



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

JAN 4 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NOS Employees

FROM: Richard W. Spinrad, Ph.D.
Assistant Administrator

SUBJECT: Implementation of an Environmental Management System

It is very important that the National Ocean Service does everything possible to provide facilities that are safe for our employees and in full compliance with all environmental standards and laws. An Environmental Management System (EMS) will help make that happen by putting in place a system for continuous improvement of our environmental performance and increasing our commitment to environmental stewardship. The Department of Commerce and NOAA have made the commitment to implement an EMS at appropriate facilities throughout the organization. Over the next year, the National Ocean Service will be implementing an EMS within the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) based on the Code of Environmental Management Principles (CEMP) and in compliance with Executive Order 13148.

In order to support this initiative, I have designated Jean Durosko, the NOS Environmental Compliance and Safety Officer, as the Environmental Management Representative (EMR) for the National Ocean Service. The EMR for NCCOS is Rick Meitzler, the Environmental, Safety and Health Officer at the Hollings Marine Laboratory in Charleston. These individuals will be responsible for implementing the DOC/NOAA EMS standard and for coordinating the actions needed to meet the requirements of the standard. Their efforts will require full participation and support from representatives already identified within NCCOS to ensure this effort is successful.

The NCCOS EMS will be fully implemented by December 31, 2005 in accordance with Executive Order 13148. After that time, NOS will expand EMS to the other Program and Staff Offices to ensure that the entire NOS organization will be in compliance with EMS principles. I expect full commitment to this program from management and staff throughout NOS. Your support in meeting this goal is critical and appreciated.

For more information on EMS, please visit the NOAA Safety and Environmental Compliance Office's website at: http://www.seco.noaa.gov/ENV/EMS/EMS_index.html.

cc:

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