

Union Calendar No. 162

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2400

[Report No. 110-253, Part I]

To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. SAXTON, and Mr. PALLONE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

JULY 23, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. GILCREST and Ms. SHEA-PORTER

JULY 23, 2007

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

JULY 23, 2007

Committee on Science and Technology discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an integrated Federal ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Ocean and Coastal Map-*
5 *ping Integration Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. INTEGRATED OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National*
9 *Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall establish a*
10 *program to develop, in coordination with the Interagency*
11 *Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping and affected*
12 *coastal states, a coordinated and comprehensive Federal*
13 *ocean and coastal mapping plan for the Great Lakes and*
14 *coastal state waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive eco-*
15 *nomie zone, and the Continental Shelf of the United States*
16 *that enhances ecosystem approaches in decisionmaking for*
17 *conservation and management of marine resources and*

1 *habitats, establishes priorities for research and mapping,*
2 *supports the siting of research and other platforms, en-*
3 *hances safety of navigation, and advances ocean and coastal*
4 *science.*

5 (b) *PROGRAM PARAMETERS.*—*In developing such a*
6 *program, the Administrator shall work with the Committee*
7 *to—*

8 (1) *identify all Federal and federally funded pro-*
9 *grams conducting shoreline delineation and ocean or*
10 *coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-*
11 *quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject mat-*
12 *ter focus of the data and location of data archives;*

13 (2) *facilitate cost-effective, cooperative mapping*
14 *efforts that incorporate policies for contracting with*
15 *non-governmental entities among all Federal agencies*
16 *conducting ocean and coastal mapping, by increasing*
17 *data sharing, developing appropriate data acquisition*
18 *and metadata standards, and facilitating the inter-*
19 *operability of in situ data collection systems, data*
20 *processing, archiving, and distribution of data prod-*
21 *ucts;*

22 (3) *facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-*
23 *nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and*
24 *coastal mapping technologies, including through re-*
25 *search, development, and training conducted among*

1 *Federal agencies and in cooperation with non-govern-*
2 *mental entities;*

3 *(4) develop standards and protocols for testing*
4 *innovative experimental mapping technologies and*
5 *transferring new technologies between the Federal*
6 *Government, coastal state, and non-governmental en-*
7 *tities;*

8 *(5) provide for the archiving, management, and*
9 *distribution of data sets through a national registry*
10 *as well as provide mapping products and services to*
11 *the general public in service of statutory require-*
12 *ments;*

13 *(6) develop data standards and protocols con-*
14 *sistent with standards developed by the Federal Geo-*
15 *graphic Data Committee for use by Federal, coastal*
16 *state, and other entities in mapping and otherwise*
17 *documenting locations of federally permitted activi-*
18 *ties, living and nonliving coastal and marine re-*
19 *sources, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats, sub-*
20 *merged cultural resources, undersea cables, offshore*
21 *aquaculture projects, offshore energy projects, and any*
22 *areas designated for purposes of environmental pro-*
23 *tection or conservation and management of living and*
24 *nonliving coastal and marine resources;*

1 (7) *identify the procedures to be used for coordi-*
2 *nating the collection and integration of Federal ocean*
3 *and coastal mapping data with coastal state and*
4 *local government programs;*

5 (8) *facilitate, to the extent practicable, the collec-*
6 *tion of real-time tide data and the development of hy-*
7 *drodynamic models for coastal areas to allow for the*
8 *application of V-datum tools that will facilitate the*
9 *seamless integration of onshore and offshore maps and*
10 *charts;*

11 (9) *establish a plan for the acquisition and col-*
12 *lection of ocean and coastal mapping data; and*

13 (10) *set forth a timetable for completion and im-*
14 *plementation of the plan referred to in subsection (a).*

15 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-**
16 **AL MAPPING.**

17 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Administrator, within 30 days*
18 *after the date of enactment of this Act, shall convene or uti-*
19 *lize an existing interagency committee on ocean and coastal*
20 *mapping to implement section 2.*

21 (b) *MEMBERSHIP.*—*The committee shall be comprised*
22 *of senior representatives from Federal agencies with ocean*
23 *and coastal mapping and surveying responsibilities. The*
24 *representatives shall be high-ranking officials of their re-*
25 *spective agencies or departments and, whenever possible, the*

1 *head of the portion of the agency or department that is most*
2 *relevant to the purposes of this Act. Membership shall in-*
3 *clude senior representatives from the National Oceanic and*
4 *Atmospheric Administration, the Chief of Naval Oper-*
5 *ations, the United States Geological Survey, the Minerals*
6 *Management Service, the National Science Foundation, the*
7 *National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the United States*
8 *Army Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard, the Environ-*
9 *mental Protection Agency, the Federal Emergency Manage-*
10 *ment Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Admin-*
11 *istration, and other appropriate Federal agencies involved*
12 *in ocean and coastal mapping.*

