Association of State Floodplain Managers
Resolution

Resolution on U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy Preliminary Report

WHEREAS, the Oceans Act of 2000 acknowledged the importance of the oceans to this country and directed the President to appoint a U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy (the “Commission”) to establish findings and develop recommendations for new comprehensive national ocean policy; and

WHEREAS, the Commission issued a Preliminary Report (the “Report”) assessing U.S. ocean policy and outlining a vision for the future of ocean management, which seeks public input; and

WHEREAS, the Report includes a chapter 10 titled “Guarding People And Property Against Natural Hazards”, Chapter 9 “Managing Coasts and Their Watersheds” and Chapter 11 “Conserving and Restoring Coastal Habitat”; and

WHEREAS, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) is an organization dedicated to reducing flood losses in the nation and enhancing natural hazard lands functions; and

WHEREAS, ASFPM has devoted significant effort over the past twenty years to improve coastal hazard awareness and to minimize loss of life and property damages resulting from coastal hazards, as part of the ASFPM mission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ASFPM fully supports the recommendations outlined in the Report, including Chapters 9,10 and 11 of the Report, as these recommendations are consistent with ASFPM goals for reducing flood losses in coastal areas; and

BE IT FURTHER resolved that ASFPM encourages the Commission to recommend that state Coastal Zone Management Programs should be designated as the lead agency for states and should receive increased financial assistance through the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act grants in order to facilitate coordinated action on specific recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER resolved that ASFPM encourages the Commission to recommend that state Coastal Management Programs to work cooperatively with their counterpart state hazards management and natural resource agencies, as well as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Department of Homeland Security-Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the U. S. EPA and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) to implement recommendations contained in the Report; and

BE IT FURTHER resolved that ASFPM advise the Commission and Congress of the long-term benefits that will accrue from improved ocean and coastal management, as recommended in the Report.

APPROVAL: 5/15/2004

ATTEST: ____________________________________________

DateASFPM Secretary

Dedicated to reducing flood losses in the nation.