

# Offshore Energy Access to Marine Areas: The Changing Ocean Business Macro-Environment

Paul Holthus

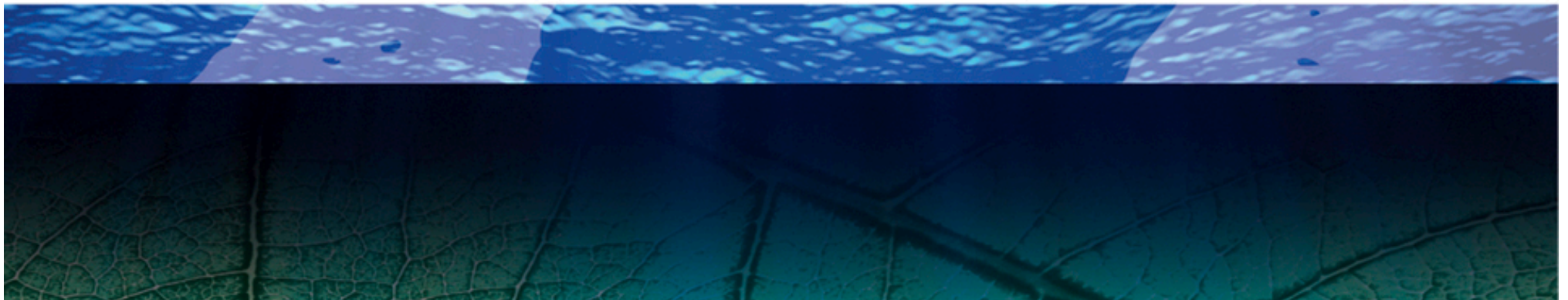
Executive Director

World Ocean Council

[paul.holthus@oceancouncil.org](mailto:paul.holthus@oceancouncil.org)



The international business alliance  
for “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”



# What is the World Ocean Council ?

---

## International, Cross-Sectoral Business Leadership Alliance

- Bringing ocean industries together, e.g. shipping, oil/gas, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, offshore renewables, etc.
- Catalyzing leadership and collaboration in addressing ocean sustainability –  
*“Corporate Ocean Responsibility”*

**Goal** A healthy and productive global ocean and its sustainable use, development and stewardship by a responsible *ocean business community*

# Industry and Ocean Sustainability

---

## **Creating business value for responsible companies**

- Access and social license for responsible ocean use
- Synergies and economies of scale in addressing issues
- Stability and predictability in ocean operations

The World Ocean Council is working with and for responsible ocean companies to:

Identify, Understand, and Address

... the threats to the social license to access ocean areas and operate responsibly in the marine environment

# What Threatens Industry Access?

---

## Converging Marine Environmental Megatrends

Precautionary Approach

+

Ecosystem Based Management

+

Marine Protected Areas

+

Marine Spatial Planning =

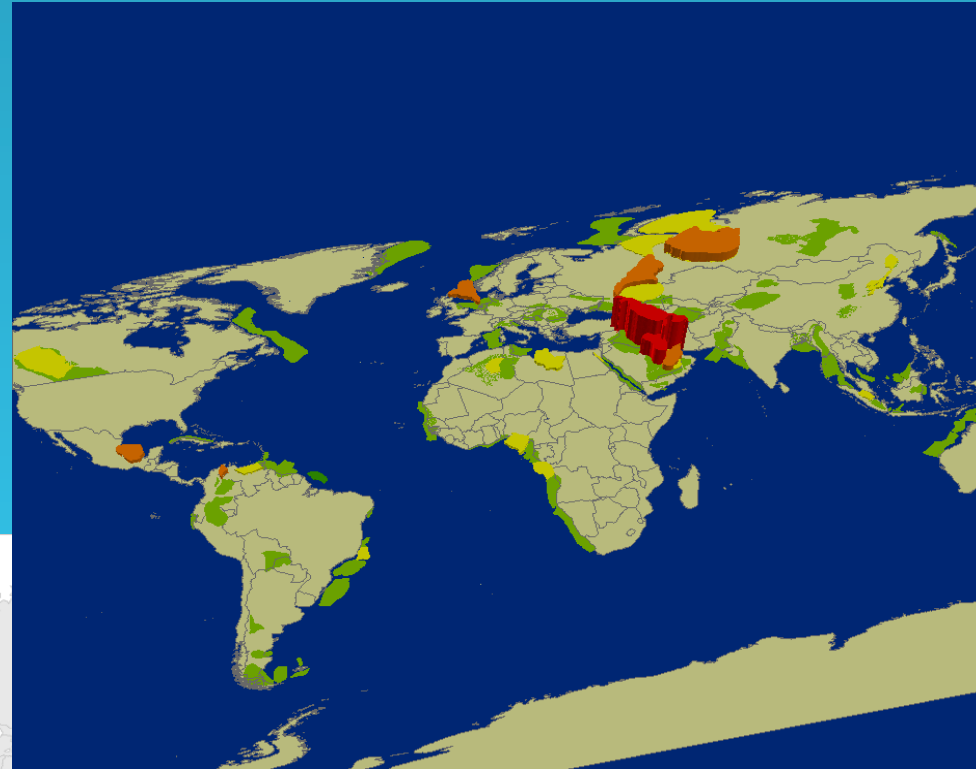
an increasingly complex and challenging  
business environment for offshore oil

and gas

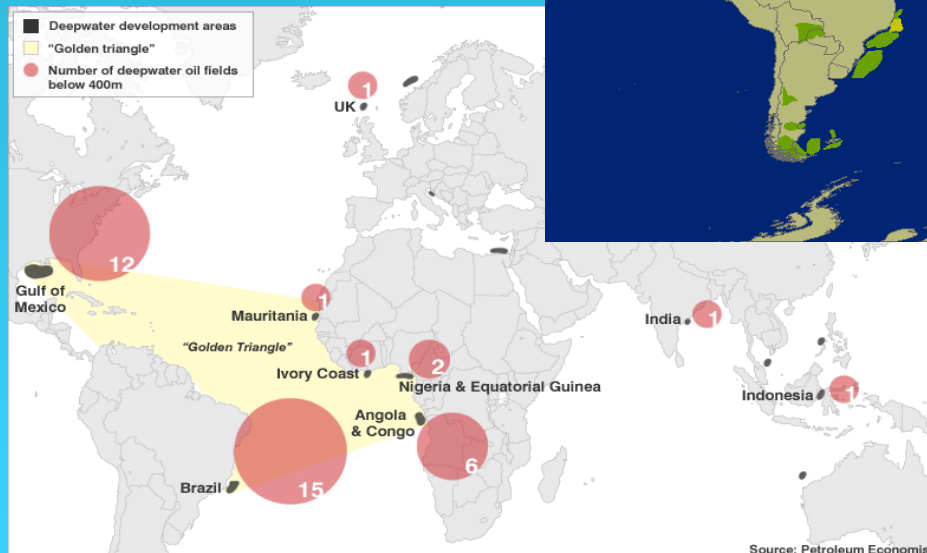
***Smart companies will realize the critical policy, planning  
and operational risks and opportunities of these trends***

