

National Ocean Policy

- Structured around 9 national priority objectives
- 1 objective: Changing Conditions in the Arctic: purpose is to address environmental stewardship needs in Arctic Ocean & adjacent coastal areas in face of climate-induced & other environmental changes. Only objective that is geography-based
- Others refer to issues (doing business better – more coordination, etc. or improving tools such as ocean observing, EBM, mapping, planning, etc.)

Draft Implementation Plan for Arctic

- Improve Arctic environmental response management
- Observe and forecast Arctic sea ice
- Implement a distributed biological observatory
- Enhance communication systems in Arctic
- Advance Arctic mapping and charting

Next Steps

- Public comment period ended late Feb 2012
- Comments now being incorporated into final Implementation Plan
- Plan to be released soon and implementation begin