### Rethinking Ocean Governance as if Ecosystems Mattered

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> Hotel in Moorea Courtesy of Heike Schroeder

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The transparent ocean

Satellite tags, ROVs, underwater cameras

• Deepsea vent exploration for minerals and pharmaceuticals



Source: Nautalus Minerals



Source: www.tunaresearch.org

## Outline

- Who owns the oceans?
- What is the role of government?
- Diagnoses of the problem
- Place-based approaches to Ecosystem-Based Management

– MSP and Ocean Zoning

 How do we transition to ecosystem based, sea use management?

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#### Who owns the oceans?

Floating hotel (*'permanently moored'*)





#### All photos: GBRMPA



Floating day-use tourism pontoons (*'permanently moored'*)



# Technology creates opportunity and pressure for privatization.



Photo courtesy of Nautilus Minerals

## Property rights

- Private property bundle of rights belongs to identifiable owner (legal person)
- Public property bundle of rights belongs to the government or state
- Common property bundle of rights belongs to a group



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#### Public trust or trusteeship

1. Common property resources are held in trust for the benefit of the community (current and future).

2. They cannot be permanently converted to private property.

3. The government protects the productive capacity of the trust resources.

4. Private uses are permitted but must be consistent with public trust purposes.

5. Purposes change to reflect societies' changing knowledge, perception, and values.

"Quite possibly, by 2010 a map of the United States EEZ will look more like the plat of a subdivision than a map of ocean space." James E. Bailey, III, 1985



#### **Rights and Rules** are social constructs that reflect societies' changing concepts



A future scenario from the Belgian Part of North Sea planning project: Wind farms, fisheries, and sand & gravel extraction in exclusive concession zones

## **Key distinctions**

- Imperium exercise of authority

   Under US Constitution, the federal government exercises rights under the commerce clause
- Dominium property rights

   Under the US Constitution, the federal government exercises rights under the property clause

## Federal/State Battle over OCS

#### 1947 Supreme Court decisions:

- United States v. California
- United States v. Louisiana





Justice Black writing for the majority in United States v. California (1947)

"One may choose to say...that the United States has 'national dominion' over navigable streams. But the power to regulate commerce over these streams, and its continued exercise, do not change the *imperium* of the United States into *dominium* over the land below the waters." "New Discourses on Ocean Rights: Property Rights, the Public Trust and Ocean Governance"

Forthcoming in JELL Journal of Environmental Law & Litigation, spring 2007 Available in preprint at

http://law.bepress.com/expresso/eps/1537

## **Key Points**

1. There is no need to privatize common property.

2. Governments can use regulatory authority to provide security for activities requiring substantial long-term investment.

3. The public trust doctrine is flexible enough to incorporate protection of the public interest in ecosystem services.

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#### POLICYFORUM

#### SUSTAINABILITY

#### Resolving Mismatches in U.S. Ocean Governance

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That the oceans are in serious trouble is no longer news. Fisheries are declining, formerly abundant species are now rare, food webs are altered, and coastal ecosystems are polluted and degraded. Invasive species and diseases are proliferating and the oceans are warming (1). Because these changes are largely due to failures of governance, reversing them will require new, more effective governance systems.

Historically, ocean management has focused on individual sectors. In the United States, at least 20 federal agencies implement over 140 federal ocean-related statutes. This is like a scenario in which a number of specialist physicians, who are not communicating well, treat a patient with multiple medical problems. The combined treatment can exacerbate rather than solve problems. Separate regimes for fisheries, aquaculture, marine mammal Problems in ocean resource management derive from governance, not science. Ocean zoning would replace mismatched and fragmented approaches with integrated regulatory domains.



#### **Diagnosis of the Problem**

- <u>Fragmentation</u> of management authority
- <u>Spatial mismatches</u> between scale of governance and ecological system.
- <u>Temporal mismatches</u> between governance and ecological processes.

