

Office of Science and Technology Policy

The draft *National Assessment of Efforts to Predict and Respond to Harmful Algal Blooms in U.S. Waters* was published in the [Federal Register on September 27, 2006](#) and will be available for public comment until November 20, 2006. Please follow the guidelines below when providing feedback.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS:

The Draft *National Assessment of Efforts to Predict and Respond to Harmful Algal Blooms in U.S. Waters* is available [here](#). The public is encouraged to submit comments on the draft report electronically to Prediction.Response.Comments@NOAA.gov. As stated in the report, public comments will be summarized and added to Chapter 4 (3) of the report prior to submission to Congress. For those who do not have access to a computer, comments on the document may be submitted in writing to:

Quay Dortch
NOS/NCCOS/CSCOR/COP N/SCI2
NOAA
1305 East West Highway
Building IV Rm 8220
Silver Spring, MD 20910

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Quay Dortch by phone 301-713-3338 x157.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OSTP is publishing this draft report as mandated by the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Amendments Act 2004 (P.L. 108-456) to request public comments. The report is organized into FIVE sections plus FIVE appendices: 1) Executive Summary, 2) Legislative Background and Purpose of the Report, 3) Assessment of the Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Problem in U.S. waters, 4) Prediction and Response Programs in the U.S. and 5) Opportunities for Advancement in Prediction and Response Efforts. Appendices include: Appendix I: Prediction and Response Programs in the U.S., Appendix II: Other National Programs, Appendix III: State, local, and tribal Prediction and Response Efforts, Appendix IV: International Programs related to HAB prediction and response, and Appendix V: Federal Register Notice.

COMMENTS REQUEST:

The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) welcomes all comments on the content of the Draft report. OSTP is specifically interested in feedback on

- 1) the current state of efforts (including infrastructure) in Prediction and Response to prevent, control, or mitigate Harmful Algal Blooms;
- 2) suggestions for specific improvements in those efforts .

Please adhere to the instructions detailed below for preparing and submitting your comments on the Draft *National Assessment of Efforts to Predict and Respond to*

Harmful Algal Blooms in U.S. Waters. Using the format guidance described below will facilitate the processing of reviewer comments and assure that all comments are appropriately considered. Please format your comments into the following sections: (1) background information for yourself including name, title, organizational affiliation and email or telephone (optional), (2) overview or general comments, (3) specific comments with reference to pages or line numbers where possible, and (4) specific comments about the current state of efforts in prevention, control and mitigation of HABs (PCM), including infrastructure. Please number and print identifying information at the top of all pages.

Public comments may be submitted from 09/27/2006 to 11/20/2006.