

# Managing Ocean and Coastal Areas, Ecosystems, and Resources

## AUTHOR

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Building on the foundations of improved ocean and coastal governance, new scientific information, and enhanced education presented by William Ruckelshaus and James Coleman elsewhere in this issue, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy went further to explore the full breadth of topics included in its charge from Congress. As a result, the Commission's final report includes over 200 recommendations that span the gamut of ocean and coastal issues, ranging from upstream areas to the depths of the sea, from practical problem solving to broad guidance for ocean policy. Central to all these recommendations is the notion that coastal and ocean resources should be managed in a way that reflects the relationships among all ecosystem components, living and nonliving, specifically including humans. Although I focus on specific issues below, the call for an ecosystem-based management approach is echoed throughout the report. (The Commission's definition of ecosystem-based management is discussed further in an article by Adam Watkins, elsewhere in this issue.)

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Paul Sandifer is a Senior Scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in South Carolina. He served as Chair of the Commission's Working Group on Stewardship, whose other members included Ann D'Amato, Paul Gaffney, Paul Kelly, and Frank Muller-Karger. They were assisted by the Commission's Associate Director for Stewardship, Malcolm Williams.

## Conserving and Restoring Coastal Habitat

The diverse habitats that comprise the ocean and coastal environment provide tangible benefits such as filtering pollutants from runoff, buffering coastal communities against the effects of storms, and providing a basis for booming recreation and tourism industries. These habitats also supply spawning grounds, nurseries, shelter, and food for marine life, including a disproportionately high number of endangered or commercially important species.

As more people come to the coast to live, work, and visit, coastal habitats are increasingly stressed and damaged. Over the past several decades the nation has lost millions of acres of wetlands, seen the destruction of many seagrass and kelp beds, and faced a loss of significant acreage of mangrove forests. Cost-effective conservation and restoration programs should be expanded according to a national strategy that sets goals and priorities, enhances the effectiveness and coordination of individual efforts, and periodically evaluates progress. Many habitat conservation and restoration projects have been successful, but continued progress will depend on sustained funding, improved government leadership and coordination, enhanced scientific research and monitoring, better education and outreach, and solid stakeholder support.

Among other things, the Commission recommends that: (1) a dedicated funding program to support conservation and protection of critical ocean, coastal, and estuarine habitat be created; (2) restoration science, monitoring, and assessment activities be enhanced within the federal government;

(3) regional goals and priorities for habitat protection and restoration be developed working closely with states and other appropriate entities; and (4) a comprehensive wetlands protection framework be developed for the nation.

## Guarding People and Property against Natural Hazards

As the recent tsunami in South Asia made all too clear, ocean-related natural disasters can have major impacts on national and global populations and economies. Conservative estimates of damage in the United States from natural hazards, such as storms, hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, tornadoes, and erosion, put nationwide losses at more than \$50 billion a year. This figure includes only direct costs such as those for structural replacement and repair, which some experts believe represent only half or less of the true costs. More accurate figures are unavailable because the United States does not consistently collect and compile such data, let alone focus specifically on losses in coastal areas or on the indirect costs associated with damage to natural environments.

Many federal agencies have explicit operational responsibilities related to hazards management, while others provide technical information or deliver disaster assistance. The nation's lead agencies for natural hazards planning, response, recovery, and mitigation are the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). These agencies implement programs that specifically target the reduction and management of risks from natural hazards.

