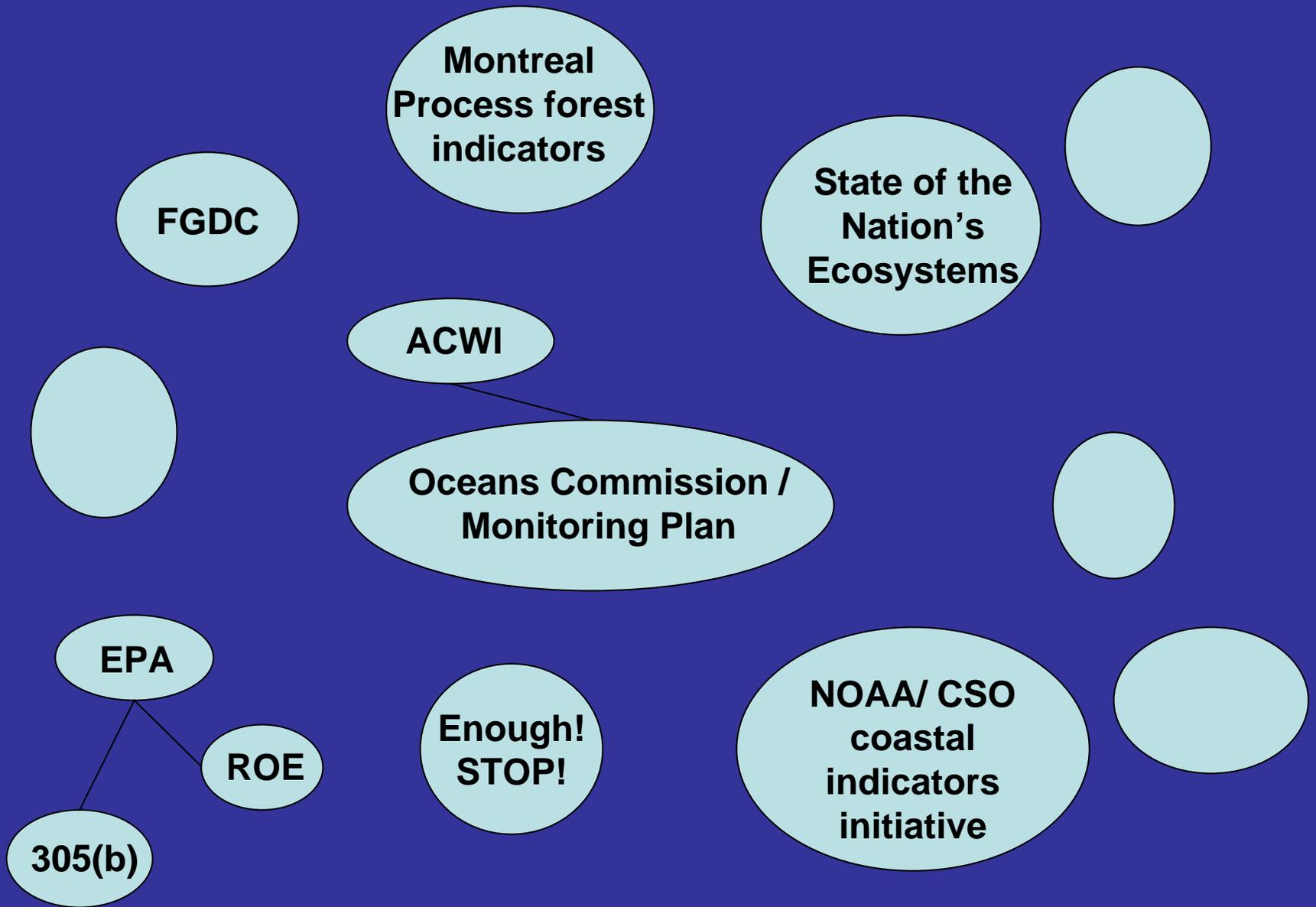


**Where are we going and how
do we get there?**

**Thoughts on the context and
evolution of indicators,
monitoring and integration**

**Robin O'Malley
Director, Environmental Reporting
The Heinz Center**

**Advisory Committee on Water Information
January 17, 2007**



Huge amount of good work, BUT

- **Resource limitations remain**
- **Few entities with integration as their sole mission**
- **Lack of “central nervous system” capacity to make strategic decisions**
- **Inability to compare and aggregate**

Types of Information and Functions

Types of Information

Functions Performed Using Information

Increasing Detail
and Specificity

Fact Based
Stories

Key
Indicators

Policy,
Planning,
and Mgmt
Indicators

Other Statistics
And Monitoring Data

Development of Common
Knowledge
And Widely Held Beliefs

Development of Well-
Accepted Policies &
Practices

Feedbacks
on Specific
Policies and
Practices

Development of
Empirically Validated
Knowledge

Number of Pieces of Information

Number of People Using
Each Piece of Information

Key Goals for Economic Information System:

- Understand overall performance of economy for macro-scale management
- Understand the performance of individual firms (and be able to compare) to make micro-scale investment decisions

Requirements for Success:

- Standards
- Policing

NOT VOLUNTARY

Principal Federal Economic Indicators

- **Defined / selected**
- **(does not mean others aren't collected or important)**
- **Held to higher standards**
- **Special care and feeding**
- **Based on broad consensus of “what's really important”**

Two new acronyms to learn:

- **CINE – Collaboration on Indicators on the Nation's Environment**
- **SINE – System of Indicators on the Nation's Environment**

Recognizes:

- **Huge amount of good bottom-up work**
- **Need for institutional stability and orientation to integration / coordination mission**
- **Need for top-down, strategic component to system**

Let The Dialog Continue!!!

THANK YOU