

**FTS-DOC CONFERENCING**

**Moderator: Andrew Winer  
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2:00 pm CT**

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. We would like to inform all participants your lines are in a listen-only mode. During today's question and answer session you may press star 1 on your touchtone phone. Today's conference is being recorded. If you have any objections, you may disconnect at this time.

And now I'll turn today's call over to Andy Winer, Director of External Affairs. You may begin.

Andrew Winer: Good afternoon to some of you and good morning to others. I'm Andy Winer. I'm the Director of External Affairs. And welcome to our phone call on the National Ocean Policy.

Today's speakers will include Jen Lukens from the NOAA Office of Policy; Sam Rauck from the - who's our Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs and Brian Arroyo, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Assistant Director for Fisheries and Habit Conservation.

And also staff here today; from the National Ocean Council staff we have Andy Lipsky and Sharon Hayes, (Daniel Reo) from the Office of the Under Secretary, (Orv Starvey) from NOAA Fisheries, James Chang from External Affairs and Teresa Christopher from the Office of Policy.

And the reason that we're doing these calls is that many of you joined us last year in the roundtables that we had to provide input on the Ocean Policy Taskforce's interim reports. And now that the final report is out and President Obama has adopted it through his National Ocean Policy, we would like to take this opportunity to report back and share an overview on the policy with some specific insights on its impact on the recreational fishing community.

So at this time I will turn this over to Jen Lukens.

Jennifer Lukens: Thank you Andy. Good afternoon, good morning to everyone on the phone. I'll start off here and talk a little bit about the National Ocean Policy, which on July 19 President Obama acted upon the final recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Taskforce and signed an Executive Order adopting a new national policy for the stewardship of our oceans, our coasts and the great lakes.

This is truly an historic moment for our oceans because for the first time in our nation's history we now have a comprehensive National Ocean Policy. Something that was called for by both the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission.

So if I had to communicate this National Ocean Policy in one short phrase it would be that healthy oceans matter. Oceans coast and great lakes really do play a crucial role in the life of every American. Coastal counties are currently

home to over half of America's total population and together they generate approximately 57% of our gross domestic product.

Coastal regions also provide enormous environmental benefits. Shallow coastal wetlands provide a buffer against coastal storms. Wetlands and coral reefs serve as nursery grounds for many species of marine animal. And estuarine marshes and bays filter nutrients flowing from uplands to the sea.

Our oceans, coast, and great lakes also hold great recreational and cultural value as witnessed by the 90 million people who come to them each year for vacation and recreation. The future of these areas is in jeopardy as dozens of different ocean and coastal interests are racing to stake their claim in the ocean and compete for ocean space and resources.

These land and ocean activities are currently regulated on a narrow sector-by-sector basis. Current policies lack integration, understanding or consideration of how the different activities could impact one another or the collected impact on the ecosystem. We need to both recognize the services that a healthy ecosystem provides and identify individual and collected impacts of multiple human activities.

By understanding both sides of the equation, what we get from our oceans and coasts and how our activities impact these ecosystem services, we can make better decisions on how and where we live, work and play on our coasts. In short being smart stewards means retaining multiple benefits.

The National Ocean Policy is really changing how we do business. At present we regulate human activities in our oceans, coasts and great lakes at the federal level with over 140 statutes, regulations and policies. This piecemeal sector-by-sector issue-by-issue approach misses the big picture. It

misses the understanding that the different parts of the ecosystem are interconnected to one another and so too should the policies be integrated.

Therefore the new ocean policy and ecosystem based coastal and marine spatial planning call for coordination among existing management regimes across the Federal Government and in Federal Government and regions. In addition to the new policies - in addition, the new policies require government agencies to work together to engage stakeholders in a new and open and participatory framework so that all stakeholders can have a seat at the table to participate in planning.

The President's National Ocean Policy really is built upon some key shared values. The President has announced this policy based upon the recommendations of the Ocean Policy Taskforce and those recommendations were formed as a result of getting input from the public at six regional meetings throughout the United States and a series of 38 expert roundtables and thousands of written comments that were submitted by the mail and through the Internet.

Based upon this - based upon this input, the policy identifies those shared values among the stakeholders that are depicted on this slide. It really focuses on balancing ocean health along with community prosperity, leveling the playing field for all stakeholders and all voices of interest in the ocean. Respecting the unique character of each United States region in the regional based approach for coastal marine spatial planning and making decisions that are based upon the best available client.