13 (c) *CHAIRMAN.*—*The committee shall have as its chair-*
14 *man the representative from the National Oceanic and At-*
15 *mospheric Administration. The chairman may create sub-*
16 *committees chaired by any member agency of the committee.*
17 *The full committee may form working groups to address*
18 *issues of short duration.*

19 (d) *MEETINGS.*—*The committee shall meet on a quar-*
20 *terly basis, but each subcommittee and each working group*
21 *shall meet on an as-needed basis.*

22 (e) *COORDINATION.*—*The committee shall coordinate*
23 *activities, when appropriate, with—*

1 (1) *other Federal efforts, including the Digital*
2 *Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-*
3 *graphic Data Committee;*

4 (2) *international mapping activities;*

5 (3) *coastal states;*

6 (4) *user groups through workshops and other ap-*
7 *propriate mechanisms; and*

8 (5) *representatives of non-governmental entities.*

9 (f) *ADVISORY PANEL.—The Administrator may con-*
10 *vene an ocean and coastal mapping advisory panel con-*
11 *sisting of representatives from non-governmental entities to*
12 *provide input regarding activities of the committee.*

13 **SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the*
15 *date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-*
16 *sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to*
17 *the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal*
18 *mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-*
19 *mospheric Administration.*

20 (b) *PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall—*

21 (1) *identify and describe all ocean and coastal*
22 *mapping programs within the agency, including those*
23 *that conduct mapping or related activities in the*
24 *course of existing missions, such as hydrographic sur-*
25 *veys, ocean exploration projects, living marine re-*

1 *source conservation and management programs,*
2 *coastal zone management projects, and ocean and*
3 *coastal observations and science projects;*

4 *(2) establish priority mapping programs and es-*
5 *tablish and periodically update priorities for geo-*
6 *graphic areas in surveying and mapping across all*
7 *missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric*
8 *Administration, as well as minimum data acquisition*
9 *and metadata standards for those programs;*

10 *(3) encourage the development of innovative*
11 *ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applica-*
12 *tions, such as Digital Coast, through research and de-*
13 *velopment through cooperative or other agreements*
14 *with joint or cooperative research institutes or centers*
15 *and with other non-governmental entities;*

16 *(4) document available and developing tech-*
17 *nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-*
18 *tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other*
19 *Federal agencies, coastal states, and non-govern-*
20 *mental entities;*

21 *(5) identify training, technology, and other re-*
22 *source requirements for enabling the National Oceanic*
23 *and Atmospheric Administration's programs, vessels,*
24 *and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean and*
25 *coastal mapping program;*

1 (6) *identify a centralized mechanism or office for*
2 *coordinating data collection, processing, archiving,*
3 *and dissemination activities of all such mapping pro-*
4 *grams within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric*
5 *Administration that meets Federal mandates for data*
6 *accuracy and accessibility and designate a repository*
7 *that is responsible for archiving and managing the*
8 *distribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data to*
9 *simplify the provision of services to benefit Federal*
10 *and coastal state programs; and*

11 (7) *set forth a timetable for implementation and*
12 *completion of the plan, including a schedule for sub-*
13 *mission to the Congress of periodic progress reports*
14 *and recommendations for integrating approaches de-*
15 *veloped under the initiative into the interagency pro-*
16 *gram.*

17 (c) *NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-*
18 *TERS.—The Administrator may maintain and operate up*
19 *to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping centers, including a*
20 *joint hydrographic center, which shall each be co-located*
21 *with an institution of higher education. The centers shall*
22 *serve as hydrographic centers of excellence and may conduct*
23 *activities necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act,*
24 *including—*

1 (1) *research and development of innovative ocean*
2 *and coastal mapping technologies, equipment, and*
3 *data products;*

4 (2) *mapping of the United States Outer Conti-*
5 *mental Shelf and other regions;*

6 (3) *data processing for nontraditional data and*
7 *uses;*

8 (4) *advancing the use of remote sensing tech-*
9 *nologies, for related issues, including mapping and*
10 *assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-*
11 *sources, ocean observations, and ocean exploration;*
12 *and*

13 (5) *providing graduate education and training*
14 *in ocean and coastal mapping sciences for members*
15 *of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-*
16 *tion Commissioned Officer Corps, personnel of other*
17 *agencies with ocean and coastal mapping programs,*
18 *and civilian personnel.*

19 (d) *ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-GOVERN-*
20 *MENTAL CONTRACTING.—The Administrator shall continue*
21 *developing a strategy for expanding contracting with non-*
22 *governmental entities to minimize duplication and take*
23 *maximum advantage of non-governmental capabilities in*
24 *fulfilling the Administration’s mapping and charting re-*
25 *sponsibilities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment*

1 *of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report de-*
2 *scribing the strategy developed under this subsection to the*
3 *Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of*
4 *the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the*
5 *House of Representatives.*

