



CHARTER  
of the  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SUSTAINABILITY  
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

**A. Official Designation**

The Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology (SOST) is hereby established by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS).

**B. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of the SOST is to advise and assist the CENRS on national issues of ocean science and technology. The SOST will contribute to the goals for Federal ocean science and technology, including developing coordinated interagency strategies. In carrying out its mandate, the SOST will work closely with the Ocean Sub-Interagency Policy (Oceans Sub-IPC) Committee of the Global Environment Policy Coordinating Committee as established by National Security Presidential Directive -1 and National Security Council Memorandum of May 25, 2001; bodies of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) as established by Public Law 104-201 in FY 1997; the National Ocean Council (NOC) and its associated bodies as established by Presidential Executive Order 13547 on July 19, 2010; and other entities of the NSTC.

The SOST will retain the legislatively mandated functions of the previously-chartered Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology and will serve as the NOC's Ocean Science and Technology Interagency Policy Committee (OST-IPC).

**C. Functions**

The SOST will foster national ocean science and technology priorities, including implementation of the National Ocean Policy. Specifically, the SOST will:

1. Identify national ocean science and technology priorities.
2. Facilitate federal interagency coordination of disciplinary and interdisciplinary ocean research, ocean technology and infrastructure development, ocean education, and national ocean observation and mapping programs.
3. Facilitate federal interagency efforts to expand fundamental knowledge about the ocean and its interactions with other components of the Earth system, including the atmosphere, land and living resources, and about the relationship between the ocean and society.
4. Further the application of knowledge for modeling and forecasting ocean phenomena.
5. Provide advice on natural and social science and technology required for effectively implementing ecosystem-based management and sustainable stewardship of resources.
6. Facilitate interagency use of ocean science and technology in developing coastal and marine policies.
7. Recommend scientific and technical assessments and analyses of ocean science and technology initiatives.

8. Identify opportunities and articulate priorities for enhancing ocean education, outreach and capacity building, both domestically and internationally.
9. Identify opportunities for promoting international collaborations in ocean science and technology.
10. Foster the transition of ocean research results for operations and societal applications.

**D. Membership**

Membership of the SOST will be established in accord with NSTC policy and procedures. The group will consist of Deputy Assistant Secretaries or comparable representatives, or appropriate senior-level representatives with decision-making authority from departments, agencies, and offices represented on the CENRS. In addition, the Chair of the Oceans Sub-IPC and the Co-Chairs of the ORM-IPC will be invited to be non-voting, *ex officio* members of the SOST to encourage strong coordination of national ocean affairs. The SOST shall be co-chaired by senior individuals from the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. These Co-Chairs shall serve in addition to, and independent of, their respective agency's SOST member. The Co-Chairs of the SOST may designate additional non-voting, *ex officio* members as deemed necessary.

**E. Private Sector Interface**

The SOST may solicit and receive advice from non-Federal entities, consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and other governing procedures, including the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and the Ocean Research Advisory Panel.

**F. Termination Date**

Unless renewed by the Co-Chairs of the CENRS prior to its expiration, the SOST shall terminate no later than June 30, 2017.

**G. Determination**

We hereby determine that the formation of the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:

Tamara Dickinson  
Tamara Dickinson  
Co-chair of the CENRS, and  
Principal Assistant Director for Environment and Energy  
Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Executive Office of the President

9/29/13  
Date



Kathryn Sullivan  
Co-chair of the CENRS, and  
Acting Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and  
NOAA Administrator  
Department of Commerce

9/23/13

Date



Glenn Paulson  
Co-chair of the CENRS, and  
Science Advisor  
Environmental Protection Agency

9/19/13

Date

