

OCEAN INFORMATION PRODUCTS IN SUPPORT OF OREGON'S MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING PROCESSES

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The State of Oregon is currently embarking on a comprehensive marine spatial planning effort within its Territorial Sea. In Oregon there has been a recent upswing of demand for space in the marine realm, specifically from non-traditional uses. Where traditionally, fishing sectors dominated the resource use and space, there are now several competing societal demands for that limited resource. The new potential uses of the Territorial Sea (marine reserves, wave energy, offshore wind energy, aquaculture) threaten to exclude both traditional and future opportunities if allowed to evolve individually. Therefore an approach that considers all uses comprehensively will maximize the beneficial use of a finite resource. The ultimate goal is to manage the renewable uses efficiently within Oregon's Territorial Sea, while incorporating a broad range of stakeholders in the decision making process.

The recently concluded marine reserves process has provided the State with an early opportunity to assemble a baseline of information and a set of preliminary tools for use in the upcoming Territorial Sea planning process. This presentation will summarize the data, information, and outreach products developed to date, while providing an outline of future tools expected for use in the planning process. Products already generated include: the development of multi-sector GIS data sets, traditional cartographic products, web outreach materials, standardized reports, and online interactive mapping resources. Next generation products are anticipated to build upon the already existing resources, while incorporating more advanced analyses, siting algorithms and other modeling techniques.

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