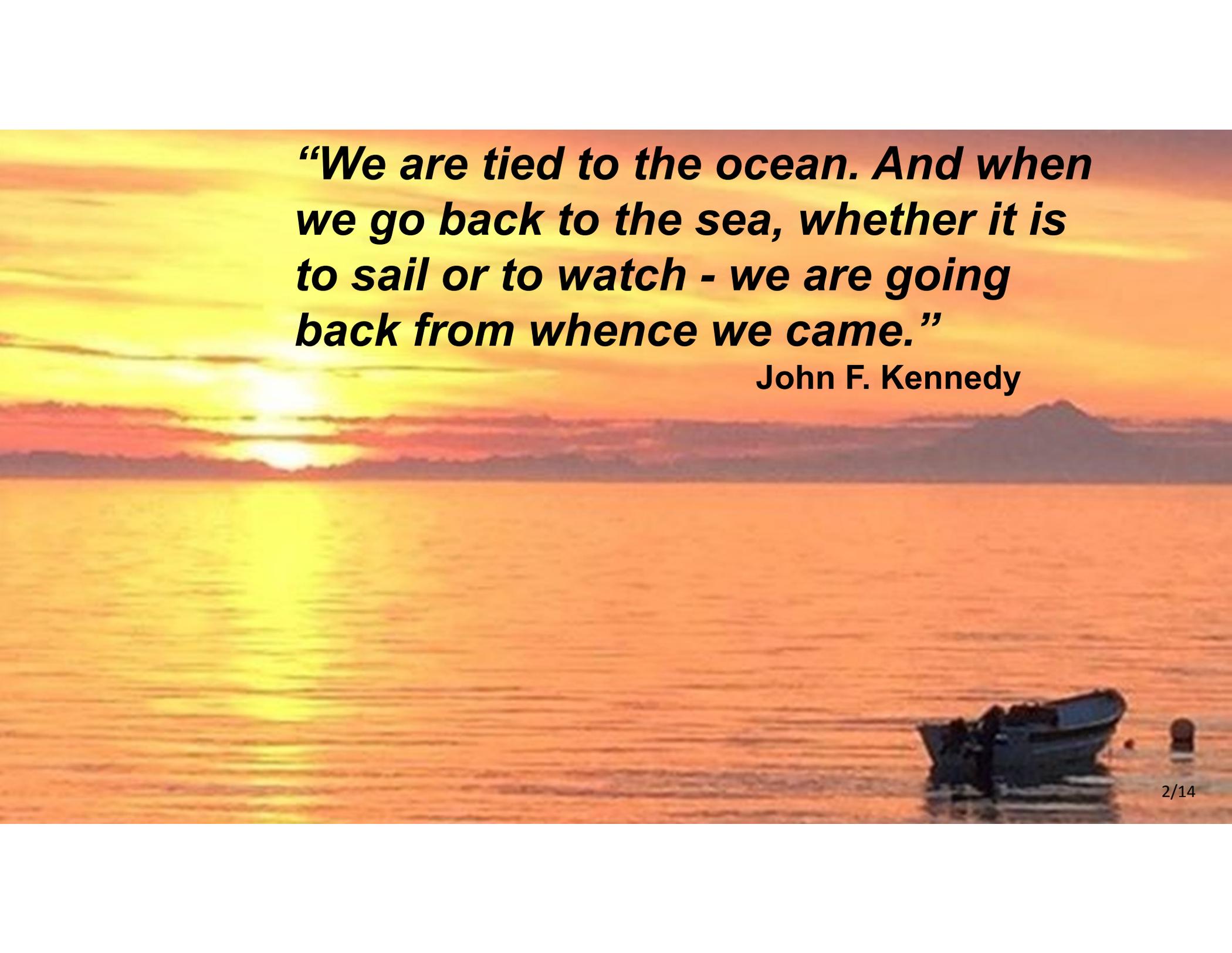


The National Ocean Policy: An Overview



Presented to the
President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

By: Beth Kerttula
Director, National Ocean Council
July 11, 2014

A sunset over the ocean with a small boat in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and water. The water is calm, reflecting the light. In the distance, there are mountains or hills. A small boat is visible in the lower right corner of the image.

