



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management
Silver Spring Metro Center, Building 4
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

February 9, 2026

Jocelyn Runnebaum, PhD
Director, Maine Coastal Program
Maine Office of Community Affairs
127 State House Station
Augusta ME, 04333-0021

Dear Dr. Runnebaum,

Thank you for the January 13, 2026, request for approval of the departmental reorganization as it pertains to the move of the Maine Coastal Management Program from the Division of Marine Resources to the new Office of Community Affairs.

Pursuant to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) regulations at 15 CFR part 923, subpart H,¹ NOAA's Office for Coastal Management approves the request subject to the qualification below.

NOAA's regulations require that the state post this decision by the Office for Coastal Management for public notice.² Please send a copy of the public notice to the Office for Coastal Management for our records to close out this file.

PUBLIC AND FEDERAL AGENCY COMMENTS

The Office for Coastal Management did not receive any comments on this program change submission.

CHANGES APPROVED

See the attached Table of Approved Changes to the Maine Coastal Management Program.

QUALIFICATION

As a standard qualification applying to all program changes, states may not incorporate enforceable policies by reference. If an approved enforceable policy refers to another statute, regulation, policy, standard, guidance, or other such requirement or document, the referenced policy must be submitted to and approved by the Office for Coastal Management as an

¹ This program change request was submitted under NOAA's revised CZMA program change regulations at 15 CFR part 923, subpart H. The Office for Coastal Management's decision due date was February 13, 2026, subject to extension.

² 15 CFR § 923.81(e)(5).

enforceable policy in order to be applied under the federal consistency review provisions of the CZMA. No referenced policy may be applied for CZMA federal consistency review purposes unless that policy has been separately reviewed and approved as an enforceable policy by the Office for Coastal Management.

Thank you for your cooperation in this review. Please contact Kate Swails at 978-282-8481, if you have any questions. For future correspondence regarding these program changes, please refer to the file number assigned to this action, ME-2026-1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joelle Gore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joelle Gore, Chief
Stewardship Division

Attachment: Table of Approved Changes ME-2026-1

MAINE CZM CHANGE REQUEST TABLE

Legal citation <i>1000 Character Limit</i>	Title of policy, section, or other descriptor	Is the change new, revised, or deleted <i>Enter one</i>	Date effective in state <i>MM/DD/YYYY</i>	Enforceable policy <i>Y or N</i>	Enforceable mechanism citation <i>1000 Character Limit</i>
5 M.R.S. Chapter 310-B, subchapter 3, §3222	Coastal zone management program	New	09/24/2025	N	N/A