

URBAN HARBORS INSTITUTE

University of Massachusetts Boston

Development of Planning Framework Options for Integrated Multi-Use Management in Massachusetts

Location:

Massachusetts

2008 - 2009

Client:

**The
Massachusetts
Ocean Partnership**

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The institute, together with experts from several institutions and organizations including the University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston University, the University of Rhode Island, the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies, WHOI's Marine Policy Center, Good Harbor Consulting, and MRAG Americas developed a set of planning framework options for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to consider as it moved forward with implementation of the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan.

Based on collective experience and a review of ocean, coastal and resource management programs from the US and other countries, the framework team suggested that there were a number of key components of the framework for the Ocean Plan and its implementation.

While management plans and programs generally have these elements in common, there are a range of options for carrying out each program component. These options were presented to structure and inform the development of the Ocean Plan.

While the range of options were considered to be appropriate under the Commonwealth's existing legal and administrative structure and responsive to the requirements of the Massachusetts Ocean Act, the general concepts are likely to be transferable to other jurisdictions (especially in the United States) and can inform future ocean management and planning in Massachusetts.

The Urban Harbors Institute (UHI) assists governments and communities tackle the problems and issues associated with ocean, coastal and harbor areas by providing scientific, planning and management expertise in fields such as:

- Waterfront planning
- Integrated coastal management
- Port and harbor management
- Marine spatial planning
- Environmental education
- Legal and economic analysis
- Public policy analysis
- Watershed management
- GIS technologies