

Zone. The SWFSC in La Jolla, California, manages and conducts research involving Pacific fisheries and marine mammal research for the protection and management of these resources throughout the Western Pacific and the Antarctic. The existing SWFSC facility, built in 1964, is currently adjacent to a coastal bluff that is undergoing severe erosion and retreat. NOAA proposes to construct a new SWFSC building to replace its existing NMFS administrative and marine research facilities currently located in La Jolla, California. A minimum of two existing at risk SWFSC structures would be removed and the property currently used by NOAA would be returned to the UCSD for other appropriate uses.

NOAA is the lead Federal agency for implementation of the NEPA. The University of California is the lead agency under the CEQA. The existing and preferred sites for the SWFSC headquarters are at the UCSD campus. The NMFS, SIO and other marine research organizations conduct independent and joint research at the SWFSC and its salt water laboratory facilities.

The proposed project will require construction of a new facility to support SWFSC administrative and marine research operations. The preferred site will enable NMFS, SIO, and others to continue collaboration within a wide range of programmatic marine research disciplines. NOAA, in cooperation with UCSD, has decided to prepare a joint EIS/EIR to analyze the environmental impacts of relocating the SWFSC facilities at UCSD.

Other alternative actions considered are:

Use of other NOAA facility locations in California and other Pacific Coast states;

Use of alternative sites at or adjacent to SIO for collaborative research; and

Use of existing alternative NOAA facilities and properties away from UCSD.

This joint EIS/EIR will analyze environmental impacts that may result from construction and/or operation of the proposed facilities. These potential environmental issues to be addressed include: land use and coastal zone management; aesthetics; geology; hydrology and water resources; biological resources and protected species; utilities and public services; transportation and traffic circulation, recreational resources; air quality; noise and vibration; visual effects and aesthetics; cultural resources; and socioeconomics and land use; and cumulative effects.

The most salient and foreseeable environmental topics of greatest interest are expected to be aesthetics, transportation and traffic, hydrology, and short term noise effects.

Interested parties who wish to submit suggestions or comments regarding the scope or content on the proposed EIS/EIR are invited to attend the public scoping meeting.

Dated: February 6, 2008.

**William F. Broglie,**

*Chief Administrative Officer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

#### Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Approval Decision on Florida's and South Carolina's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Approve the Florida and South Carolina Coastal Nonpoint Programs.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the intent to fully approve the Florida and South Carolina Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs (coastal nonpoint program) and of the availability of the draft decision documents fully approving the Florida and South Carolina coastal nonpoint programs. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. section 1455b, requires States and Territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. section 1455, to develop and implement coastal nonpoint programs. Coastal States and Territories were required to submit their coastal nonpoint programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. NOAA and EPA conditionally approved the Florida and South Carolina coastal nonpoint programs on November 18, 1997 and February 23, 1998, respectively. NOAA and EPA have drafted approval decisions describing how Florida and

South Carolina have satisfied the conditions placed on their programs and therefore have a fully approved coastal nonpoint program.

NOAA and EPA are making the draft decisions for the Florida and South Carolina coastal nonpoint programs available for a 30-day public comment period. If comments are received, NOAA and EPA will consider whether such comments are significant enough to affect the decision to fully approve the programs.

Copies of the draft Approval Decisions can be found on the NOAA Web site at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/czm/6217/findings.html> or may be obtained upon request from: Allison Castellan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, phone (301) 713-3155, x125, e-mail [Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov](mailto:Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov).

**DATES:** Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the draft Approval Decisions should do so by March 12, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be made to: John King, Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, phone (301) 713-3155, x188, e-mail [John.King@noaa.gov](mailto:John.King@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Allison Castellan, Coastal Programs Division, (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, phone (301) 713-3155, x125, e-mail [Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov](mailto:Allison.Castellan@noaa.gov).

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: February 5, 2008.

**John H. Dunnigan,**

*Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

**Benjamin H. Grumbles,**

*Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency.*

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