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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

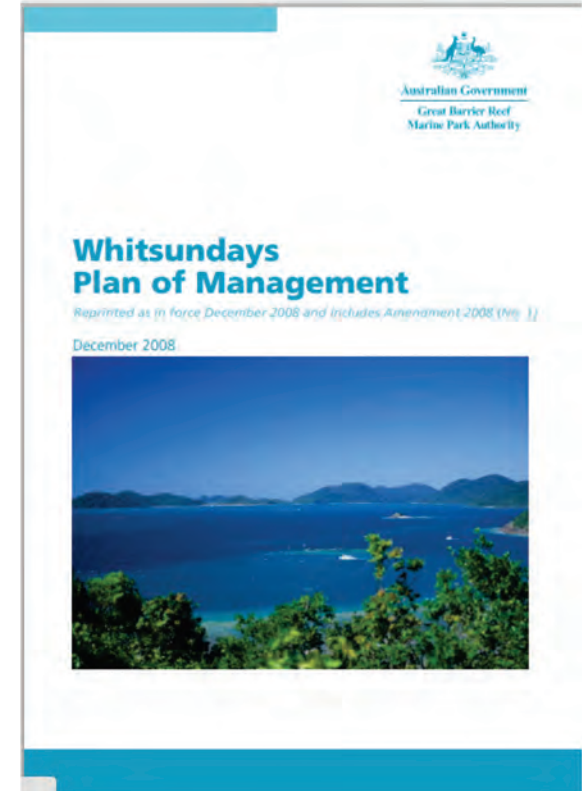
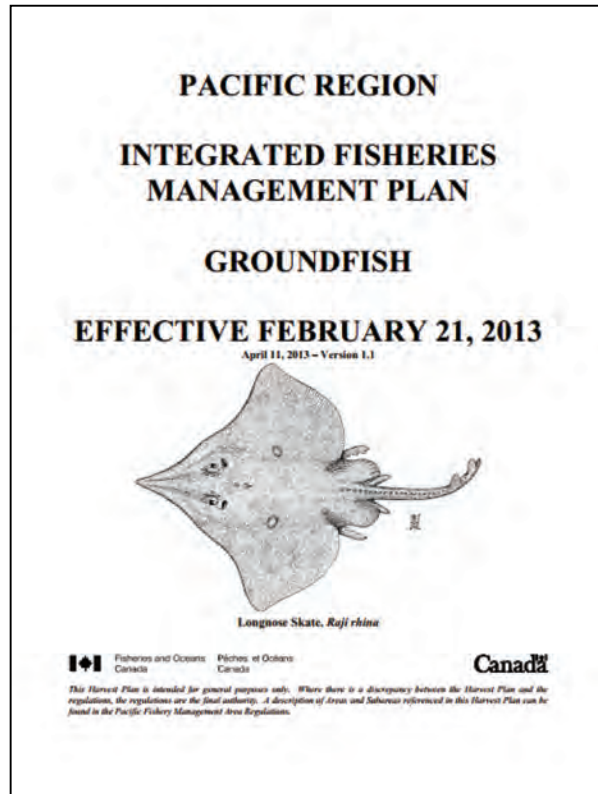
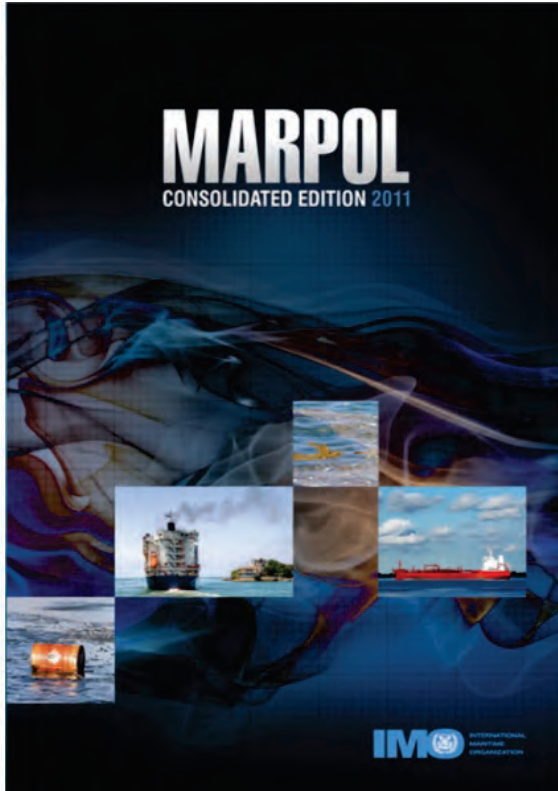


Polar oceans





# Traditional ocean management outputs



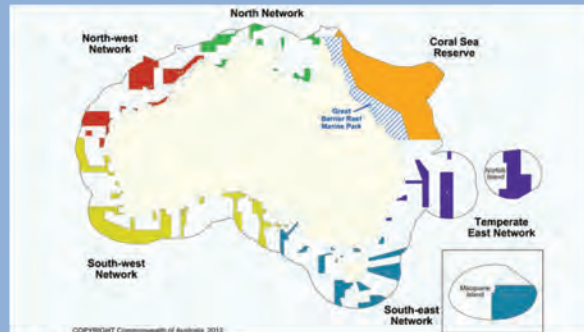
# Thinking differently about ocean management

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

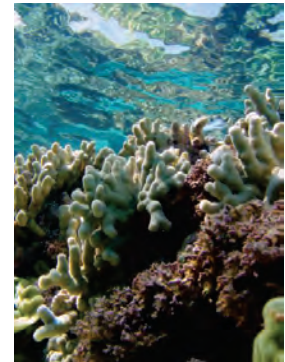
- Support sustainable, safe, secure, efficient and productive uses of the ocean and ocean users
- Protect, maintain and restore coastal and ocean resources and ecosystem services.
- Provide for and maintain public access to the ocean
- Promote compatibility among users and reduce user conflicts
- Improve 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



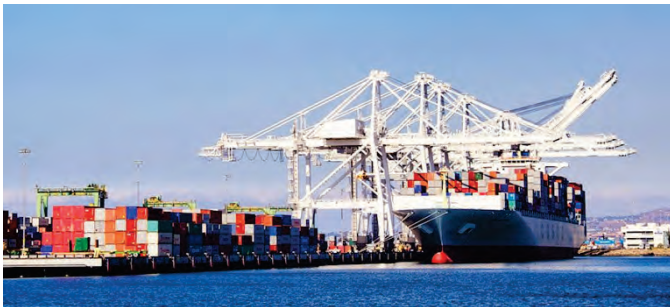


# Where MSP is happening

Country	Agency	Project
<b>Australia</b>	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
<b>Canada</b>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Plan
<b>China</b>	State Oceanic Administration	Territorial Sea zoning
<b>Denmark, Germany &amp; The Netherlands</b>	Wadden Sea Secretariat	Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation Area
<b>Germany</b>	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency	Spatial Plan for the North Sea
		Spatial Plan for the Baltic Sea
<b>Norway</b>	Ministry of the Environment	Integrated Management Plan of the Barents Sea
<b>The Netherlands</b>	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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