



**Daniel J. Basta**  
**Director**  
**NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**

On January 2001, Daniel J. Basta was named as the director for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA's agency that is committed to preserving historical, cultural and archaeological resources. Additionally, the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries seeks to increase public awareness of America's maritime heritage by conducting scientific research, monitoring, exploration and educational programs. Today, the sanctuary program manages 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument that together encompass more than 150,000 square miles of America's ocean and Great Lakes natural and cultural resources. Mr. Basta has led a system-wide effort to build award-winning film products for educating Americans about the importance sanctuary resources. He continues to build partnerships with public-private organizations, industries, and academia throughout the United States and internationally.

Trained as an environmental engineer, he joined NOAA in 1979. Mr. Basta has 30 years' experience in environmental quality and natural resources assessment and management throughout the United States and abroad, including Europe, Australia, Mexico, China/Asia, South America, and Canada. Throughout his career, his expertise has focused on the integration aspects of complex assessment and management problems. As a problem-solver in resources assessment and management, he possesses detailed knowledge of a considerable variety of subjects and technical disciplines, e.g., natural system modeling resource economics, demography, land use planning, systems analysis, living marine resource assessment, and information science and technology. He has co-authored more than 50 publications in his field and contributed to many, many more, including textbooks on modeling, atlases of U.S. coastal and ocean regions, reports and books on environmental problems at the national, region and international levels, and articles in journals and other publications.

Before joining NOAA, Mr. Basta held positions at Resources for the Future in Washington, DC, the Environmental Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences and John Hopkins University. Before returning to graduate school to focus on environmental and natural resources management, he worked as an engineer in the aerospace industry, and as a management consultant.

He has a bachelor's of science industrial engineering from Hofstra University and a master's of science in engineering and policy sciences from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Mr. Basta can be reached at [Dan.Basta@noaa.gov](mailto:Dan.Basta@noaa.gov)

January 2008

