# U.S. Geological Survey Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Controlled Vocabulary

## Background

In response to the National Ocean Policy, all Federal agencies are required to participate in the process of CMSP. A critical challenge will be creating metadata catalogs with appropriate ontologies so that information assets can be discovered, evaluated for suitability, integrated with data provided by the agencies and used by planning bodies, resource manager, and stakeholders across the country.

## What is a Controlled Vocabulary?

- A set of restricted terms.
- Used for discovery resources and mark-up resources.
- Avoids duplication of terms with different meanings, inconsistencies, abbreviations, and misspellings.

## Why is it important?

- Have to solve semantic heterogeneity.
- Facilitates classification/discovery of data.
- A term could mean more than one thing:

  ![SST](image)

## Goals

- Organization/governance.
- Mapping/crosswalks.
- Achieve catalog semantic interoperability.
- Adoption in community.

## Next Steps?

- Creating a state of the art interface engine!