“We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea, whether it is to sail or to watch - we are going back from whence we came.”

John F. Kennedy

National Ocean Policy: Timeline

- June 2009 – President Obama established the **Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force**
- July 2010 – **Executive Order 13547** signed; adopted the Final Recommendations of the Task Force and established a National Ocean Policy
- 2011 through 2012: Scoping meetings and public comments on the **Draft Implementation Plan**
- April 2013 – **National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan** released
- July 2013 – **Marine Planning Handbook** released

National Ocean Council Agencies and Offices

Council on Environmental Quality
(Co-chair)

Office of Science & Technology Policy
(Co-chair)

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Department of Energy

Department of Health & Human Services

Department of Homeland Security

Department of the Interior

Department of Justice

Department of Labor

Department of State

Department of Transportation

Environmental Protection Agency

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Joint Chiefs of Staff

National Aeronautics & Space
Administration

National Oceanic & Atmospheric
Administration

National Science Foundation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Coast Guard

Office of the Director of National
Intelligence

Office of Management & Budget

Office of the Vice President

National Security Council

Domestic Policy Council

National Economic Council

Benefits of the National Ocean Policy & Implementation Plan

Improves interagency coordination to:

- Provide more efficient Federal permitting
- Better manage the ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes' resources that drive much of our economy
- Develop and disseminate sound scientific information for local communities, industries, and decision-makers
- Collaborate effectively with State, Tribal, and local partners, marine industries, and other stakeholders



Implementation Plan & Highlights

1. The Ocean Economy

- 41% GDP generated in shoreline counties (\$6 Trillion in 2010)
- Highlight: National Shellfish Initiative / improved permitting process



2. Safety and Security

- Improving maritime domain awareness and safety and security
- Highlight: Arctic ice forecasts
- Highlight: Navigational safety



