

THE NATIONAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



The National Coastal Zone Management Program fosters voluntary partnerships between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states and territories to better manage competing land and water uses in coastal communities. Authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act, the program assists 34 coastal states and territories in balancing a broad range of objectives to support economic, community, and natural resource vitality.

The national program provides states with the flexibility to design and prioritize their programs to address their unique coastal challenges. By leveraging both federal and state expertise and resources, the program strengthens the capabilities of each to address coastal issues.

Visit the website at coast.noaa.gov/czm to learn more.

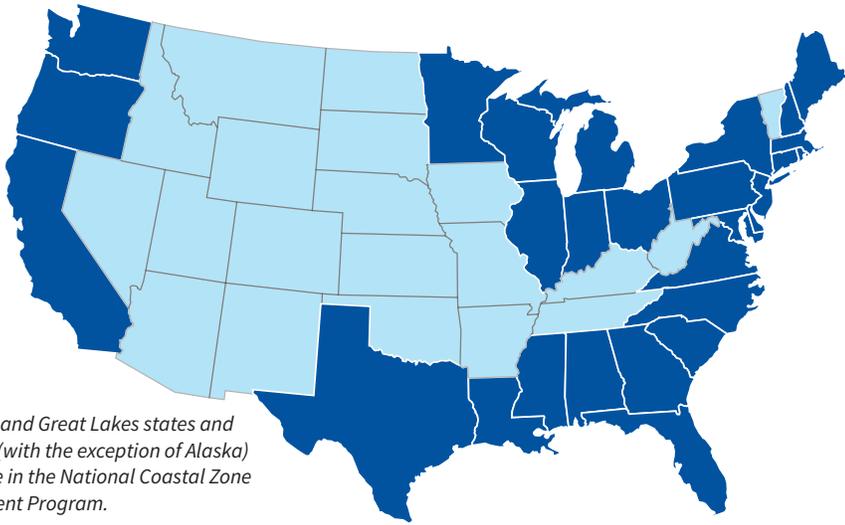
Office for Coastal Management

Major Program Components

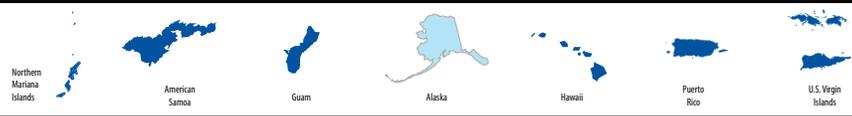
- Core program management
- Federal consistency
- Coastal management program enhancement
- Coastal nonpoint pollution control

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All coastal and Great Lakes states and territories (with the exception of Alaska) participate in the National Coastal Zone Management Program.



MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE NATIONAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Core Program Management

Participating states receive financial and technical assistance from NOAA to protect, restore, and guide responsible use and development of our nation’s diverse coastal communities and resources. Through this partnership, states address important coastal issues that include flooding and other natural hazards, siting of energy facilities, and creation of public access.

Federal Consistency

As an incentive for states to join the national program, the federal government has committed to conducting its activities, including the issuance of permits and federal assistance, in a manner consistent with the policies of approved state coastal management programs. This commitment has increased and strengthened engagement, coordination, and cooperation between federal agencies and states.

Coastal Management Program Enhancement

Every five years, states and territories review their programs to identify priorities and opportunities for improvement, and work with NOAA to develop multi-year strategies to address said priorities. The focus is on one or more of the following: wetlands, coastal hazards, public access, marine debris, cumulative and secondary impacts of development, special area management plans, ocean and Great Lakes resources, energy and government facility siting, and aquaculture.

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control

The goal is to reduce polluted runoff to coastal waters. NOAA and the Environmental Protection Agency jointly administer this program. Best practices, backed by enforceable authorities, are used to protect coastal waters from coastal development and other uses, including agriculture and forestry activities.