The President's National Ocean Policy has four key building blocks. And really to implement this policy it creates four basic pieces. First it establishes a National Ocean Council that is made up of 24 different federal agencies and

offices charged with coordination setting goals in implementing this policy and measuring outcomes to ensure that the ocean policy serves America's communities.

Within the policy there are nine national priority objectives for implementation of that policy that embrace coordination and integration among all levels of government to address pressing issues such as climate change and ocean acidification.

The third one is coastal and marine spatial planning as a public policy process to really help us determine how the ocean, coast and great lakes are sustainably used and protected now and for future generations and regional planning bodies to implement coastal and marine spatial planning and ensure - to help them ensure that the unique needs of each region in the U.S. are met in a way that respects regional objectives and priorities.

The National Ocean Council that I talked about that was established has stood up a Web site and on this Web site you can find the final recommendations of the Ocean Policy Taskforce along with the executive order that the President signed on July 19. The Web site will also be a center point of information in the future as the National Ocean Council begins its work.

The National Ocean Policy, as I said earlier, is made up of nine priority objectives for implementation. The column on the left here you see is really two categories. The nine priority objectives are listed out in two different - divided into two different categories. The one on the left is really first how we do business. It represents overarching ways in which the United States Government is going to operate differently to better improve our stewardship.

And those contain our ecosystem based management approach, coastal and marine spatial planning which we'll talk a little bit more in depth about; informing decisions and improving understanding in coordinating and supporting. The second category of these priority objectives are the five areas of special emphasis on the right hand side of the slide which represents substantive areas of particular importance to achieving this nationally policy.

And those are listed resiliency and adaptation to climate change and ocean acidification, regional ecosystem protection and restoration, water quality and sustainable practices on land, changing conditions in the Arctic and ocean, coastal and great lakes observation mapping and infrastructure.

The policy outlines the National Ocean Council will develop strategic action plans for each one of these priority objectives over the course of the next 6 to 12 months.

So that's a glimpse - over arching glimpse of the National Ocean Policy. And at this time I'd like to turn it over to Sam Rauck. Sam.

Sam Rauck: Yeah. Thank you Jen. At the heart of the new ocean policy is coastal and marine spatial planning. It's one of the nine priority objectives and it's based on several important components. Essential to the process is that it be fair and open allowing all stakeholders who participate in managing our ocean, coasts and great lakes.

There needs to be a focus on the unique regional needs and priorities and a recognition that those have - that we're trying to figure out which ones of those to the highest value, which community. This needs to be a bottom up approach based on the regions as opposed to dictated from Washington D.C.

We need to - management of the ecosystems is a whole rather than species by species or issue by issue or sector by sector. As Jen discussed, this was one of the main problems that coastal and marine spatial planning is trying to address is to look at things more holistically and we need to use objective science as a way to ensure that stakeholders start from a common understanding of the current conditions and as a basis for joint decision making.

By weaving these elements together, we grow towards the shared responsibility for coastal resources that we all depend on. This approach will provide a fair and rational way to make difficult decisions that will impact us all. It's important to note however that CMSP is not just another layer of bureaucracy or regulation. Instead it's a way of making existing authorities work together better, coastal communities and stakeholders.

As indicated, this is not - it is not envisioned to be a top down process. Recognizing that no two regions are exactly alike and that there's no one size fits all recipe for coastal and marine spatial planning. Rather each region and its stakeholders will have the opportunity and the responsibility to tailor the process ensuring that all interests and users are represented. The bottom up approach will ensure that coastal and marine spatial planning serves and responds directly to community needs.

There are nine regional planning bodies established under the National Ocean Policy and they're designed to mirror the geography of the ocean, coast and great lakes ecosystems and the existing regional government structure such as the West Coast Governor's Agreement. So that the communities within each region can work together towards building and developing solutions that make sense for the issues that they share in common with one another.

NOAA will sit on all nine of these regional planning bodies and other members will include federal agencies, states and tribes with authorities relevant to each region. The members of the planning bodies will need to be able to make decisions and commitments throughout the process and on behalf of their agency.

During the public comment period, we heard from the Regional Fishery Management Councils that they would like to be on the regional planning bodies themselves. And while they were not selected to be on the initial formation of the bodies, the taskforce did recognize the unique importance of the Regional Fishery Management Council and require that there be a formal role for consultation with them established by each of the planning bodies.

In addition, there's an option to reevaluate the role of the Fishery Management processes - Fishery Management Council as this process goes and we'll be doing that in the upcoming months.