Implementation Plan & Highlights



3. Coastal and Ocean Resilience

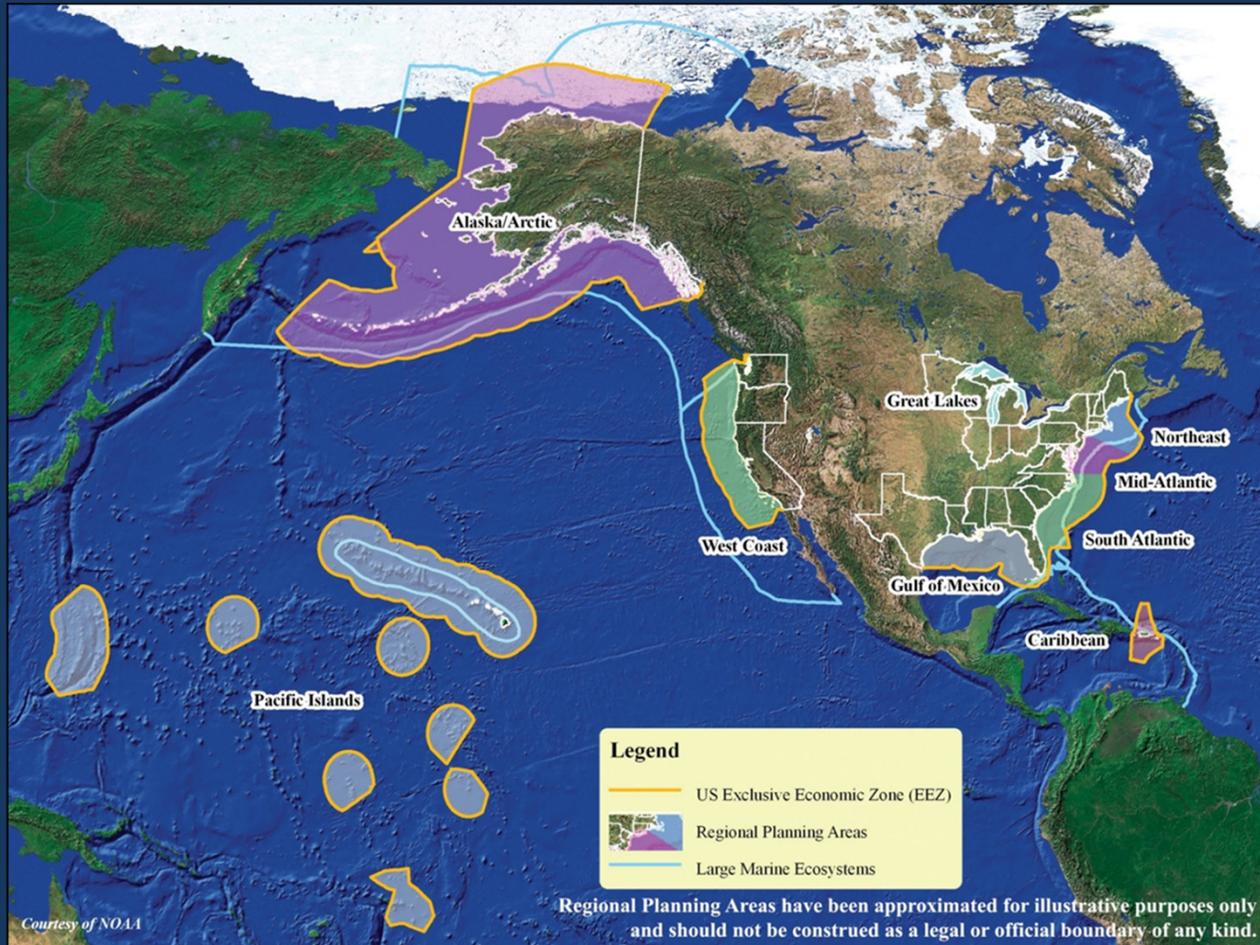
- Reduce adverse conditions / prepare for change / ocean health
- Highlight: Guidance on the use of regional climate and sea-level rise scenarios
- Highlight: Reduce coastal wetland loss



4. Local Choices

- Tribal, State, regional, local
- Highlight: Local & traditional knowledge / integration
- Highlight: Marine planning – Regional Planning Areas / Bodies

Nine Regional Planning Areas



Four Regional Planning Bodies

- In 2013, four Regional Planning Areas established Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs):
 - Northeast
 - Mid-Atlantic
 - Pacific Islands
 - Caribbean
- Each RPB is working toward a marine plan, organizing their path transparently, and providing ongoing opportunities for public input



<http://openchannels.org/blog/scosgrove/nation%E2%80%99s-first-regional-ocean-planning-body-meets>

Implementation Plan & Highlights

5. Science and Information

- Decisions based on sound science
- Highlight: 2013 updated Federal Oceanographic Fleet Report
 - 47 ships
 - Measure and project global climate change and ocean acidification
 - Ensure buoys / sensors are in place for hurricane and tsunami warnings
 - Enable safe transportation
 - Conduct resource assessment



<http://www.ocean-news.com/ocean-science/ocean-science-archives/2014/06/03/a-snapshot-of-our-nation-s-scientific-ocean-vessels>

Next Steps



- Presidential Task Force on Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing and Seafood Fraud
- Governance Coordinating Committee
- Continue working with Regional Planning Bodies