Marine spatial planning and ocean zoning

will be useful tools for

allocating ocean space and resolving conflicts.





## Next Steps for California Ocean Management





California and the World Ocean Conference September 20, 2006

**NCEAS Working Group** 

## **More Important** Ecosystem-based management requires us to deal with an unruly

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#### **Marine Activities**

- Commercial and recreational fisheries
- Commerce and transportation
- Sand and gravel mining
- Dredged material management
- Cable/Pipeline/Structure Siting
- Energy Infrastructure
- Tourism and Recreation
- Aquaculture
- Military
- Research and Education









Proposed Projects •Wind Power •LNG •Tide farm •Aquaculture •Mining •Desalination





# Zoning spectrum for multiple use

ACTIVITIES GUIDE (see Zoning Plan for details)	General Use Zone Zone Helding Protection Zone Marine Present Zone Zone							
Aquaculture	Permit	Permit	Permit 1	×	×	×	×	
Baitneiting	•	•	•	~	~	~	$\sim$	
Boating, Diving, photography	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	~	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	~	✓ 2	<ul> <li>Image: A second s</li></ul>	×	
Crabbing		Ŧ	+ 2	×	×	×	×	
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	Permit	Permit	Permit <sup>1</sup>	×	×	×	×	
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	Permit	Permit	×	×	×	×	×	
Limited collecting	✓ 4	✓ 4	✓ 4	×	×	$\times$	×	
Limited impact research	~	~	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	✓ 5	~	✓ <sup>5</sup>	Permit	
Limited spearlishing (shorker only)	*	*	<b>*</b> :	~	~	~	~	
Line fishing	✓ 6	✓ 6	✓ 7	×	×	$\times$	×	
ivening (other than part netting)	•	*	~	×	~	~	$\sim$	
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	
Shipping (other than in a designated shipping area)	~	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	×	
Tourism program	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	×	
Traditional use of marine resources		÷ 0	<b>√</b> 0	- ° °	- P	18	× 8	
Trawling	~	×	×	×	×	×	×	
Trolling	<b>v</b> 0	✓ C	🗸 û	V 0,0	~	×	$\sim$	

 A Simple Zoning System
 No-go zones (e.g., seabird nesting colonies) so sensitive that humans (except permitted researchers) are prohibited (very limited)

- Marine reserves that prohibit all extractive and other harmful uses
- Buffer zones that surround or adjoin no-go and marine reserve zones and allow extractive uses that do not degrade habitats
- General use zones that allow a wide range of activities (probably a plurality of the area)

#### **Examples of Marine Spatial Planning**

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	Australia
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary	United States
Eastern Scotian Shelf	Canada
Master Plan for Belgian Part of the North Sea	Belgium
Integrated Management Plan for North Sea	The Netherlands
EEZ and Territorial Sea Planning	Germany
Irish Sea Pilot Project	United Kingdom
Territorial Sea Zoning	China

## Acronyms

 EB-SUM = Ecosystem-Based, Sea Use Management
 MSP = Marine Spatial Planning
 OZ = Ocean Zoning

Hierarchy

Ecosystem-based, Sea Use Management

Marine Spatial Planning

Ocean Zoning Plan

Use Permits



Crowder et al. 2006. Science. August 4, 2006.

#### MSP IMPLEMENTATION - BELGIUM -



- January 1999 Law on Protection of Marine Environment
- Masterplan for the Belgian North Sea
- ⇒ Phase 1 (2004)
  - Zones for Sand & Gravel exploitation
  - Zones for Wind Energy exploitation
- ⇒ Phase 2 (2005-2006)- Marine Protected Areas



Source: Maes, F. et al.

#### PHASE 1: SAND AND GRAVEL



EXTRACTION

- Control Zone 1 ⇒ Procreation Zone (fish)
- Control Zone 2 ⇒ Rotation system
- Exploration Zone



Source: Maes, F. et al.

