



News Release

## **MARINE PLANNING AND OCEAN INDUSTRIES: WOC REPORT ON CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **WOC Delivers Information and Analysis on the Ocean Business Community and Marine Spatial Planning**

22 June 2016

**The World Ocean Council (WOC) report on “Ocean Industries and Marine Planning” provides the first multi-sector, industry-oriented review and analysis of the value, challenges and opportunities of marine spatial planning (MSP) for the ocean business community.**

**Building on this work, the 4th WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS), Rotterdam, 30 Nov-2 Dec 2016 - with its theme of “Ocean 2030: Sustainable Development Goals and the Ocean Business Community” - will address MSP and ocean industries through sessions on:**

- Marine Planning and International Waters: Shaping High Seas Sustainable Development Through Spatial Planning
- Marine Planning and the North Sea: Multiple Ocean Use and Sustainable Development in a Heavily Used, Transboundary Sea Basin
- Multi-use Offshore Infrastructure: Creating Synergies in Ocean Industry Facilities

As MSP grows around the world, WOC is working to ensure that both the ocean business community and MSP proponents understand and address the need, value and opportunity for industry to be informed of, and engaged in, MSP.

Based on several years’ work of active engagement with both ocean industries and those advancing MSP, the WOC report shows that there are a variety of perspectives on MSP - its definition, need, use, evolution and implementation - within the diverse ocean business community.

The WOC report describes the following values that MSP may provide to industry:

- Identifying and developing data sources on marine ecosystems and their uses
- Streamlining regulatory/permitting processes
- Reducing user conflicts and associated litigation
- Increasing the potential for a balanced management approach
- Reducing investor uncertainty
- More efficiently using public and private funds

The WOC’s work with ocean industries reveals that the private sector seeks clarity on:

- The relationship between MSP and other governance processes and mechanisms

- Regulatory and authority gaps and uncertainties
- How MSP will function in multiple jurisdictions
- How the MSP process will remain relevant and transparent

The WOC CEO, Paul Holthus, will present these important results on industry and MSP at the EU Maritime Spatial Planning Worldwide conference this week (Azores, 23-24 June, 2016).

Since 2010, WOC has conducted industry outreach on MSP, organized industry/MSP conferences and forums, and shared industry perspectives with marine planners. WOC gratefully acknowledges the support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation in conducting the research and outreach that led to this report.

As the international, multi-industry leadership alliance on “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”, the WOC is facilitating industry participation in marine-related programs and projects of the EU and other government and inter-governmental bodies.

The WOC report on Ocean Industries and Marine Planning is available at:

<http://www.oceancouncil.org/site/planning.php>

---

#### SAVE THE DATE!

**Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2016: 30 Nov-2 Dec, Rotterdam**

***“Ocean 2030: Sustainable Development Goals and the Ocean Business Community”***

The next World Ocean Council Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) will take place in Rotterdam. The specific venue and event website will be announced soon. Mark your calendars for this unique gathering of the global ocean business community.

---

#### Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

20-24 June

TOULON: **International Congress on Marine Corrosion and Fouling** - Plenary Speaker, Session Chair

20-21 June

WARSAW: **Silk Road Forum 2016** - Plenary Speaker

23-24 June

AZORES: **Maritime Spatial Planning Worldwide** (EU MSP Stakeholder series) - Plenary Speaker

28-29 June

HAINAN: **APEC Blue Economy Forum** - Plenary Speaker

---

#### About the World Ocean Council (WOC)

*The WOC is the only international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”. Companies and associations worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in ocean sustainability, stewardship and science by joining the WOC. Members to date include 80+ leadership organizations from a wide range of ocean industries: oil and gas, shipping, cruise tourism, seafood,*

*fisheries, aquaculture, mining, marine mining, renewable energy, ocean technology, maritime law, marine environmental services and other areas. For the current list of WOC Members, [click here](#). The WOC News Release is received by 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and the UK/Europe.*

**Contact email:** [info@oceancouncil.org](mailto:info@oceancouncil.org) **Web:** [www.oceancouncil.org](http://www.oceancouncil.org)

*To subscribe to future WOC News or to update your contact information, [click here](#).  
To share this issue of WOC News with others (on Facebook, Twitter, etc), [click here](#).*

©2016 World Ocean Council | 3035 Hibiscus Drive, Suite 1 Honolulu, HI 96816 USA