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An Integrated Approach to Ocean Management – An Overview Of Marine Spatial Planning as a Tool for Analysis and Marine Decision Making

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Marine Spatial Planning

An Introduction and Overview

Mark Zacharias

BC Ministry of Environment



How we still manage much of our oceans

Transportation



INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION



Transports
Canada

Fishing



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



NOAA FISHERIES

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Non-renewable energy
Minerals



Conservation and
recreation

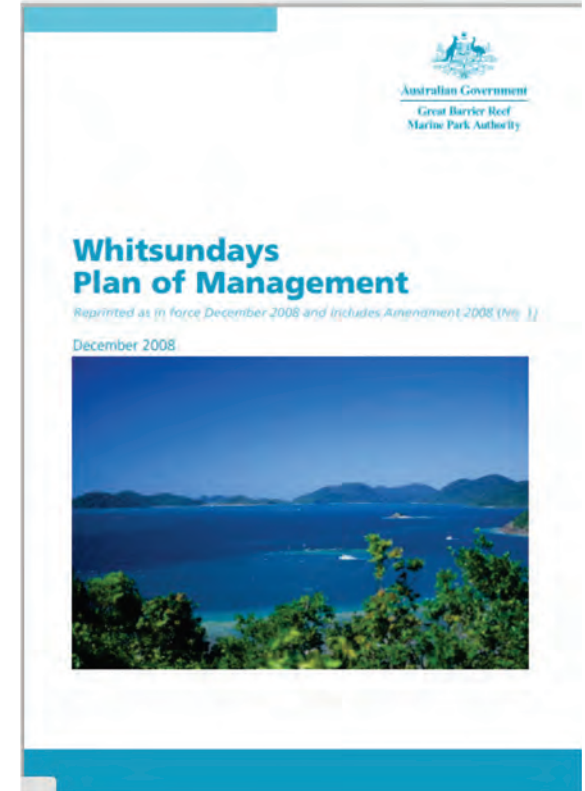
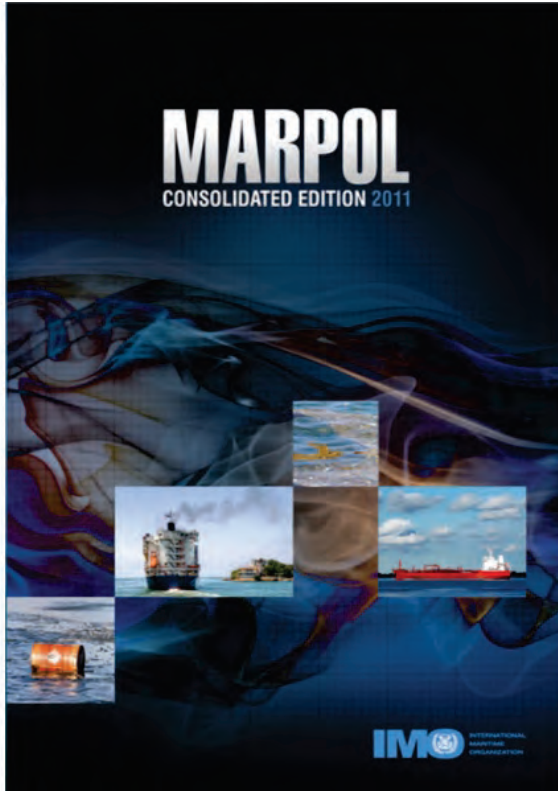


Polar oceans





Traditional ocean management outputs



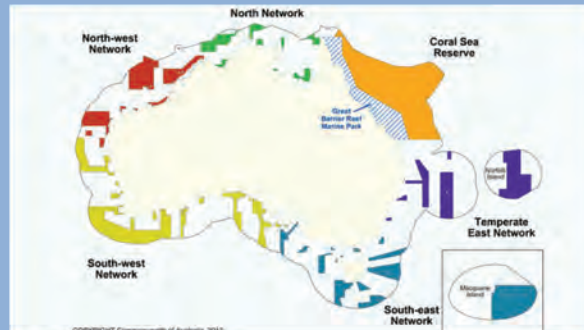
Thinking differently about ocean management

Sector management

Coastal zone management

Marine protected areas

Ecosystem approaches to management



Cumulative effects

Marine spatial planning

Private ocean rights

1970s

1990s

Today

MSP: What is it?