# Oil and Gas World Ocean View

Known crude oil reserves



Deepwater oil



# Offshore Oil and Gas

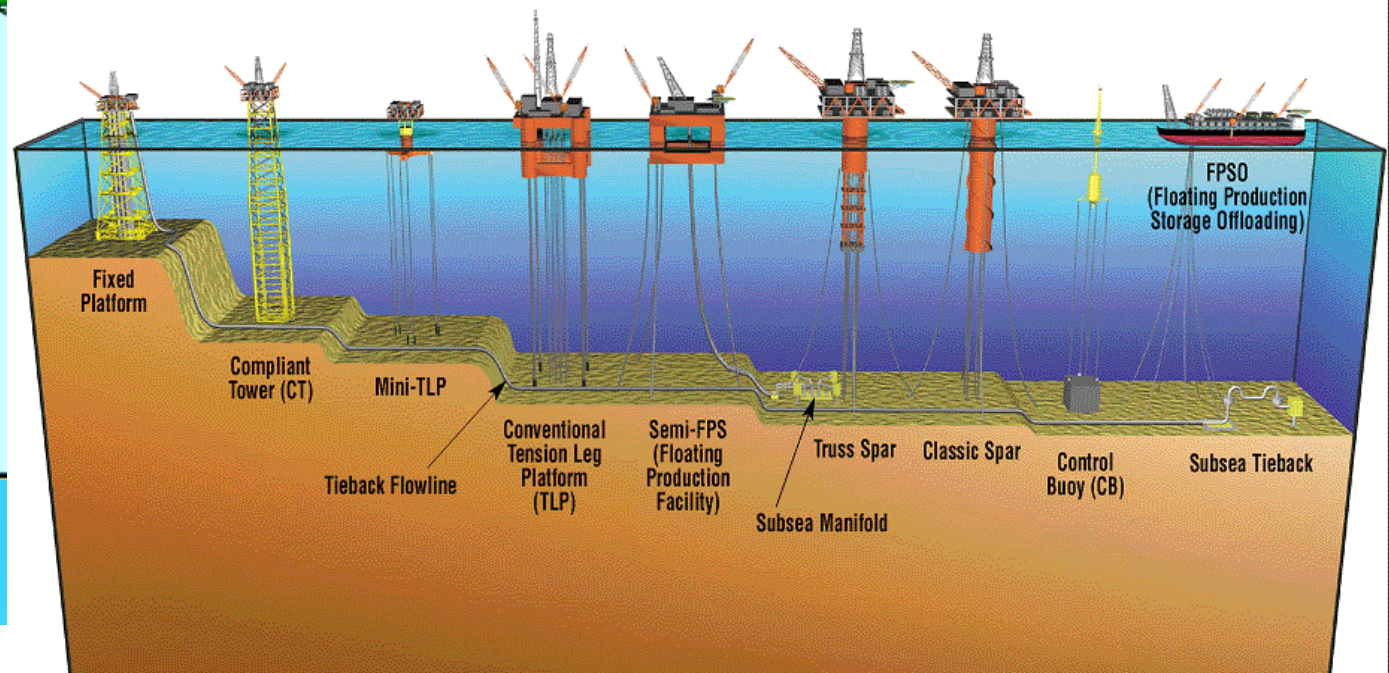
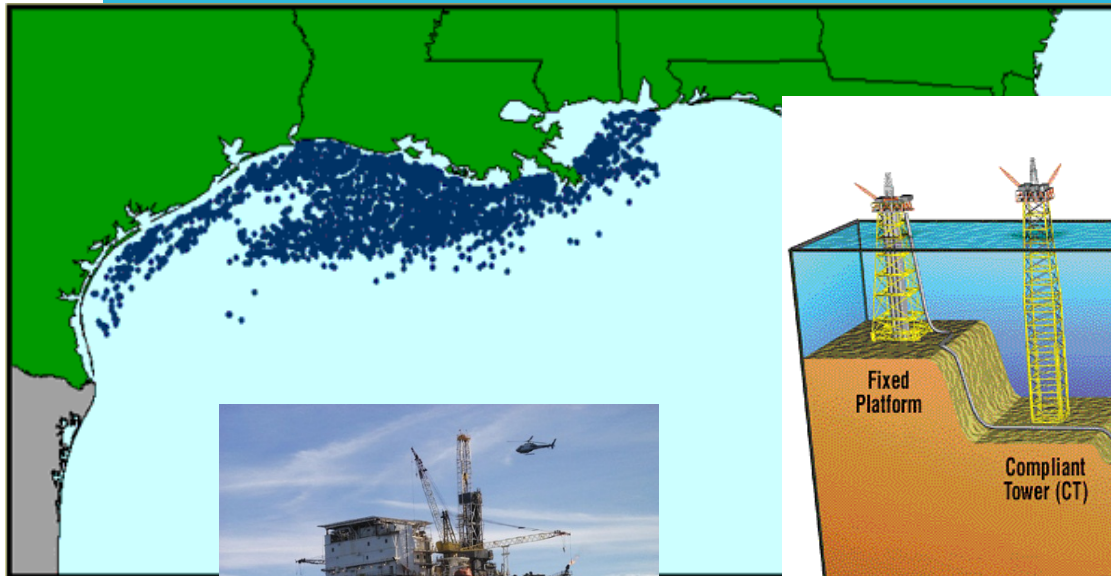
## Number of oil/gas wells and rigs

Wells drilled in Gulf of Mexico: ~ 40,000

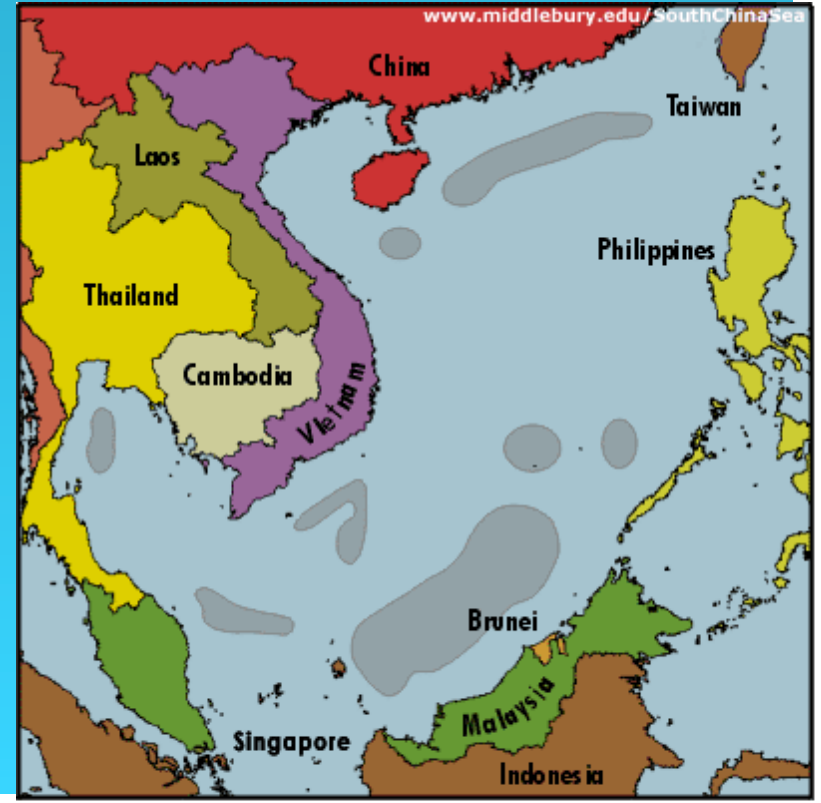
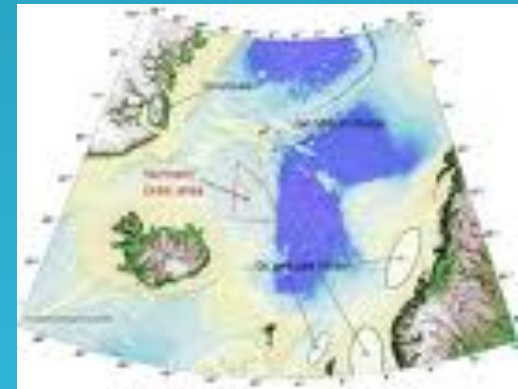
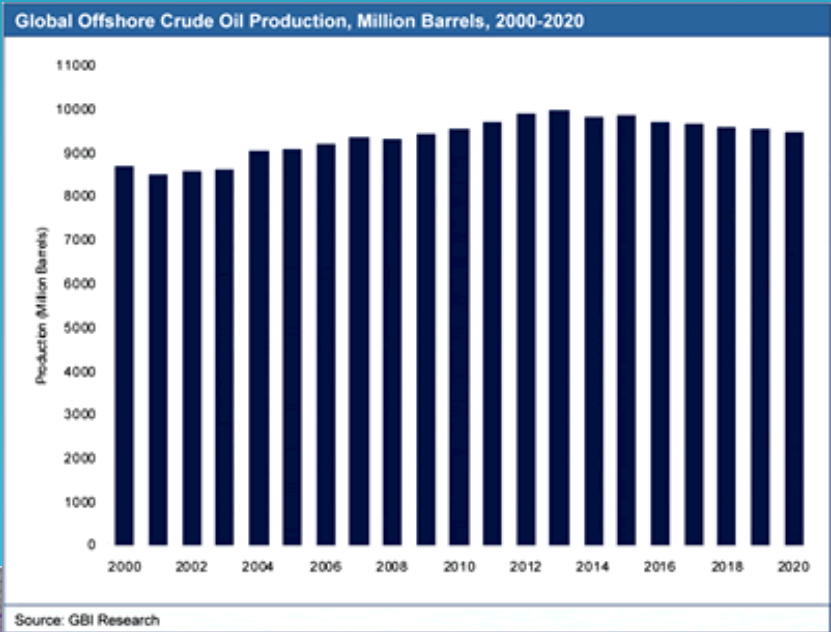
Deepwater wells drilled internationally: ~ 14000

