

# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

## Ocean Management Planning Progress Report #4

As a service to our Partners: This report, the fourth in the series, is designed to keep you informed in an expedient fashion. Significant events, activities and milestones in the Massachusetts ocean planning process are listed and briefly described below. **Links to relevant, supporting documentation and other information have been embedded for quick reference.**

### Event Key      Responsibility

<a href="#">EEA</a>	Led and conducted by EEA Planning Team
<b>EEA</b> (mop)	Directed by EEA with MOP Technical Support
<b>MOP</b> (eea)	Directed by MOP with EEA Team Input
<a href="#">MOP</a>	MOP Independent Event

## Important Upcoming Events (September 2009)

**09/14/09 Kickoff EEA Public Hearing** (Starting at 7:00pm, Boston Fish Pier)

**EEA** (mop) Description:

The MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) will be conducting five public hearing sessions throughout the state (**9/14, Boston; 9/15, New Bedford; 9/16, West Barnstable; 9/17, Gloucester; 9/23, Tisbury**). These hearings will provide the public/stakeholders an opportunity to comment on the draft MA Ocean Management Plan in person. [Further information](#) (specific addresses and hearing start times).

Public comments are currently being accepted and, pursuant to the Oceans Act of 2008, must be received by 5:00 pm on **Monday, November 23, 2009**. They can be submitted via mail to:

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management  
Re: Draft Ocean Management Plan  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 800  
Boston, MA 02114

Comments can also be submitted 24/7 online:

[Comment Online Now](#)

## Recent Progress in Ocean Management Planning (07/01-9/10/09)

**07/01/09 Release of the Draft MA Ocean Management Plan**

**EEA** (mop) Description:

EEA released the [Draft MA Ocean Management Plan](#) on this date ([video](#)).



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## 07/22/09 MA Ocean Management Day (at NOAA's Coastal Zone 2009 Conference)

### EEA/MOP Description:

The MA ocean management planning effort was the primary focus of this conference day. MOP staff conducted a discussion panel with the EEA ocean management planning team ([video](#)) and hosted the aquarium reception where MOP Partners, ocean resource managers and others learned about newly released [MOP science program](#) products and [communications tools](#). To facilitate Partner participation in this pertinent event, MOP sponsored a full-day conference registration for official MOP Partners.

### Related Information:

Release of MOP science program technical reports: ocean [planning frameworks](#), an [integrated ocean data network](#), and [ecosystem and economic modeling tools](#).

Launch of [newly revised MOP website](#) with direct links to: [interactive planning process timeline](#), comprehensive [document library](#), and an updated MOP ocean-planning [events calendar](#).

## 07/29/09 MOP Partners' Event (Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies)

### MOP (EEA) Description:

The EEA planning team presented and discussed the newly released draft MA Ocean Management Plan with MOP Partners. Facilitated breakout groups then focused on three areas: questions and areas of confusion with the Plan, science integration going forward, and Plan implementation challenges and questions— issues/questions raised were summarized and presented to EEA for their consideration. Please use a **new feature** on our website, the [indexed/interactive meeting summary](#) to quickly access information relevant to your interests.

### Related Information:

The [indexed/interactive meeting report](#), full [meeting video](#), [full summary report](#) PDF and [other support materials](#) are available online.

## 09/08/09 Ocean Advisory Commission Meeting (Boston Fish Pier)

### EEA (mop) Purpose:

This meeting afforded an opportunity for the OAC members to discuss the draft Plan with the EEA planning team and to begin their plans for drafting a comment letter to the Secretary.

### Related Information:

[Supporting materials](#) and a meeting summary will be available online.

Next OAC meeting date TBD. **\*\* The next Science Advisory Council meeting will be on 9/28/09, 9:00AM at 100 Cambridge Street, Boston- Hearing Room 2D.**

