Association of State Floodplain Managers
Resolution
In Support of the United States Integrated Ocean Observing System

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has lead Federal interagency responsibilities for the administration and implementation of the United States Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS); and

WHEREAS, IOOS is a major contribution to the international Global Ocean Observing System, which is supported by the President of the United States under Executive Order 13366 and the Administration’s Ocean Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, IOOS, which is modeled after the weather observation network, has the potential to accrue enormous national and state benefits by providing real-time, comprehensive, and accessible observations of the physical, geological, chemical, and biological parameters of the oceans and coasts; and

WHEREAS, state floodplain, coastal, and emergency managers, in their efforts to reduce the impacts of coastal floods and related hazards, can use a variety of IOOS data and products, such as enhanced forecasts of storms (e.g., improved storm tracks and more accurate storm surge predictions) and better estimates of coastal winds, waves, currents, sediment transport, and flooding; and

WHEREAS, existing coastal and ocean observation systems – which are fragmented, independently operated, and being built for different purposes and with different standards – need to be integrated into a more efficient observing system that is regionally, nationally, and internationally coordinated so as to serve a wide array of users; and

WHEREAS, legislation is pending before the Congress of the United States to authorize funding to establish a national, integrated ocean and coastal observing system that will collect, compile, and make available data on ocean conditions in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, including the Great Lakes;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) concurs that a sustainable IOOS will accrue substantial benefits for state floodplain managers and coastal populations; and,

BE IT FURTHER resolved that ASFPM will convey to the Administration and the appropriate Congressional Committees its support for the development and implementation of a sustainable IOOS, administered and implemented by NOAA; and,

BE IT FURTHER resolved that ASFPM encourages the close coordination of IOOS activities among Federal agencies, under the direction of NOAA, and further encourages similar coordination among Regional Associations and state Coastal Zone Management agencies.

APPROVAL: August 09, 2005

ATTEST: Rhonda Montgomery

ASFPM Secretary