Number of rigs internationally: ~ 8,000

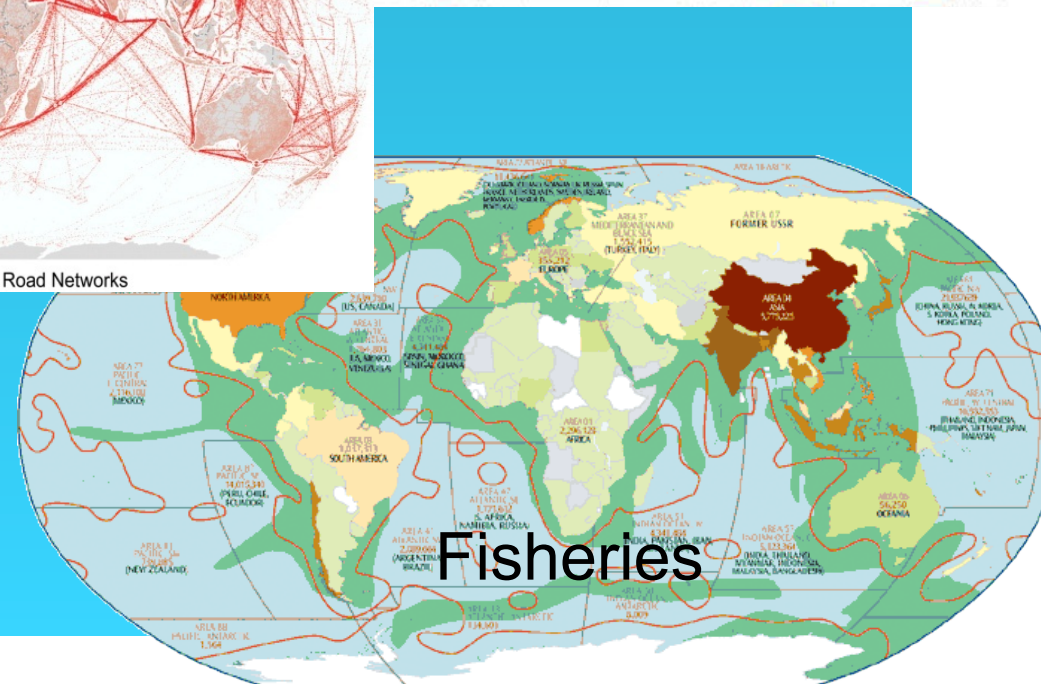
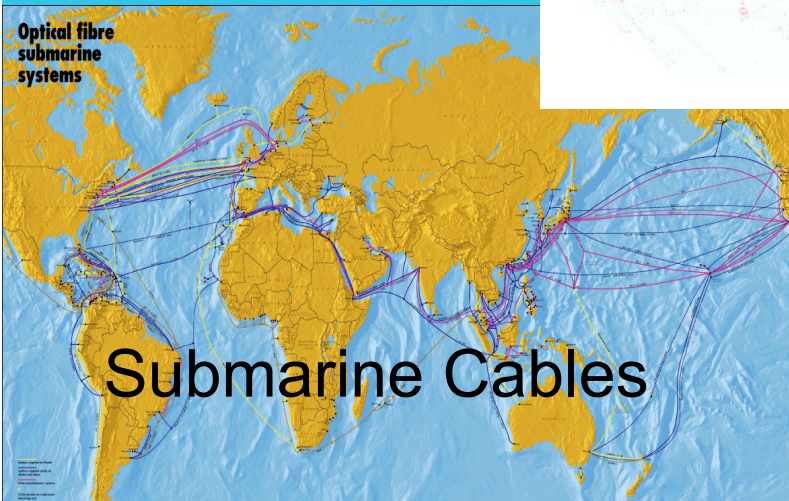
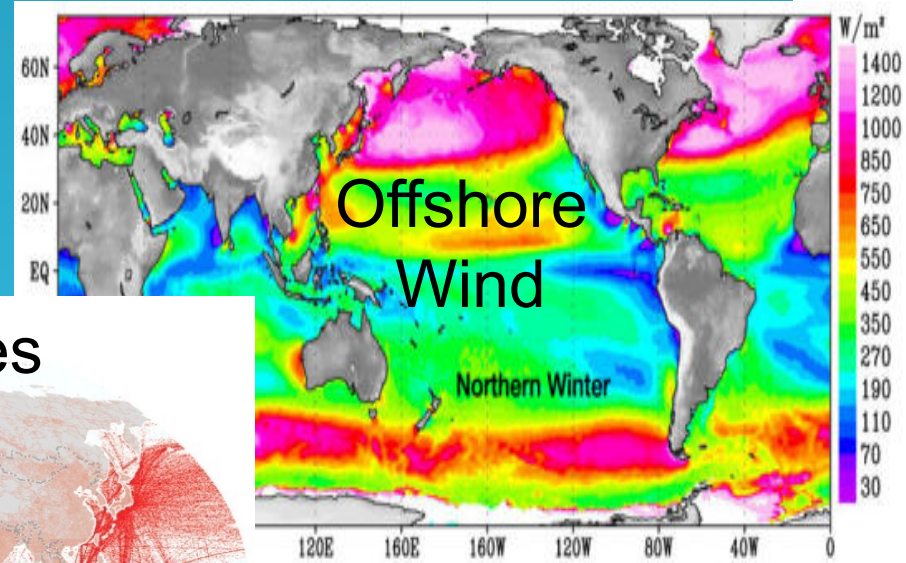
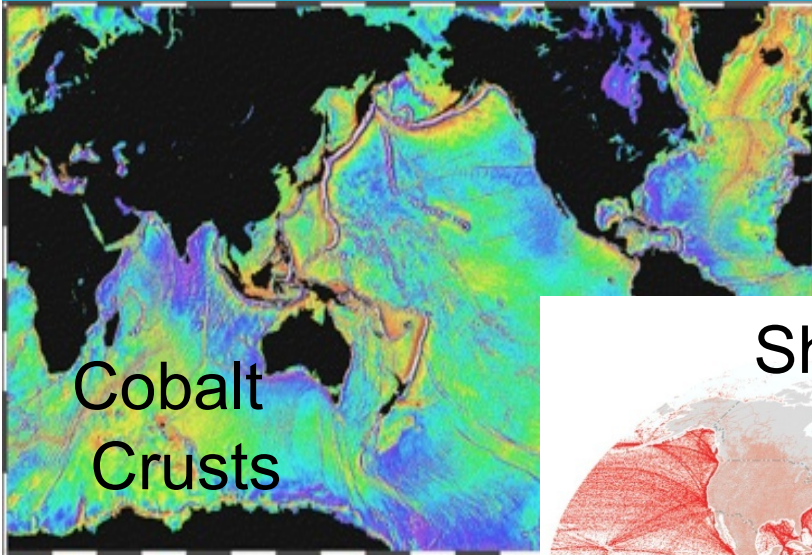
US rigs/platforms: ~ 3,500; including 79 deepwater wells