The framework for the CMSP proposes a three-pronged approach for reconnecting the coastal communities with their ocean, coastal and great lakes environment.

First, as I indicated, it turns the spotlight away from Washington D.C. and restores a focus on regions, communities and ecosystems, the units that make sense to the people and the environment. The framework establishes a decision making process that provides a mechanism for the stakeholders to engage with one another and plan for the future.

Stakeholder involvement is important. We will only have a robust process if all the stakeholders can come together and feel that they can truly share their ideas at one table. The framework mandates that decision-making also be

based on the best available science to ensure that stakeholders begin working from a shared frame of reference and knowledge.

The goal of the program is to provide a more effective and transparent way to thoughtfully plan for multiple uses of the marine environment in a sustainable manner instead of reacting to crisis or conflicts as they arise.

Coastal and marine spatial planning includes traditional uses such as commercial and recreational fishing, coastal aquaculture, transportation, conservation and culture. It also provides the framework in considering merging uses such as renewable energy, closed re-circulating aquaculture and offshore aquaculture.

The process will provide a level playing field for all interests when determining how best to use our oceans, coasts and great lakes. It does not promote competition among recreational, commercial, stewardship, scientific, navigation and other uses. Instead it works to transform the current dynamic among the users to one of cooperation, respect and collaboration.

It's important to note that the process is not intending to delay or halt existing plans for ocean, coast and great lakes resources. As I indicated, it is not another bureaucratic layer.

Rather the National Ocean Policy and the framework in the coastal and marine spatial planning framework envisioned a reasonably based collaborative planning process in which key agencies and stakeholders have meaningful voices and corresponding responsibilities in identifying the goals and objectives for the regional waters and in designing the desired mosaic of uses that reflects those goals.

The resulting regional coastal and marine spatial plans will for the first time explicitly take into account the full range of issues, outcomes, management strategies, to achieve those objectives. The National Ocean Council will also provide guidance and oversight for the regional initiatives but it will be a bottom up approach.

As I indicated several times in this, Jennifer also discussed science is the heart of both the new policy and the coastal marine spatial planning framework. Our plan is constantly changing and hence the need for ongoing monitoring and ongoing research to understand why the changes our underway and to form decisions. Establishing science as the basis for decision-making enables thoughtful discussions and informed solutions for preserving existing uses while carefully considering new activities.

In order to have credibility with stakeholders, our scientists will be challenged to grow their skills as communicators, to be responsive to their needs and to thus build the relationships of trust so that the communities will have confidence in their data and knowledge.

As I indicated also, we paid careful attention to the role of the Fishery Management Councils in this process. As veterans of a very similar process, they are experienced voice of their councils and will bring an immediate depth to the coastal and marine spatial planning process, which is why the framework recognizes that their involvement in coastal and marine spatial planning is critical.

In addition to their expertise, they also have statutory authority to develop management and protection measures for fisheries, habitats and corals. Those authorities also help define the roles that the councils play in coastal and marine spatial planning.

The framework does require that the regional planning bodies establish a formal mechanism for consultation for the Fishery Management Councils on fishery related issues. And there is a recognized process we're considering whether the council should have a more formalized role on the regional planning bodies.

Finally, the science and data generated by the councils through their ongoing activities are a very important input into the coastal and marine spatial planning process. It provides that common foundation of the best available science that we talked about that is going to be important for all decision making.

Throughout the roundtables we heard loudly from the recreational fishing interests that they were not adequately represented. We took those comments and concerns to heart and the taskforce modified its recommendations to draw a third distinction between recreational and commercial fishing and to recognize the importance of having access to the ocean and the opportunity to fish.

Additionally, the taskforce recognized the importance of healthy coastal ecosystems to recreational users and their long histories of active participation in the conservation stewardship of these same areas.

So with that Jennifer I would like to turn it back oh - Andy I'm going to turn it back over to you for further comments.

Andy Winer: Thank you Sam. And at this time we would invite Bryan Arroyo who's the Assistant Director for Fisheries and Habitat Conservation from the U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service to provide a perspective on this issue from the Department of Interior. Bryan, can you hear me?

Bryan Arroyo: Yeah, absolutely. Yeah. Thank you. Can you hear me?

Andy Winer: Yes we can.

Bryan Arroyo: Great. Well let me start by saying that on behalf of Fish and Wildlife Service in the Department of Interior I want to thank CQ and NOAA for hosting the stakeholder briefing on the National Ocean Policy particularly putting focus on the regression of fisheries aspect of this great initiative.