- A stakeholder-based process to optimize the economic and social uses of oceans to enable them to continue to provide ecosystem goods and services
- A framework for information gathering and decision-making



What's unique about MSP?

- Information inputs and decision outputs spatially mapped in three-dimensions + time
- Maintaining ecosystem goods and services is made explicit
- Framework for all aspects of marine decision-making





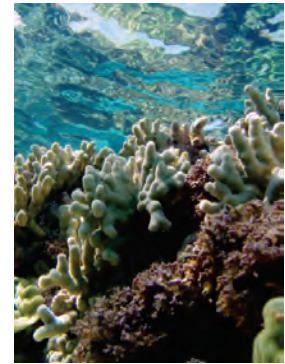
Goals of MSP

- Support sustainable, safe, secure, efficient and productive uses of the ocean and ocean users
- Protect, maintain and restore coastal and ocean resources and ecosystem services.
- Provide for and maintain public access to the ocean
- Promote compatibility among users and reduce user conflicts
- Improve the consistency, transparency, efficiency and durability of decision-making and regulatory processes
- Increase certainty and predictability in coastal and ocean planning
- Enhance interagency, intergovernmental and international communication and collaboration

Source: Adapted from the National Ocean Council (2013)

Examples of MSP outputs

- Important biological / ecological areas
- Identification / location of conflicts
- Marine protected areas
- Identification of compatible uses
- Strategies to reduce conflict
- Strategies to improve public health and worker safety



Examples of MSP outcomes

- Improved public health and safety
- More efficient and transparent authorizations
- Engaged stakeholders and citizens
- Changes in behavior
- Wealth creation / redistribution



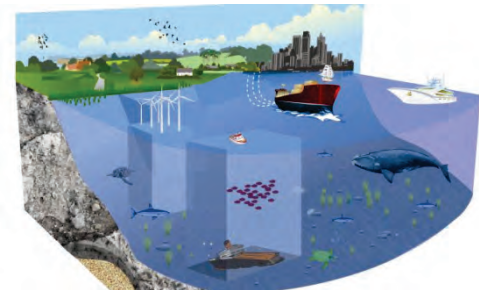
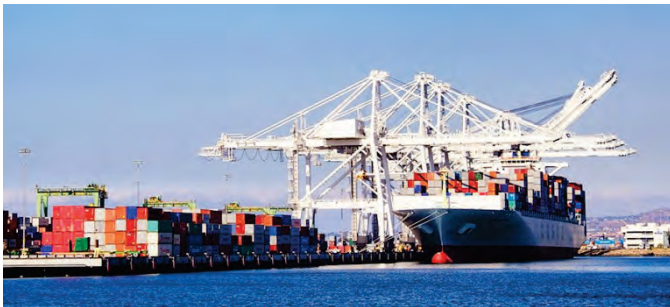


Where MSP is happening

Country	Agency	Project
Australia	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	GBRMPA zoning
	Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	South-east Regional Marine Plan
		National Marine Bioregionalisation of Australia
Canada	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Plan
China	State Oceanic Administration	Territorial Sea zoning
Denmark, Germany & The Netherlands	Wadden Sea Secretariat	Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation Area
Germany	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency	Spatial Plan for the North Sea
		Spatial Plan for the Baltic Sea
Norway	Ministry of the Environment	Integrated Management Plan of the Barents Sea
The Netherlands	Ministry of Transport, Public Works & Water Management—North Sea Directorate	Integrated Management Plan for the North Sea 2015 / National Waterplan

Challenges to implementing MSP

- Fear of changes to the status quo by user groups
- A lack of objective, science-based evidence that MSP can successfully harness to reduce user conflicts and maintain improve ocean health
- Quality and quantity of spatial data is often poor
- Complex yet unknown interactions may occur even using the best available information



Thank-you

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