and regions
  - Examine how to best engage with RPBs to advance coral reef issues and projects in our regions.
  - Examine possibilities for CMSP projects in our jurisdictions and regions.



# Steering Committee Action Items

- Place-based Partnerships:
  - Highlight Watershed Partnership Initiative as theme at the winter USCRTF meeting
  - Explore feasibility of broad Federal agency engagement in the American Samoa plus one site and, based on this assessment, finalize site selection and begin to identify implementation activities.

# Steering Committee Action Items

- Trans-jurisdictional Issues – Injury Working Group
  - Continue to advance work through the individual sub-groups
  - Finalize draft action for the National Ocean Policy
  - Hold a working session in association with the Winter USCRTF meeting

# Steering Committee Action Items

- Opportunities for Engagement
  - Coordinate participation at ICRS 2012