



Coastal Communications



NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT- COASTAL 2000

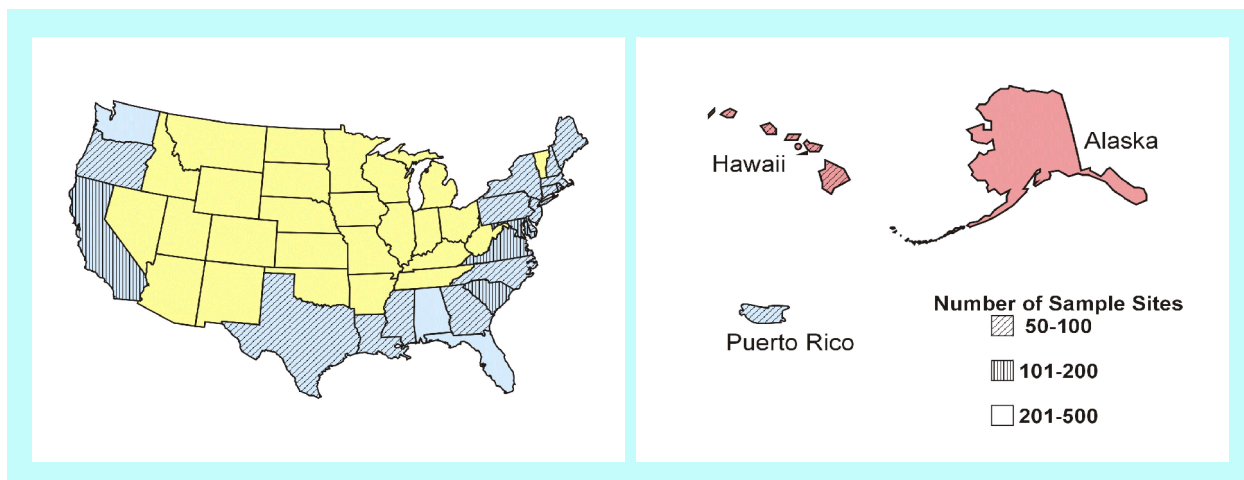


Background

The US EPA's National Coastal Assessment (also known as Coastal 2000 or C2000) is a five-year effort led by EPA's Office of Research and Development to evaluate the assessment methods it has developed to advance the science of ecosystem condition monitoring. This program will survey the condition of the Nation's coastal resources (estuaries and offshore waters) by creating an integrated, comprehensive coastal monitoring program among the coastal states to assess coastal ecological condition. Coastal 2000 is being organized and managed by the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory's Gulf Ecology Division in Gulf Breeze, FL.

Coastal 2000 Strategy

The strategy for Coastal 2000 focuses on a strategic partnership with all 24 U.S. coastal states. Using a compatible, probabilistic design and a common set of survey indicators, each state will conduct the survey and assess the condition of their coastal resources independently, yet, these estimates can be aggregated to assess conditions at the EPA Regional, biogeographical, and National levels. The maps illustrated below show the states (and Puerto Rico) that are included in the survey, the intended number of sampling sites in each state for 2000-01 and the stage of development of the survey.



Twenty-four coastal states and Puerto Rico participating in Coastal 2000. Color code shows present and continuing participation (•), and intended participation in 2001 (•).

Coastal Indicators

Water Quality	Sediment Quality	Fish and Benthos
Dissolved oxygen	Grain size	Community structure
Salinity, temperature, depth	Total organic carbon	External pathology
pH	Sediment chemistry	Tissue analyses
Nutrients	Benthic community structure	
Chlorophyll	Sediment toxicity	

Further Information

For further information, please contact Kevin Summers at the Gulf Ecology Division at (850) 934-9244 or at summers.kevin@epa.gov. General information on the US EPA EMAP is available at <http://www.epa.gov/emap>.