Certainly a participative approach is the best way to truly make informed decisions, gather robust science so that our moving forward is a collective move forward. The Fish and Wildlife Service of Department of Interior we have adopted an approach that we call Landscape Conservation Cooperative and those do not stop at the shoreline.

If you think about it, you know, everything is upstream on the ocean. So it is critically important that we continue to have this focus on what happens upland in connecting with the results of what we want out of the oceans and our coastline.

We are certainly in agreement that recreational fisherman make a valuable contribution to marine contribution - marine conservation. And in particularly the marine stewardship and conservation that the coastal communities engage in and of course it's a vital economic activity.

There's eco tourism, there's folks that just go there to fish and a lot of economic activity occurs around these recreational fishing activity. So it is

great that we have taken the steps to recognize their contribution and talk about these as part of the overall strategy.

We are also keenly aware both in the department and the Fish and Wildlife Service the numerous programs that exist to manage (product) resources and achieve conservation to foster and enhance recreational fishing and boating opportunities for the American public.

And I will share with you that I am very passionate about recreational fishing not just because it's my job but because my first big memories about fishing in my native Puerto Rico where I grew up we're on the shoreline. We're in the Mangrove Canals and in fact pretty soon I'll have to be leaving here because I am going on vacation with my family down in Puerto Rico and you better believe I'm going to be doing some nice fishing down there.

So I want to keep my remarks somewhat short because I know that we have folks on the line that want to have an opportunity to express their perspectives and perhaps ask questions. But I also want to make sure that we don't lose sight of the importance and the urgency to ensure that through that regional panel process and planning process that we do not forget about the access issues which are extremely important for the enjoyment of our fishing resources.

And so with that, I will say open it up for questions and I'll stay as long as I can. And again, I do appreciate the opportunity for us to join and offer a little bit of perspective from both the Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Interior about this great initiative that the President has shown great leadership to ensure that we have a healthy marine ecosystem that is tied to a healthy land ecosystem.

Andy Winer: Thank you Bryan. Before we go into questions and answers, I'm going to ask Jen Lukens to wrap up and then we'll give you instructions on how to do Q&A.

Jen Lukens: Thanks Andy. Just to close out everything that we've talked about in the last couple of minutes. While the oceans promise really does seem to be - it is boundless, we've really learned that its resources are not. The President's new National Ocean Policy does embrace this new ocean ethic and it recognizes the essential link as we've all said between the ocean health - the ocean's health and our own prosperity, well being and security.'

Although the policy spells out how a stewardship role must evolve to ensure a vibrant ocean tomorrow, it really rests on a foundation of education and outreach that is needed to grow ocean literacy.

The stronger knowledge base will empower of coastal communities to become active stewards of our oceans and coasts both to modify their own footprints on oceans ecosystems and to support increasingly sophisticated management plans from the coastal and marine spatial planning process.

So with that, I think that summarizes it all and Andy if you want to moderate the questions.

Andy Winer: Absolutely. At this time if I could get our operator to explain how it is that people if they want to ask questions what they need to do in order to get into the line.

Coordinator: Thank you. For questions, please press star 1. Again for questions, press star 1.

Andy Winder: We're still waiting to see if anybody would like to ask any questions. Hang on for a second but so far nobody has jumped in line to ask a questions and oh we have our first one and let's - it's (Jim Martin) and (Jim), can you hear me?

(Jim Martin): Yes we can Andy. Can you hear me?

Andy Winer: I can. How are you doing (Jim)? It's good to hear from you.

(Jim Martin): Okay. Thank you very much for this briefing but particularly with the focus on recreational fisheries community because you know how concerned we've been. And I just want to start out by saying I don't think anybody objects to an executive order asking for better...

Andy Winer: Hello (Jim)?

(Jim Martin): ...I think, yes?

Andy Winer: You cut out for a second. You said nobody objected to an executive order and then you cut out.

(Jim Martin): Asking for better coordination between federal agencies. But the statutory responsibility for managing fisheries through the Magnuson Act remains with the Fishery Management Council.

So the first thing I'd like to suggest is you think very, very, very strongly about the role the Fisheries Management Councils relative to these regional planning bodies because at the end of the day under the law, Fishery Management decisions in the EEZ are going to be determined by the Fishery Management Councils and the relevant states managing their territorial waters. And that's a law that's not changed by any executive order.