# Offshore Oil and Gas Trends



# Offshore Oil and Gas Shares the Ocean



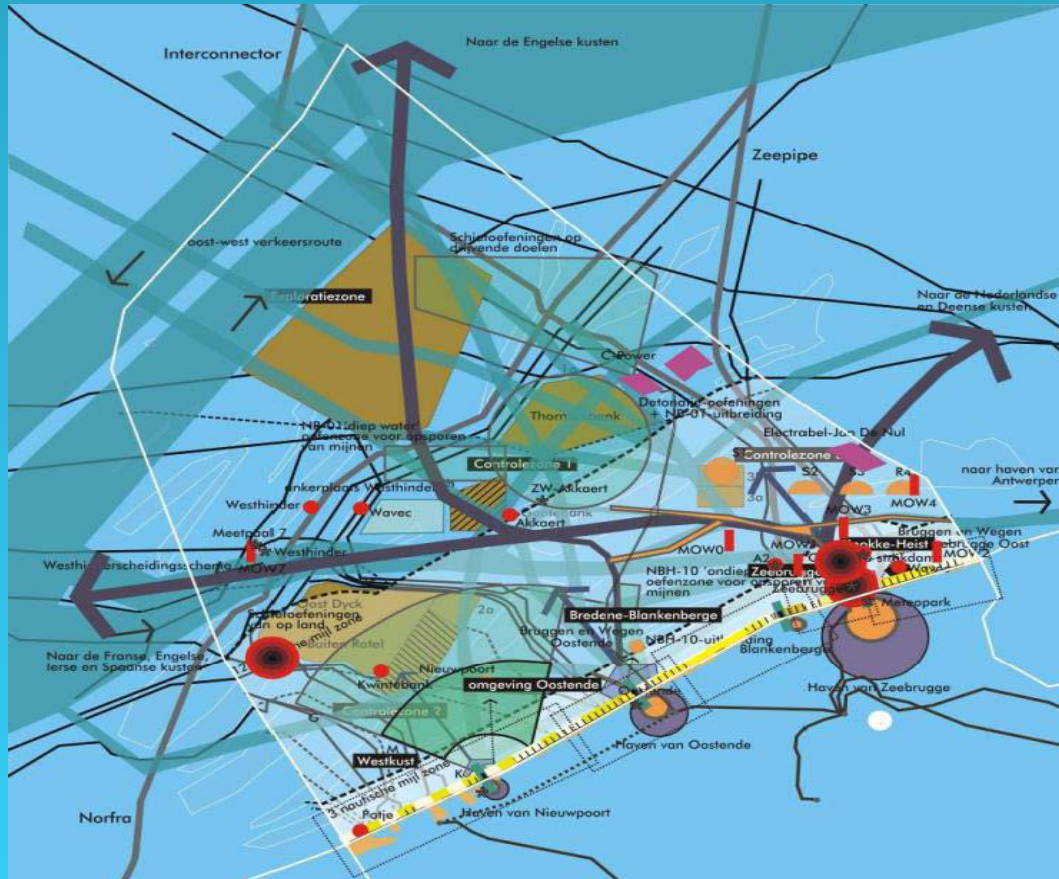


# The Growing Multi-Use Ocean

- Oil and gas
- Shipping
- Fisheries
- Aquaculture
- Ports
- Mining / Dredging
- Submarine cables
- Offshore renewables
- Carbon sequestration
- Etc., etc.



# What Ocean Stakeholders Think



LANDSLIDES: AN UNINSURABLE HAZARD | BUSTING GLOBAL WARMING MYTHS

# EARTH

## Reeling in Ocean Sprawl

**PLUS:**

- Surprising results in shellfish-CO<sub>2</sub> study
- Solar energy of the future: artificial photosynthesis
- Following the stone trail to Bunker Hill
- Redefining humanity
- Aftershock count shocks scientists
- Wind farms learn from fish schools

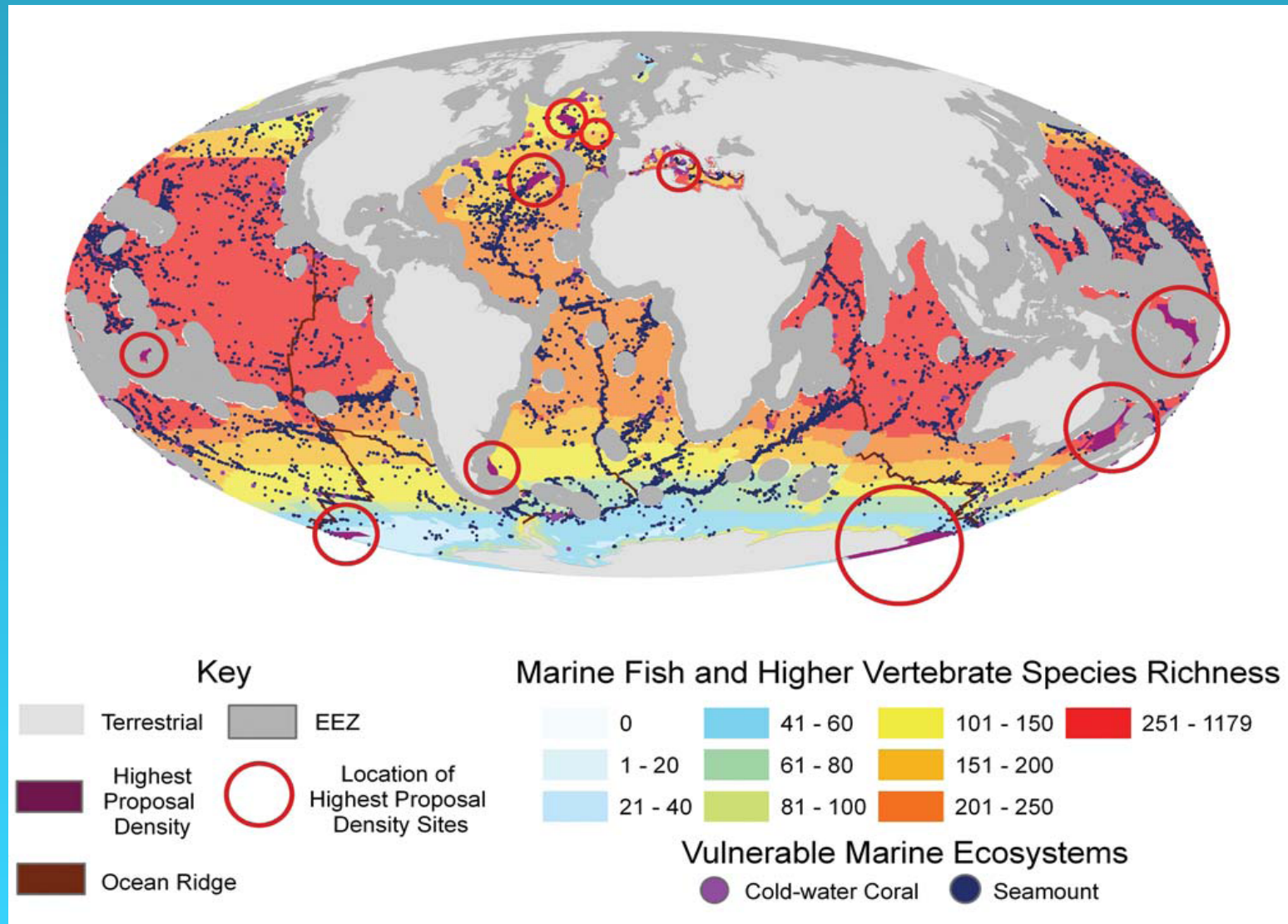
March 2010  
www.earthmagazine.org

DEFORESTATION NOT THE CAUSE OF MAYA DOWNFALL?

AGI  
THE AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

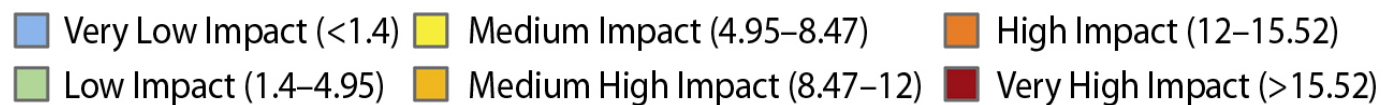
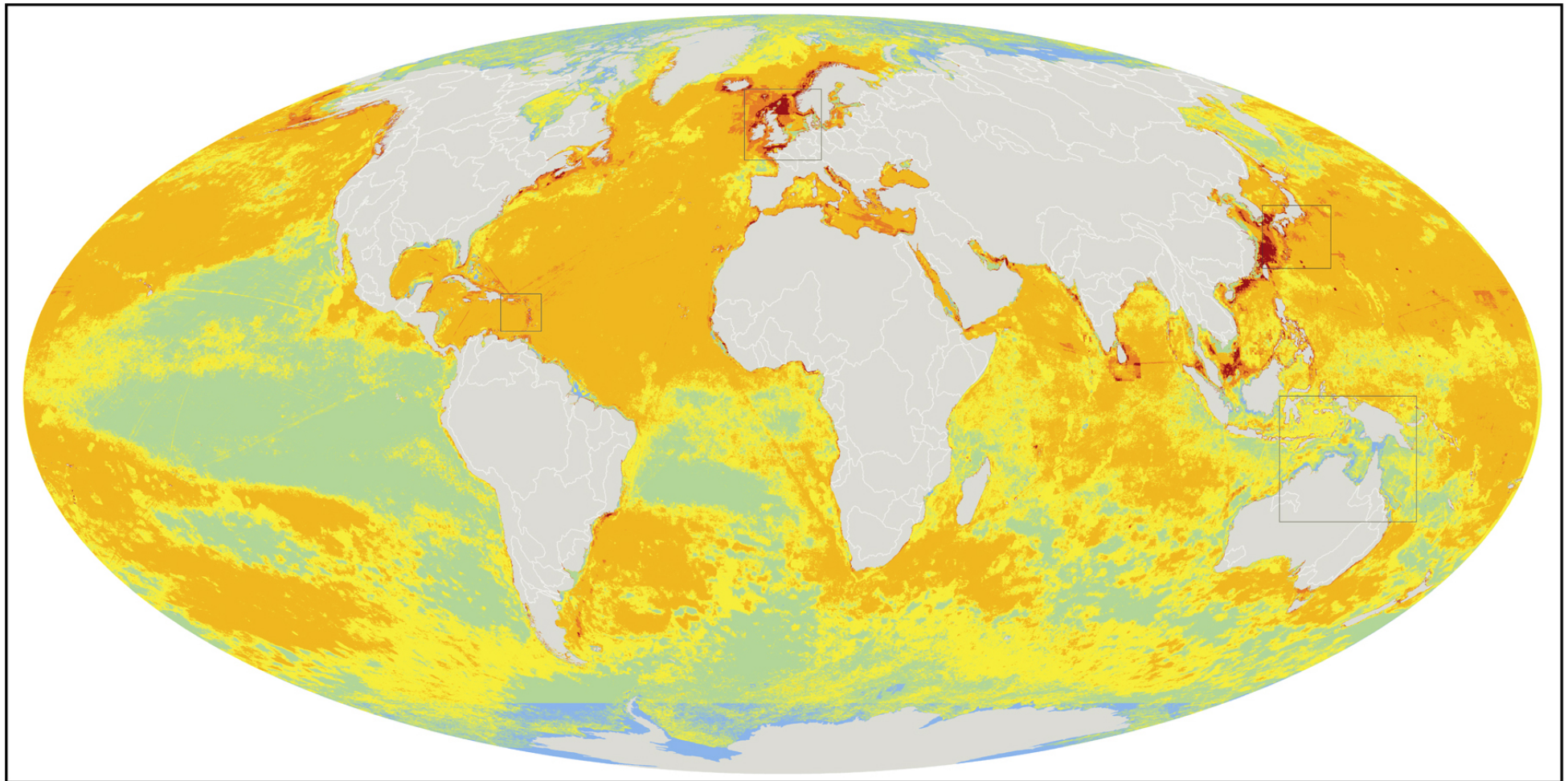
# Environment Community World Ocean View

