

CHANGING THE GAME: INTEGRATING SOCIAL SCIENCE IN A NATURAL SCIENCE AGENCY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

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NOAA's vision for resilient ecosystems, communities, and economies requires integrating the geophysical, biological, social, behavioral, and economic sciences. With only 200 (or so) social scientists in a workforce of more than 15,000 workers, and a mission so intertwined with societal outcomes, how can NOAA-and other Federal agencies-bring forth the best natural science work fully integrated with the social, behavioral, and economic sciences in order to affect meaningful change? NOAA's recently released "Social Science Vision and Strategy: Supporting NOAA's Mission with Social Science" is intended to move the agency beyond its historical emphasis on natural science and "integrate social, behavioral and economic sciences end-to-end in NOAA's mission and priorities". One thing we've learned is that we cannot do this alone. This presentation will walk through the strategy; discussing goals and objectives that NOAA has set forth and identify opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and the building of strong partnerships across government, academia, and non-profit organizations at the Federal, Regional, and local levels.