For additional information

National Ocean Council Website

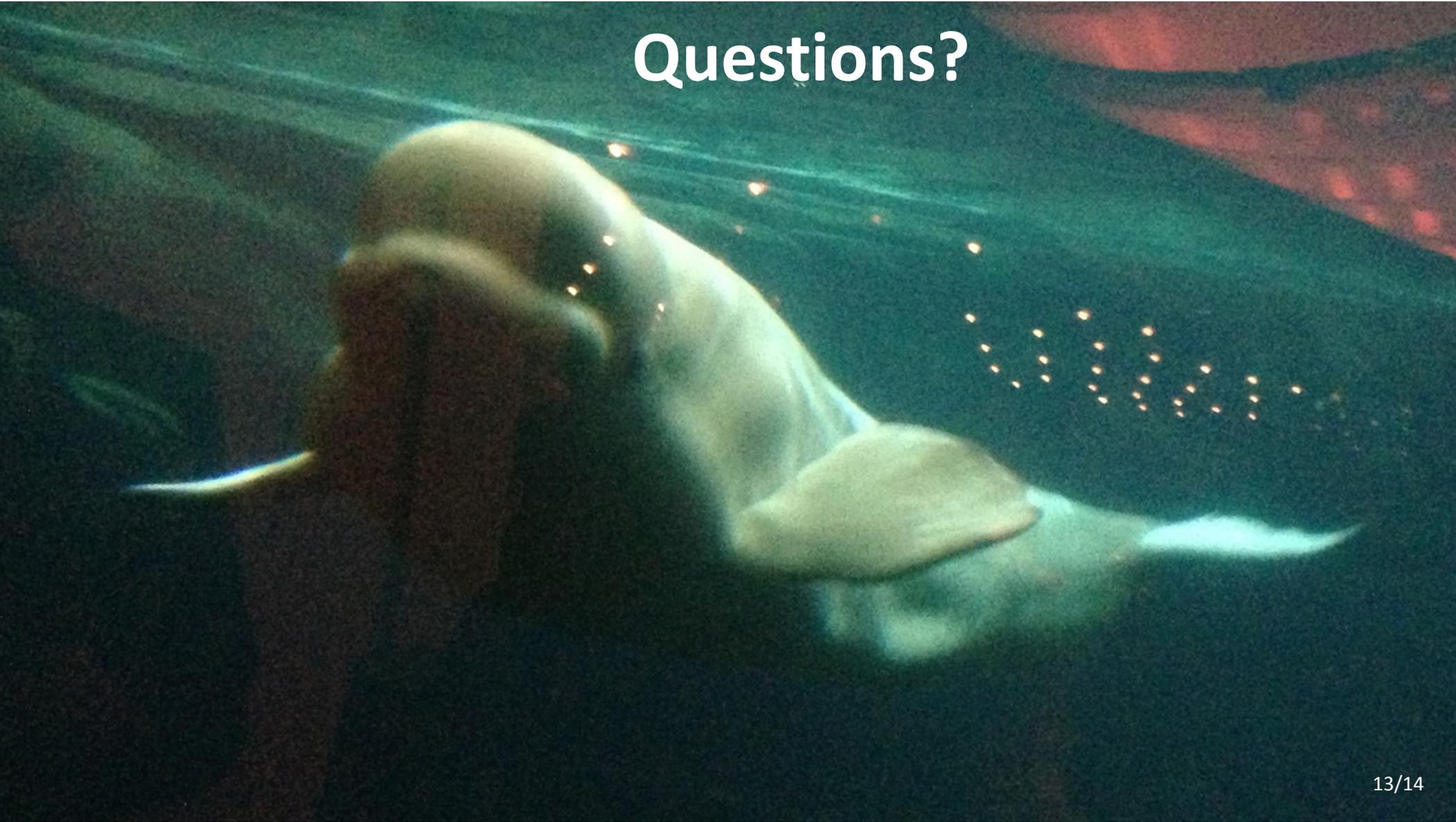
whitehouse.gov/oceans

Contact Beth Kerttula at:

ekerttula@ostp.eop.gov

Office: 202-456-3267

Questions?



THANK YOU!