Marine  
bio-  
diversity



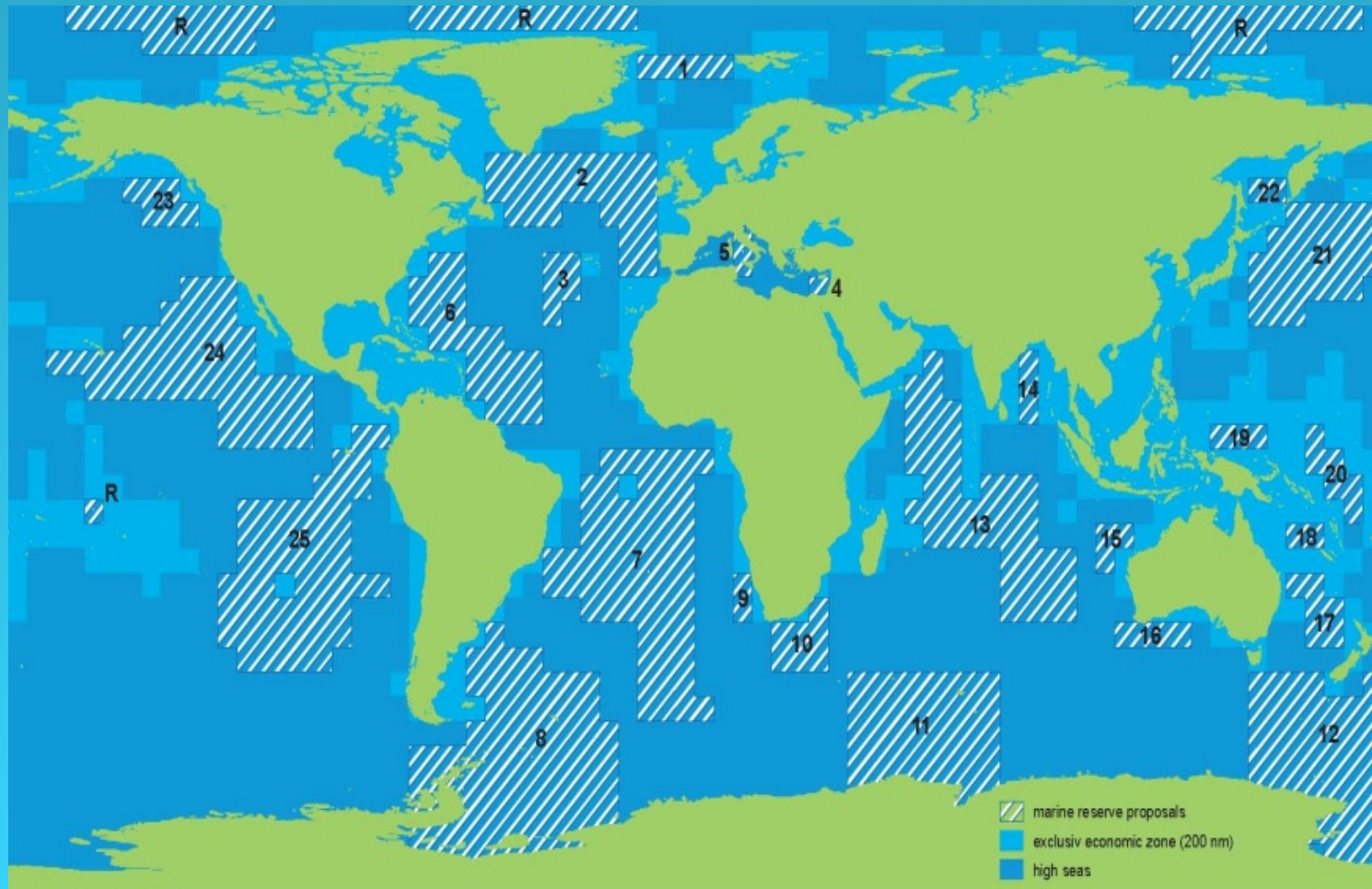
# Environment Community World Ocean View

Cumulative impacts to the marine environment



# Environment Community World Ocean Vision

## Marine protected areas network needs



Roadmap to recovery: a proposal for a global network of marine reserves on the high seas

(1) Greenland Sea  
(2) North Atlantic

(8) Antarctic-Patagonia  
(9) Vema Seamount-Benguela

(15) Northwestern Australia  
(16) South Australia

(22) Sea of Okhotsk  
(23) Gulf of Alaska

# Marine Environmental Management

---

- Precautionary Approach
- Ecosystem Based Management
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

## **Variety of spatial scales**

- Depends on the issue, proponent and/or process
- Critical habitat: e.g. deep sea corals, sea mounts
- Critical processes: e.g. spawning sites, migration routes
- Biodiversity hotspots at global, regional, national scale

# Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

---

- Allows a more strategic, pro-active approach to planning
- Promotes rational use of marine space and resources and sustainable development of maritime regions
- Involves all stakeholders and maps their interests and uses
- Coordinates among sectors/users to achieve agreed upon goals and objectives
- Seeks to balance economic use and conservation
- Enables early identification of potential conflicts before considerable investment or damage has occurred
- Provides greater certainty in acceptable locations for different types of use
- Improves understanding and consideration of the cumulative effects of different activities

# International MSP

---

## Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- Ratified by 193 countries
- Conference of Parties (COP) every 3-4 years
- Conservation and sustainable use of species / ecosystems
- Primary vehicle for marine conservation policy-making for EEZs and High Seas
- COP 7 and 8 developed targets for conservation of at least 10% of each of the world's marine / coastal ecological regions