# Managing The Ocean Resources Research Law

**Jane R. Eggleston, M. Devereux  
Carter, James C. Cobb**



## **Managing The Ocean Resources Research Law:**

Managing the Ocean Resources of the United States Daniel P. Finn, 2012-12-06 Federal programs applicable to the oceans and coastal zone have evolved incrementally in response to perceived needs to expedite emerging marine development while conserving valuable marine resources. As a result, the current federal marine effort is divided among a plethora of programs administered by a number of agencies within different Departments. The programs themselves are conducted under the authority of multiple statutes with varying reaches and objectives; as a result, they often overlap and conflict. There is no assurance, moreover, that the coverage of federal programs is complete in scope or comprehensive in conception. No single institutional device can ensure that these programs will manage the marine resources of the United States consistently and comprehensively so as to derive maximum public benefit. While the present maze of statutes, regulations, and executive directives may in theory provide opportunities for a wide-ranging consideration of all relevant factors prior to making specific decisions, there can be no guarantee that this objective is realized either systematically or reasonably effectively. Recent political developments indicate that the structure of federal marine programs will continue to be subject to scrutiny for some time. President Reagan's emphases on economic deregulation and development of outer continental shelf OCS oil and gas resources may lead to streamlining the OCS leasing and permitting process and altering the execution of the federal multiple use policy for marine areas. *Routledge Handbook of Ocean Resources and Management* Hance D. Smith, Juan Luis Suárez de Vivero, Tundi S. Agardy, 2015-10-16 This comprehensive handbook provides a global overview of ocean resources and management by focusing on critical issues relating to human development and the marine environment, their interrelationships as expressed through the uses of the sea as a resource, and the regional expression of these themes. The underlying approach is geographical, with prominence given to the biosphere, political arrangements, and regional patterns, all considered to be especially crucial to the human understanding required for the use and management of the world's oceans. Part one addresses key themes in our knowledge of relationships between people and the sea on a global scale, including economic and political issues and understanding and managing marine environments. Part two provides a systematic review of the uses of the sea, grouped into food, ocean space, materials, and energy, and the sea as an environmental resource. Part three on the geography of the sea considers management strategies especially related to the state system and regional management developments in both core economic regions and the developing periphery. Chapter 23 of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives 3.0 license: [https://www.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9780203115398\\_ch23](https://www.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9780203115398_ch23) Managing the Ocean Jacques Richardson, 1985. Contains selected material related to science, law, economics, and engineering as applied to the ocean and coastal environment. Sections include Resources, Research, Management, and governance, and The future.

**Petroleum and Marine Technology Information Guide** J. Hutcheon, A. Myers, S. Oue, B. Rodden, J.

Whittick,2003-09-02 First published in 1981 as the Offshore Information Guide this guide to information sources has been hailed internationally as an indispensable handbook for the oil gas and marine industries Marine Mineral Resources Fillmore C. F. Earney,2012-11-12 During the past century scientists world statesmen and international entrepreneurs have become increasingly aware of the potential of the oceans as a source of minerals This book provides an authoritative picture of the current state of marine mineral extraction A major work of reference it will be essential reading for both those engaged in maritime studies and for professional organisations involved in the extraction of underwater minerals

**General Accounting Office Thesaurus** United States. General Accounting Office,1995 GAO Thesaurus United States. General Accounting Office. Office of Information Management and Communications,1995 Sea Grant Publications Index ,1975 **Future Survey Annual 1987** Michael Marien,1988-01-01 Proceedings of the 1989 Exclusive Economic Zone Symposium on Mapping and Research Jane R. Eggleston,M. Devereux Carter,James C. Cobb,1984 **Ocean Governance** Biliiana Cicin-Sain,1992 *Book Catalog of the Library and Information Services Division: Shelf list catalog* Environmental Science Information Center. Library and Information Services Division,1977 **Book catalog of the Library and Information Services Division** Environmental Science Information Center. Library and Information Services Division,1977 *U.S. Geological Survey Circular* ,1984 Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications ,1978 **Sea Grant Review** National Sea Grant College Program (U.S.),1993 **Management of Marine Fisheries in Canada** L. S. Parsons,National Research Council Canada,Canada. Department of Fisheries and Oceans,1993 This report describes and evaluates the impact of the major changes in the management of Canada s marine fisheries in recent decades The report covers the historical and jurisdictional context biological and economic aspects objectives of fisheries management techniques of resources management in general and those used for specific species managing the common property through allocation of access limited entry licensing and individual quotas the international dimension the social dimension habitat management fisheries enforcement and fisheries management in the United States Australia New Zealand Norway Iceland and the European Community **Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences** ,2019-04-12 The oceans cover 70% of the Earth s surface and are critical components of Earth s climate system This new edition of Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences Six Volume Set summarizes the breadth of knowledge about them providing revised up to date entries as well coverage of new topics in the field New and expanded sections include microbial ecology high latitude systems and the cryosphere climate and climate change hydrothermal and cold seep systems The structure of the work provides a modern presentation of the field reflecting the input and different perspective of chemical physical and biological oceanography the specialized area of expertise of each of the three Editors in Chief In this framework maximum attention has been devoted to making this an organic and unified reference Represents a one stop organic information resource on the breadth of ocean science research Reflects the input and different perspective of chemical physical and biological oceanography the specialized area of

expertise of each of the three Editors in Chief New and expanded sections include microbial ecology high latitude systems and climate change Provides scientifically reliable information at a foundational level making this work a resource for students as well as active researches *Marine Research, 1973* United States. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1973 Coastal Area Management Education in the ASEAN Region Thia-Eng Chua, 1991-01-01

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