6 **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY PROGRAM REPORTING.**

7 *No later than 18 months after the date of enactment*
8 *of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Chairman of the*
9 *Committee shall transmit to the Committee on Commerce,*
10 *Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-*
11 *mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives*
12 *a report detailing progress made in implementing this Act,*
13 *including—*

14 *(1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping*
15 *data within the territorial sea and the exclusive eco-*
16 *nomie zone and throughout the Continental Shelf of*
17 *the United States, noting the age and source of the*
18 *survey and the spatial resolution (metadata) of the*
19 *data;*

20 *(2) an inventory and description of any new*
21 *Federal or federally funded programs conducting*
22 *shoreline delineation and ocean or coastal mapping*
23 *since the previous reporting cycle;*

24 *(3) identification of priority areas in need of*
25 *survey coverage using present technologies;*

1 (4) a resource plan that identifies when priority
2 areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping
3 surveys can be accomplished;

4 (5) the status of efforts to produce integrated dig-
5 ital maps of ocean and coastal areas;

6 (6) a description of any products resulting from
7 coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that im-
8 prove public understanding of the coasts and oceans,
9 or regulatory decisionmaking;

10 (7) documentation of minimum and desired
11 standards for data acquisition and integrated
12 metadata;

13 (8) a statement of the status of Federal efforts to
14 leverage mapping technologies, coordinate mapping
15 activities, share expertise, and exchange data;

16 (9) a statement of resource requirements for or-
17 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
18 ing technology needs for data acquisition, processing,
19 and distribution systems;

20 (10) a statement of the status of efforts to declas-
21 sify data gathered by the Navy, the National
22 Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other agencies to
23 the extent possible without jeopardizing national secu-
24 rity, and make it available to partner agencies and
25 the public;

1 (11) *the status of efforts to coordinate Federal*
 2 *programs with coastal state and local government*
 3 *programs and leverage those programs; and*

4 (12) *a description of efforts of Federal agencies*
 5 *to increase contracting with non-governmental enti-*
 6 *ties.*

7 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*In addition to the amounts author-*
 9 *ized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-*
 10 *ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are authorized*
 11 *to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this*
 12 *Act—*

13 (1) *\$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;*

14 (2) *\$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;*

15 (3) *\$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;*

16 (4) *\$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and*

17 (5) *\$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012*
 18 *through 2015.*

19 (b) *JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CENTERS.*—
 20 *Of the amounts appropriated under subsection (a), the fol-*
 21 *lowing amounts shall be used to carry out section 4(c):*

22 (1) *\$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.*

23 (2) *\$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.*

24 (3) *\$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.*

25 (4) *\$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.*

1 (5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
2 through 2015.

3 (c) *INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.*—Notwithstanding any
4 other provision of law, from amounts authorized to be ap-
5 propriated for fiscal years 2008 through 2015 to the depart-
6 ments of the agencies, and the independent agencies, speci-
7 fied in section 3(b), the head of each such department or
8 agency may make available not more than \$10,000,000 per
9 fiscal year to carry out interagency activities under section
10 3.

11 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

12 *In this Act:*

13 (1) *ADMINISTRATOR.*—The term “Adminis-
14 trator” means the Administrator of the National Oce-
15 anic and Atmospheric Administration.

16 (2) *COASTAL STATE.*—The term “coastal state”
17 has the meaning given that term by section 304(4) of
18 the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C.
19 1453(4)).

20 (3) *COMMITTEE.*—The term “Committee” means
21 the Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal
22 Mapping established by section 3.

23 (4) *EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.*—The term “ex-
24 clusive economic zone” means the exclusive economic

1 *zone of the United States established by Presidential*
2 *Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.*

3 (5) *NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.*—*The term*
4 *“non-governmental entities” includes non-govern-*
5 *mental organizations, members of the academic com-*
6 *munity, and private sector organizations that provide*
7 *products and services associated with measuring, lo-*
8 *cating, and preparing maps, charts, surveys, aerial*
9 *photographs, satellite imagines, or other graphical or*
10 *digital presentations depicting natural or manmade*
11 *physical features, phenomena, and legal boundaries of*
12 *the Earth.*

13 (6) *OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.*—*The term*
14 *“ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,*
15 *processing, and management of physical, biological,*
16 *geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-*
17 *tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-*
18 *sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics, sat-*
19 *ellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging, di-*
20 *rect sampling, and other mapping technologies.*

21 (7) *OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.*—*The term*
22 *“Outer Continental Shelf” means all submerged lands*
23 *lying seaward and outside of lands beneath navigable*
24 *waters (as that term is defined in section 2 of the*
25 *Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1301)), and of*

1 *which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the United*
2 *States and are subject to its jurisdiction and control.*

3 (8) *TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial*
4 *sea” means the belt of sea measured from the baseline*
5 *of the United States determined in accordance with*
6 *international law, as set forth in Presidential Procla-*
7 *mation Number 5928, dated December 27, 1988.*

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