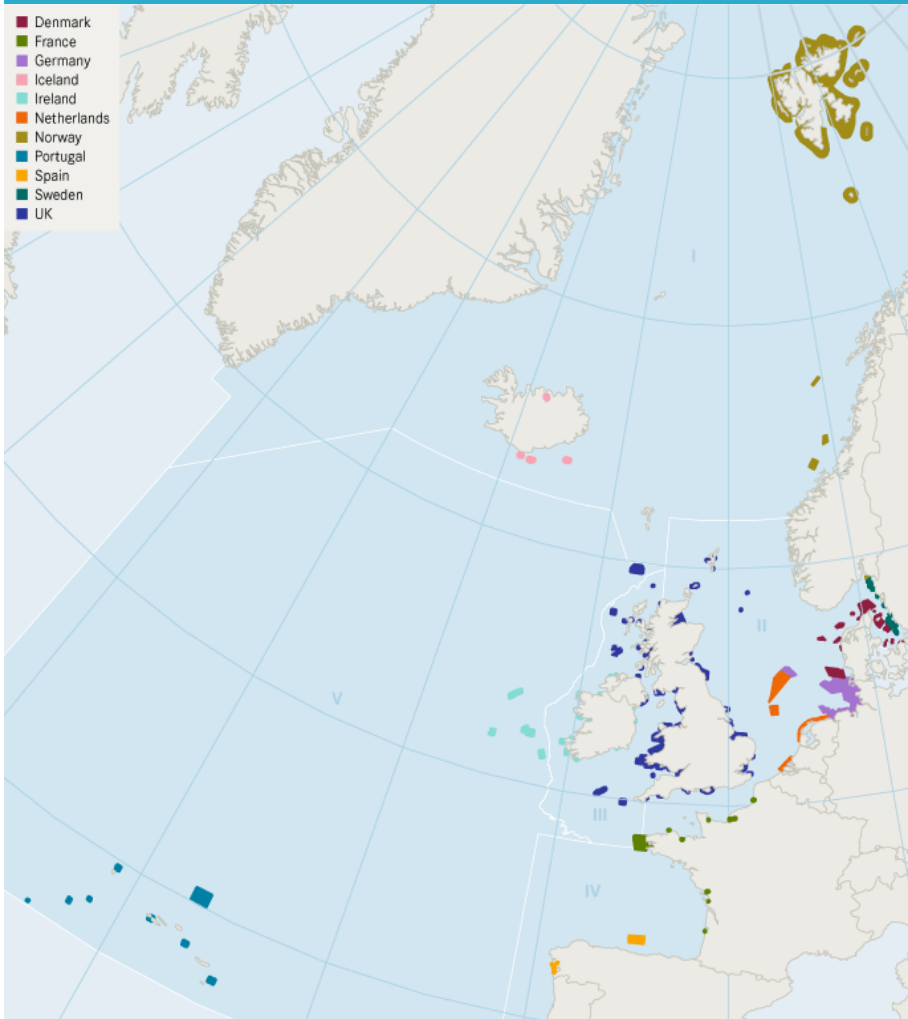
# Ecologically / Biologically Significant Areas

---

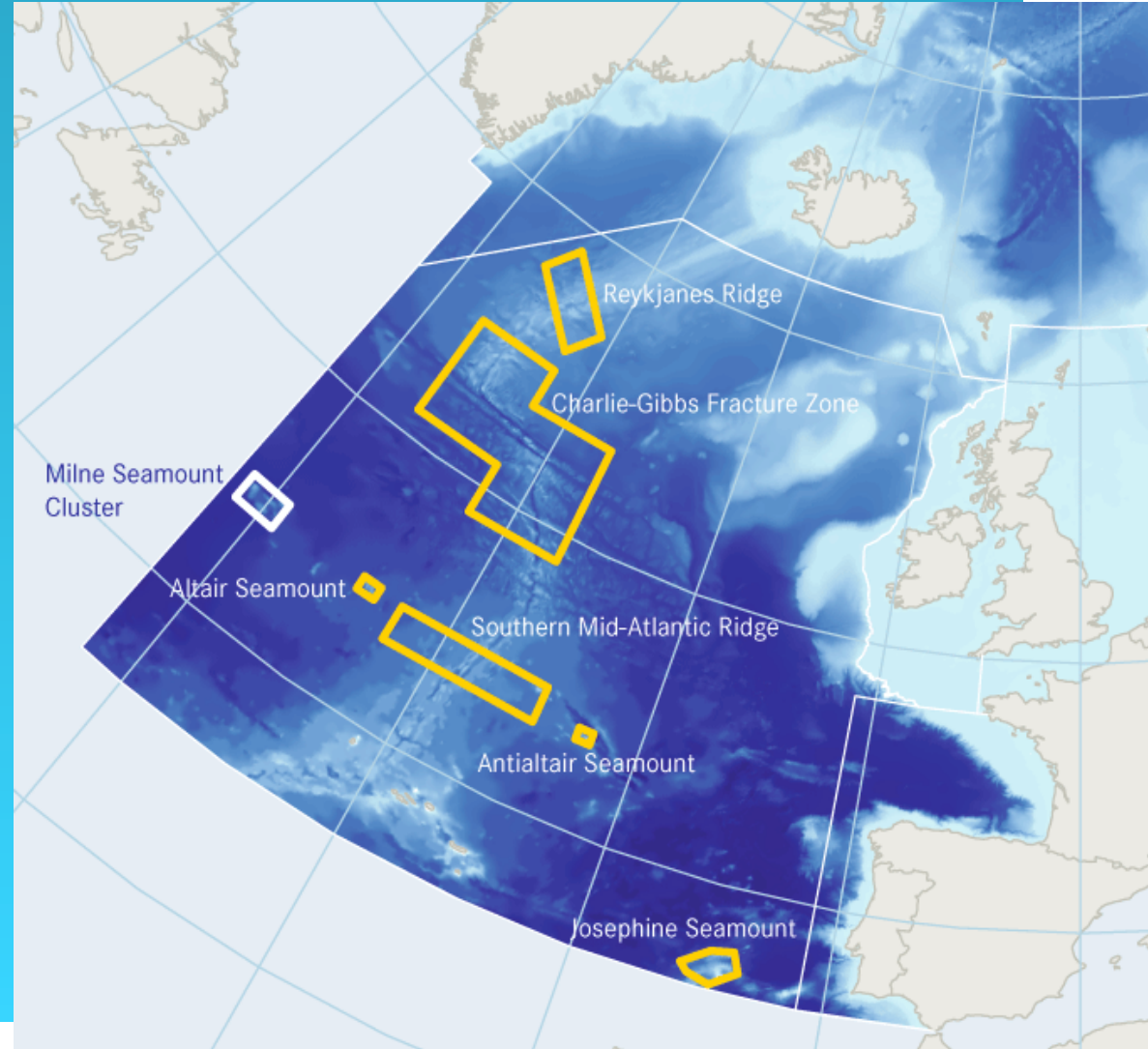
- Expert Workshop on Ecological Criteria and Biogeographic Classification for Marine Areas in Need of Protection (2007) - ***No ocean industry involvement***
- COP 9 (2008) adopted scientific criteria for identifying EBSAs in need of protection and scientific guidance for selecting MPA network - ***No ocean industry involvement***
- Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Guidance on the Use of Biogeographic Classification Systems and Identification of Marine ABNJs in Need of Protection (2009) - ***WOC is only ocean industry presence***
- COP 10 (2010) decision to accelerate identification and protection of EBSAs in high seas - ***WOC is only ocean industry presence***
- Upcoming – CBD regional workshops to facilitate the identifying EBSAs using CBD scientific criteria – ***Industry ?***

# High Seas MPAs

## OSPAR MPAs



## OSPAR high seas MPAs

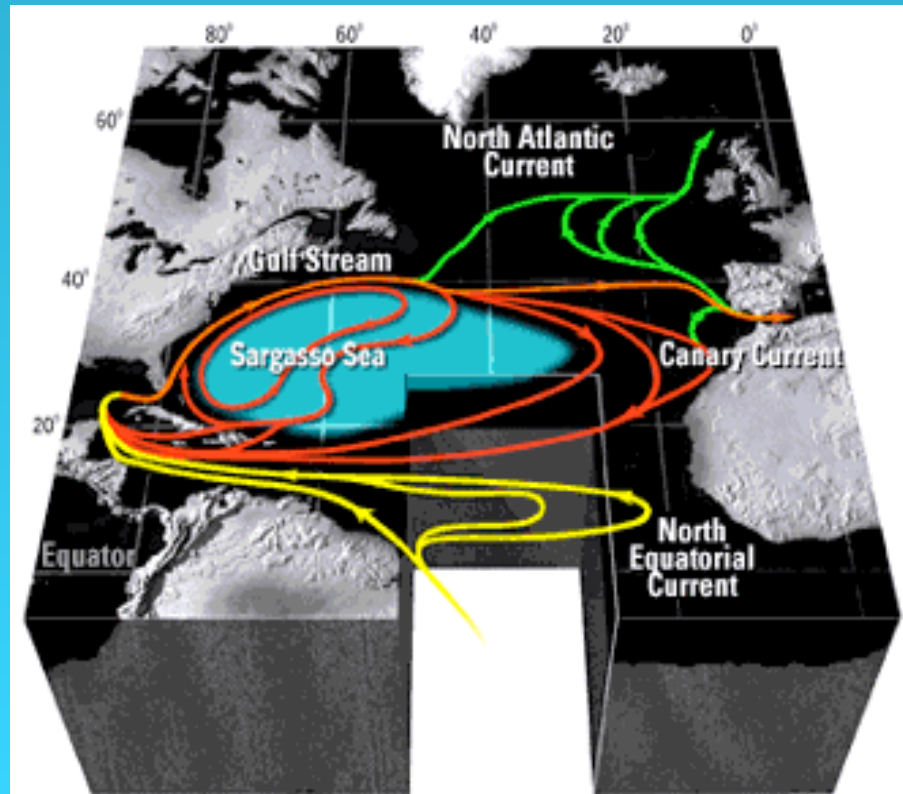


# Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

---

- The high seas ocean governance agenda is moving rapidly
- Major growth in marine spatial management, especially:
  - Very large MPAs
  - High seas MPAs

*Sargasso Sea Initiative*



# Regional MSP

---

## EU Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries:

“Maritime spatial planning is a key tool for a more rational use of sea areas and for the sustainable development of the maritime economy.”

