

OPAC Executive Committee Meeting
January 19, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Salem
Summary

Attendees: Jim Good, Scott McMullen, Jessica Hamilton, and Greg McMurray. Jay Rasmussen participated by telephone from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.

STAC Update – Jay reported that the STAC is planning a half-day workshop on ocean mapping, tentatively scheduled for February 20, 2007, at the Hatfield Marine Science Center. The general goal of the workshop is to establish the value to OPAC of different types of information, and additionally to discuss how that information might be best attained to serve OPAC's purposes. OPAC members will be invited to observe, but the direct interaction is intended to be among the STAC members themselves. Jay also briefly reported ongoing efforts for the regional research priorities project being conducted through Sea Grant; Julie Barr will do a presentation at the next OPAC meeting.

NMS Process – Jessica reported that the Natural Resources Office is scheduling a briefing for the Governor on the OPAC National Marine Sanctuary Status Report. She will report out at the January 30 OPAC meeting if there is any response of record by that time.

Marine Reserves Working Group – Jim Good and a subset of this working group met in Corvallis early in the week to assemble a budget for marine reserves implementation. The group arrived at a first cut of ~\$6M for Phase I of implementation as recommended in 2002, with about 16 FTEs at state agencies and \$2M allocated for seafloor mapping. The Executive Committee briefly discussed funding sources and opportunities; the working group will meet on January 29 and further discuss the budget and work plan.

Wave Energy Working Group – Robin Hartmann has been working hard to put together a work plan amidst many sources of uncertainty in the wave energy arena. OPAC's role is seen by most as appropriately focused on the statewide implications of wave energy development (as opposed to single projects), and also on assessing the utility and success of the Resource Inventory and Effects Evaluation in the Territorial Sea Plan. This working group will also meet on January 29 to further its budget and work plan discussions.

Expanding OPAC Exec. Committee—The Exec. Comm. briefly discussed the possibility of expanding the makeup of the Exec. Comm. but decided against making any change at this time.

Next OPAC Meeting Agenda – The group decided to stay with the draft agenda as earlier distributed for the January 30, 2007, meeting.

Future OPAC Meetings – The group agreed that it will be helpful to schedule OPAC meetings for the remainder of calendar year 2007 at the January 30 meeting. Meetings are expected to take place on roughly a quarterly basis. Members should bring personal calendars on January 30.

Other Information – Greg circulated HB 5213 from the Washington Legislature, which would create a body very much like OPAC in Washington and also strengthen the Coastal Zone Management Program.