



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Evaluation of Mississippi Coastal Management Program; Public Meeting; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and opportunity to comment.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office for Coastal Management, will hold a virtual public meeting to solicit input on the performance evaluation of the Mississippi Coastal Management Program. NOAA also invites the public to submit written comments.

DATES: NOAA will hold a virtual public comment meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 12 p.m. Central Time (CT). NOAA may close the meeting 15 minutes after the conclusion of public testimony and after responding to any clarifying questions from meeting participants. NOAA will consider all relevant written comments received by Friday, May 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

Virtual Public Meeting: Provide oral comments during the public meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 12 p.m. CT by registering as a speaker at <https://forms.gle/CRiA3ngoXUBZCys8>. We request that those interested in attending register by Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. CT.

Please indicate on the registration form whether you intend to provide oral comments. The lineup of speakers will be based on the date and time of registration. Upon registration, NOAA will send a confirmation email. One hour prior to the start of the virtual meeting on May 21, 2024, NOAA will send an email to all registrants with a link to the public comment meeting and information about participating. While advance registration is requested, registration will remain open until the meeting closes and any participant may provide oral comment after the registered

speakers conclude. Meeting registrants may remain anonymous by typing “Anonymous” in the “First Name” and “Last Name” fields on the registration form.

Email: Send written comments to Pam Kylstra, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, at CZMA.evaluations@noaa.gov. Include “Comments on Performance Evaluation of the Mississippi Coastal Management Program” in the subject line of the message.

NOAA will accept anonymous comments; however, the written comments NOAA receives are considered part of the public record, and the entirety of the comment, including the name of the commenter, email address, attachments, and other supporting materials, will be publicly accessible. Sensitive personally identifiable information, such as account numbers and Social Security numbers, should not be included with the comment. Comments that are not related to the performance evaluation of the Mississippi Coastal Management Program or that contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Kylstra, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, by email at Pam.Kylstra@noaa.gov or by phone at (843) 439-5568.

Copies of the previous evaluation findings, reserve management plan, and reserve site profile may be viewed and downloaded on the internet at <http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/evaluations/>. A copy of the evaluation notification letter and most recent progress report may be obtained upon request by contacting Pam Kylstra.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) requires NOAA to conduct periodic evaluations of federally approved coastal management programs. The evaluation process includes one or more public meetings, consideration of written public comments, and consultations with interested Federal, State, and local agencies and members of the public. During the evaluation, NOAA will consider the extent to which the State of Mississippi has met the national objectives, adhered to the management program approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance under the CZMA. When the evaluation is complete, NOAA’s Office for Coastal

Management will place a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing the availability of the final evaluation findings.

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