Now my question for you is I'm very concerned about whether regions - the states and state agencies are going to have the money to participate in this planning process. Do you guys have a budget to help your planning partners fully participate in this process?

Jennifer Lukens: (Jim) this is Jennifer Lukens from the NOAA Office of Policy. In the President's budget request for NOAA there's \$20 million outlined for regional ocean partnership grants.

It's a competitive grant program that regional ocean governance or regional ocean partnerships could apply for to get money for implementing coastal and marine spatial planning or getting together actually for regions throughout the United States where there aren't existing regional ocean governance groups that exist right now for - that, part of that money could go towards standing up an organization and standing up a regional planning body with the intent of undertaking coastal and marine spatial planning.

So that is what is outlined for regional approaches in our budget. Also in terms of supporting the work of those regional planning bodies, NOAA in the President's budget has a \$6.7 million dollar request for tools and services that would - and information support tools that would go towards informing decisions that would be made by the regional planning bodies. So that's what's in the President's budget request.

Sam Rauch: So let me also just add in terms of the Fishery Management Councils. We do recognize that critical roles that the councils play in the management of our ocean fishery resources and that they have to be a strong partner in this endeavor in order to make it work.

We're trying to evaluate as we indicated the exact role that they should have but in any even they need to be a critical player in this whole event - in this whole process or else it just simply won't work. So we agree with you a lot of the comment - sentiments you said about the Fishery Management Councils.

Andy Winer: Thank you (Jim). We're still waiting to see if anybody else would like to jump in line and ask a question. As of now we have nobody in the queue and I will kill a little bit of time while we're waiting to see if anybody wants to jump in. And our next questioner is (Jim Donapreho). (Jim), can you hear me?

(Jim Donapreho): Yes I can Andy. Thank you for your time today. I agree with what (Jim Martin) said, you know, the concern with the councils. I also agree better coordination is never hurtful; it could always be helpful. I have some of the same concerns that (Jim) has. But here's what I'm hearing though on this whole thing. I still don't believe - I think it's going to create a lot of bureaucracy but we'll see I guess.

My big concern here it seems the focus seems to be again fishing and fisherman whether it's recreational or commercial. I don't see us as the problem. I see the focus here. We should be talking about - I don't hear watersheds, brown water runoff, over development of watersheds, which is a huge problem in many states. We're losing our bays and acturaries, which again goes right back into the ocean because of over development. These are the things I think the focus should be on.

You know, the Fishery Councils take care of the fishery issues and, you know, if we're going to - if we're going to coordinate, I think we should be looking at how we're going to preserve what flows downhill back into the water. That's my concern here that we're focusing again just on fisherman and fisheries and

I don't see that as a problem right now. I think we're pretty tight as far as managing our fisheries here in the U.S.

Sam Rauck: Yes. So this is Sam Rauck. The focus of this presentation was on fisheries and fisherman because that's the stakeholder group that we're talking to here. If you look at the policy itself and the coastal and marine spatial planning issues, it's far broader than just fisherman and fisheries. One of the nine areas - priority objective areas is to focus on water quality sustainable practices on land.

The policy discusses a number of times the critical linkages between what happens upstream and the health of our oceans and resources downstream and that you cannot look at one in isolation of the other. And so there is one of the nine areas in which the Federal Government is going to be focusing its efforts is to try to address those inputs into the ocean and that linkage between as to what happens upstream and downstream.

There is a link between the coastal and marine spatial planning that's going to occur in the marine environment and land use planning on land. That is a more difficult structure to federalize for lack of a better term but there is a link. And there will need to be important linkages between the two. So it's important that the states be a participant in that so that they can better help implement the cross - the transitional issues from one area to the other.

(Jim Donapreho): Sam I appreciate that and I'm aware of that but what I'm seeing here and I'm talking about - I know you're focusing with fisherman today. But I know the proponents of this when it was a legislation, when it was HR21 because it pretty much mirrors that as admitted by (Sam Farr) himself.

Those same proponents we haven't seen them advocating, you know, for doing the things we just talked about here. The areas of watersheds et cetera. What they're doing is they're advocating constantly about getting fisherman off the water and looking at fisherman as the problem.

And I can tell you as far as the administration goes, when the oil spill came down the first thing the administration did was close fishing down. I mean that was a shock to a lot of people. That was the first reaction. And so, you know, to me it seems like again it's going to be another attack on fishing and fisherman and I'd like to see - I'd like to see this thing expand to what I think the real problems are upstream.