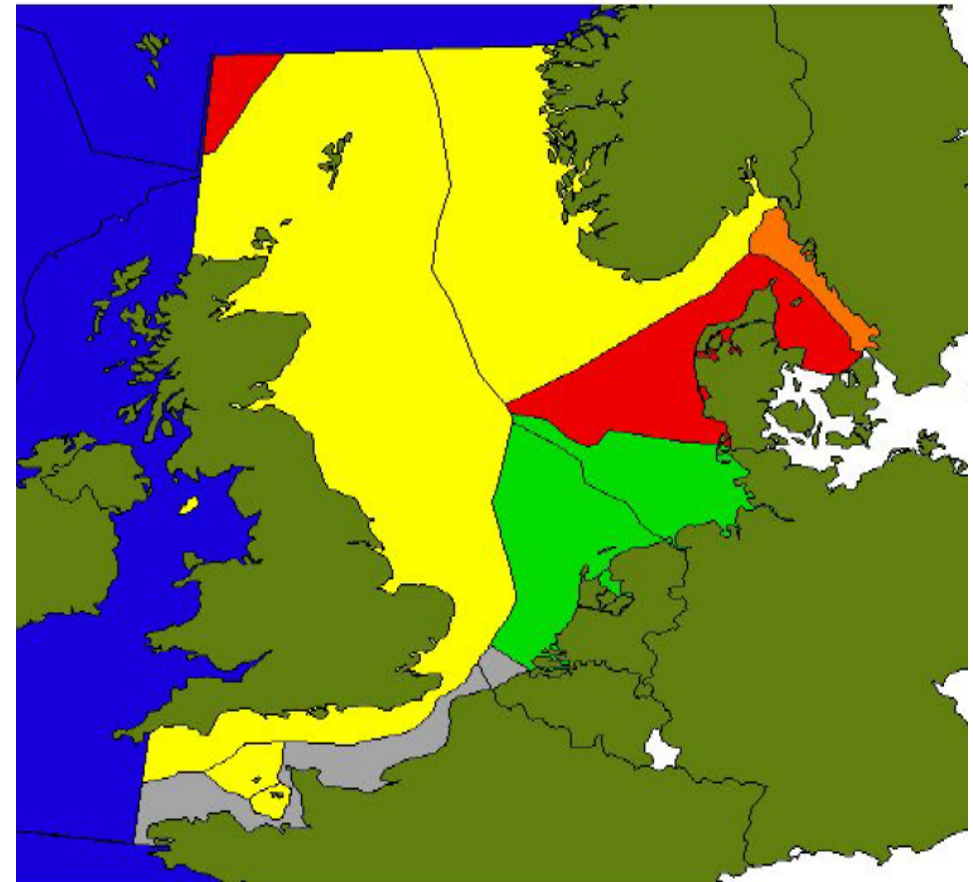
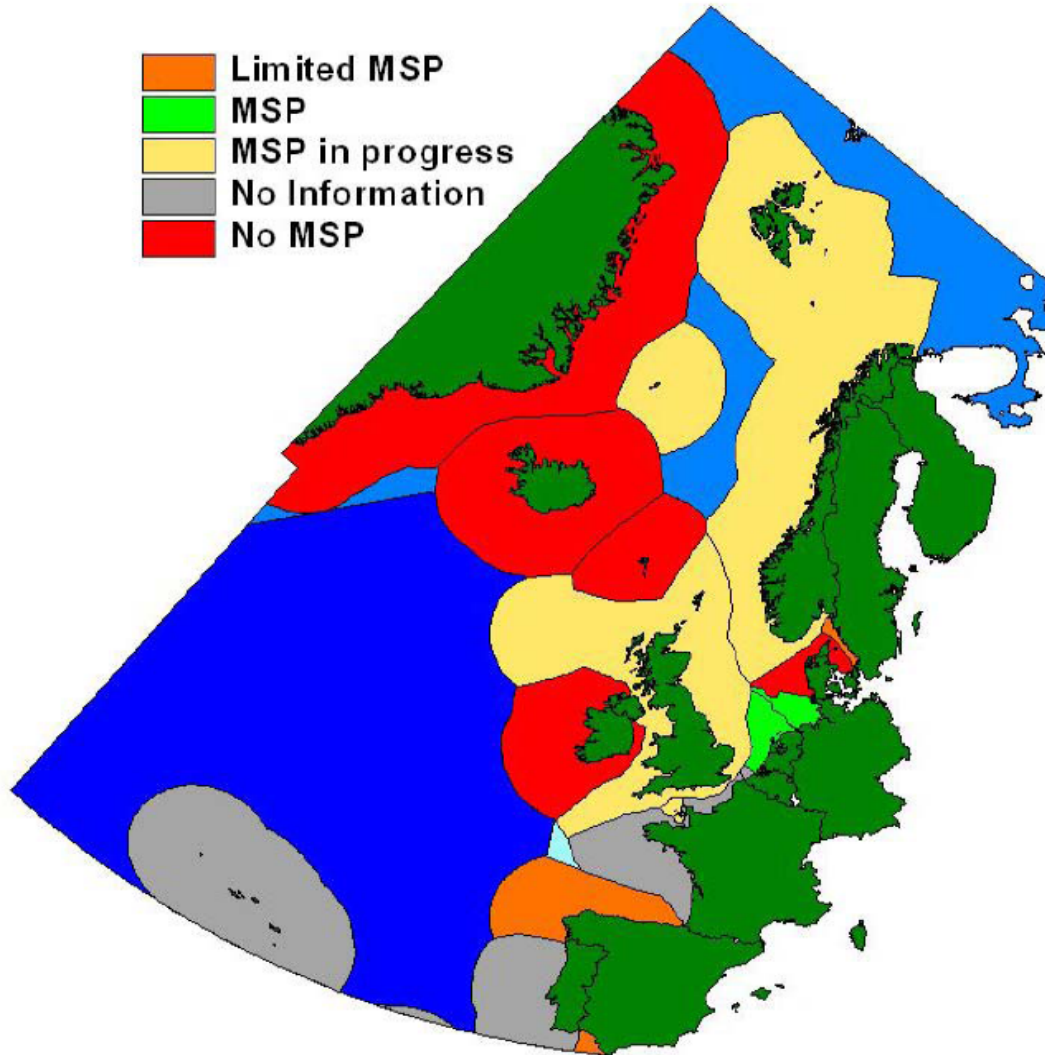
“It is the only way in which we can provide a predictable framework for economic investments in offshore areas and is a precondition for striking a balance between the vested interests of different maritime activities while preserving the marine environment”.

