

Dear Colleague,

This letter is to inform you of the 2009 NOAA Coastal Services Center Custom Service and invite your participation. The mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center is to support the environmental, social, and economic well being of the coast by linking people, information, and technology. To better serve the nation's coastal resource managers, we must learn about their issues, information needs, and technological capabilities. At the NOAA Coastal Services Center, we gather this information in a variety of ways, one of the most important being the triennial Coastal Resource Management Customer Survey.

The Coastal Resource Management Customer Survey is sent to offices of state coastal management programs and state departments of natural resources (or equivalent agencies) responsible for coastal resource management, National Estuarine Research Reserves, Sea Grant College Programs, National Estuary Programs, allied programs and non-profit and non-governmental organizations. You may be one of several people in your organization that receives the survey. Each survey has an identification number for the sole purpose of tracking which surveys have been returned. No names of individuals will be placed on any documents or used in any reports generated from this project.

The public burden for this collection of information (i.e., time required to complete this survey) is estimated to average 15 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection information. If you have questions or comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, please contact our survey coordinator Chris Ellis: by mail, at NOAA Coastal Services Center, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405; by telephone, at (843) 740-1195; or via email, at Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov. We hope you will be able to offer us a moment of your time to complete the survey.

The survey will be administered online, though printed copies for mail submission will be available on request. You will be receiving the survey link within the next month. **We kindly ask that you respond by DATE.**

Thank you in advance for your participation. Your input is extremely valuable and will help us do a better job of planning for and serving your needs. You will be notified when the final survey report is posted on the Web.

Sincerely,

NAME OF CENTER LEADERSHIP

TITLE

NOAA Coastal Services Center