And, you know, where are these other groups talking about expanding the wetlands act, the buffer zones around buildings and keeping historic waterfronts from being developed into condos, which creates more sewage and other problems. These are the things that should be focused on; not fisherman and fishing.

Sam Rauck: Well so I would just recommend then to make sure that both through the council process and individually as the stakeholders directly to the regional planning bodies that we make sure that the recreational community is heard and heard strongly because if - the surest way to help craft this in a constructive manner is to participate in the process. To make sure that the issues you just addressed are addressed in the plans.

(Jim Donapreho): Thank you Sam. I appreciate it. Andy, thank you for your time.

Andy Winer: Hey thanks (Jim). The next question will be from (Ronald Coddington). (Ronald), can you hear me?

(Ronald Coddington): Yes. I sure can.

Andy Winer: Okay. We've got you.

(Ronald Coddington): Okay. Thank you for your time. What I wanted to bring to your attention while we're talking about the regional Fisheries Management Council. We have another approach to fisheries management, which lists the highly migratory species, which overlap all of the regional Fisheries Management Councils and have unique problems in each geographical area.

That is often missed with the way highly migratory species are managed. I know that highly migratory species management division without the benefit of the Regional Fisheries Management Council. I was curious how our problems with highly migratory species and unique nature of highly migratory species will be worked with under this system?

Sam Rauck: Well currently there is a strong advisory panel that advises the Highly Migratory Species Division that doesn't act as a council but does act as a forum for stakeholder input into that process. NOAA is going to sit on the regional planning bodies and so is going to represent the interests of managing the highly migratory species and the unique things that they take from the regulatory side of the equation.

Also as a spokesman for the stakeholders but I would encourage as I did to (Jim Donapreho) that you should participate directly in the process to make sure that those issues in each of those regions are uniquely addressed. The only real way to ensure that those issues are addressed is to participate and to be an active voice.

(Ronald Coddington): And for a quick follow up, I am a member of the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel and a member of the (Ichat) Advisory Committee. And I'm just concerned that if we only have a NOAA seat here without a specific seat representing highly migratory species, we're going to be lost in the shuffle. NOAA has a specific division and then asking fisheries for highly migratory species. Specific question is will highly migratory species be involved in this process specifically of that division?

Sam Rauck: That division is helping to staff all of our participation in all of the regional planning bodies, all of the NOAA participation on that. So it will be involved in that. I do not - there will not be a separate seat for elements of NOAA. NOAA will be represented holistically but with NOAA - the NOAA point people will be involved with Highly Migratory Species Division just like all other elements of NOAA.

(Ronald Coddington): Okay. Thank you.

Andy Winer: Thank you. Our next question is going to be from (Tom Raftikin). (Tom).

(Tom Raftikin): Howdy. You know, you've got some good information there regarding the regional councils. My question is there's some big dogs out there too. Are there any models or how are you going to integrate, you know, energy, aquaculture and shipping into this process?

Sam Rauch: So the councils get special role here and maybe part of the planners because of their unique regulatory authority. We recognize though that there are large stakeholders, recreational fishing and the recreational fishing groups being one of them but there are others. It's very important to bring them together. The whole point of the process is to bring the stakeholders together.

However, it is very difficult for - since we haven't done this on this scale, it is very difficult for us sitting here in Washington D.C. to say this is how it has to work. Some of these things are being worked out already in more localized state waters.

We intend to use some of these regional processes and let them design it the way it makes best sense in the region. So I can't tell you right now how it will work other than the requirement from Washington is that there be a vibrant stakeholder process in which everybody gets full and fair participation. But beyond that, a lot of the details as to exactly how and when that's going to happen will be left to the regional bodies themselves to work out.

(Tom Raftikin): Thanks Sam.

Andy Winer: Okay. Thank you (Tom). As of right now we don't have anybody in the queue. So I will again give a few seconds just in case somebody would like to jump online to ask a question. And as of now I am not seeing anybody. So seeing none, I think we will let people go about their Friday afternoons or mornings. We want to thank all of you for being on this call this afternoon. We really do appreciate the input from the recreational fishing community.

We want to continue to have a dialogue about how it is that the national ocean plan will be implemented. We hope to be working with all of you that are on this call and look forward to continued collaboration as we move forward. So once again, thank you all and we look forward to working with you in the future. Have a good weekend.

Bryan Arroyo: Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity. Appreciate it.

Coordinator: Thank you. That does conclude today's conference. You may disconnect at this time.

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