# EU Policy Framework / Context on MSP

---

- Wildlife Directives (e.g. Birds, Habitats Directives)
- Water Framework Directive (2000)
- Common Fisheries Policy (2002)
- The Fifth Ministerial North Sea Conference (2002)
- Recommendations on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) (2002)
- Thematic Strategy for the Marine Environment (2005)
- Green Paper on Maritime Policy for the European oceans and seas (2006)
- Integrated Maritime Policy developments (2008)
- Roadmap on MSP(2008)

# MSP in Europe



OSPAR Contracting Parties  
OSPAR Maritime Area

National MSP Status  
MSP  
MSP in progress  
Limited MSP  
No MSP  
No Information

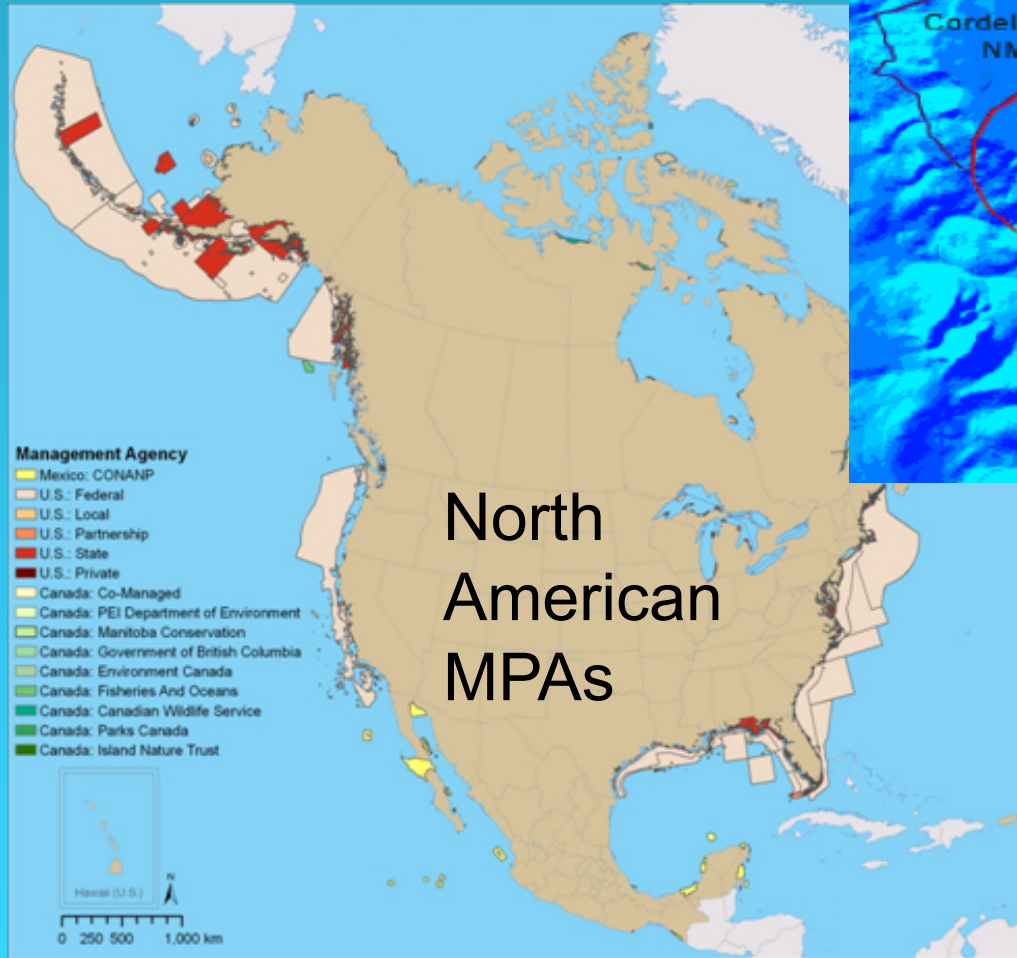
# EU Roadmap on MSP

---

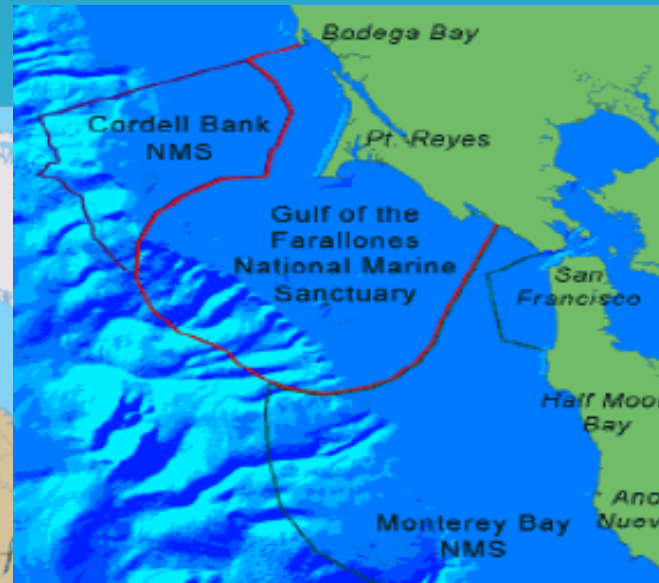
- Identify 10 key principles for MSP
- Facilitate development of MSP in Member States
- Encourage MSP implementation at national and European level
- Stimulate a wide debate on development of a common approach to MSP in Europe
- Organise workshops in 2009 with Member States and stakeholders
- Begin pilot projects in 2009

# National MSP

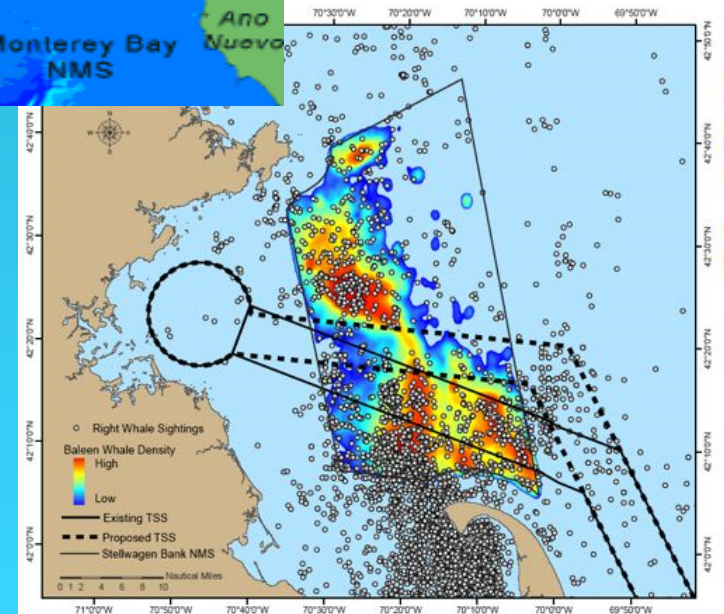
## US Existing MPAs and MSP experience



## West Coast MPAs



Boston shipping lanes



Rotate ship 12° to an a right whale historically

Up to 58% risk of shi

Whale  
Red = high  
Blue = low



# US National Ocean Policy and MSP

---

Executive Order July 2010 adopting U.S. Ocean Policy Task Force Recommendations

- Establishment of a National Ocean Policy Council
- Implementation of coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP)
- Creation of nine regional planning areas/programs

US Government “National Workshop” on CMSP

- Washington D.C., 21-23 June 2011
- Inform/engage government agencies on CMSP
- Facilitate federal, state, tribal, local agencies interaction
- Develop government Strategic Action Plan on CMSP
- Set the stage for regional government workshops

# Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP)

---

- Is a comprehensive, adaptive, integrated, and transparent spatial planning process for analyzing current and anticipated uses of ocean/coastal areas
- Is based on sound science
- Identifies areas most suitable for various types or classes of activities in order to reduce conflicts among uses, reduce environmental impacts, facilitate compatible uses, and preserve critical ecosystem services to meet economic, environmental, security, and social objectives
- Seeks to move sea use planning away from the current sector-by-sector, statute by statute approach

# US National Business Forum on MSP

---

- Washington D.C., 13-14 July 2011
- Create a clear understanding in industry about MSP
- Examine how MSP has worked in the US and elsewhere and review the role of industry
- Define and examine the potential business impacts and benefits of MSP
- Determine how industry can optimize the potential business benefits and minimize the impacts
- Ensure the ocean business community is fully informed of US CMSP process and plans
- Develop a coordinated business community strategy and action plan for engaging in US CMSP
- Ensure that US CMSP takes into account the viability of responsible ocean economic activities

# The Challenge of Ensuring Ocean Access

---

- This is not about the oil and gas industry alone
- It is about marine spatial management / ocean governance that supports reasonable, responsible industry use
- There has not been coordinated ocean business leadership, collaboration and engagement on access
- Responsible ocean business community needs to:
  - Develop leadership and collaboration
  - Catch up with / constructively engage existing processes
  - Shape / drive ocean governance and sustainability
  - Ensure social license for continued access

*...Or risk getting squeezed out  
access to ocean space*



**THE OCEAN**  
GREEN SHIPPING  
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Thank You

**Paul Holthus**

**Executive Director**

**World Ocean Council**

**[paul.holthus@oceancouncil.org](mailto:paul.holthus@oceancouncil.org)**



The International Business Alliance  
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

**[www.oceancouncil.org](http://www.oceancouncil.org)**