## **Benefits of EBM-SUM**

- Greater certainty to private sector when planning new investments
- Reduced conflict among uses and users
- Establishing MPAs as part of EB-SUM reduces the risk of conflict with development
- Ensures 'room' for biodiversity and nature conservation

- Puts biodiversity commitments at the heart of planning and management
- Promotes efficient use of space and resources, reducing impacts on the environment
- Provides context for establishing network of protected areas

Adapted from English Nature, 2005

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#### **Pathway To Marine Spatial Planning**

- 1. Map where things are, evaluate their status and identify critical areas
- 2. Map human uses and interests
- 3. Create integrated planning capacity to consider interactions between human uses and ecosystems



## Scientists gather and analyze relevant data

Managers identify high-priority questions

## Integrated biophysical and socioeconomic data



- Determine where problems exist in space and time
- Evaluate cumulative impacts on the ecosystem
- Resolve conflicts among uses



Information needed for effective decision making

## **Seafloor Mapping**





#### Inventory of Existing, Proposed & Reasonably Foreseeable Offshore Energy Facilities

Reconnaissance-level information on ocean areas that appear most likely to be of future interest to energy industry over next ten years. Includes:

•wind energy generation

•LNG

#### •wave & tidal energy







#### **Collection of Human Use Data**





•Ferry routes





- •Kayak launch areas and activity
- •Marinas, mooring fields
- •Dredge material disposal
- •Seaports
- •Whale sitings & whale watching
- •Desalination facilities (proposed)
- •Recreational diving sites

**Government Initiatives Summary** ➢Ocean Management Legislation Filed Seafloor Mapping >Human Use Characterizations >MPA Inventory and Working Group ➢Ocean and Coastal Economy Energy Infrastructure Planning Massachusetts Ocean Partnership Fund >Interagency Planning Meetings

## Ocean EBM Needs Stakeholder Participation

- Who should participate in the process (stakeholder analysis)?
- How can stakeholders be involved at all stages of the management process?
- How can participation be sustained over time?





We use a range of spatial management tools in the Great Barrier Reef, but zoning and adaptive management are the fundamental cornerstones of what, and how, we do it.

-Jon Day

# Spatial planning maximizes the economic return on space.

#### -Elliott Norse

You're not alone. Some states and countries are going through the same process. We need to involve all sectors. There's a lot to be learned from public/private partnerships.

-Robbin Peach

The most important key to success in ecosystem-based ocean management is leadership.

### -Gail Osherenko

## Thank you for listening!

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## EB-SUM Needs Capacity Building

- EBSUM Needs New Skills Rarely Found in Public or Private Sectors
- Need to Bring Marine Spatial Planning, Integrated Coastal Management and Land Use Planning Communities Together



## **EB-SUM Needs Authorization**



REPORT TO DEFRA BY THE JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE



- New legislation
- Mandate from higher level of government

## **EB-SUM Needs Boundaries**

- Recognition of the "ecosystem", like recognition of the "problem" is an important first step
- Boundaries of analysis (planning) can be different from boundaries of management



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A future scenario from the Belgian Part of North Sea planning project: Wind farms, fisheries, and sand & gravel extraction in exclusive concession zones The Working Group: Order Young: Stephen Langdon, John Ogden, Robbin Peach, James Wilson, Karen McLeod, Gail Osherenko, Elliott Norse, Larry Crowder, Satie Airame, Jon Day, and (not pictured) Andrew Rosenberg, Charles Ehler and Fanny Douvere.

## An Instructive Precedent: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

1) huge area backed by strong national legislation, with strong public support 2) federal-state cooperation **3)** conservation has precedence 4) zones increasingly based on sound science modified by public input 5) adaptive management: zones revised on rotating basis to incorporate new information



## Federal/State Battle over OCS

- 1953 Submerged Lands Act
- 1953 Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA)
- 1954 Alabama v. Texas
- 1975 US v. Maine

