

MANAGING THE BLUE

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MANAGING THE BLUE - LAYOUT

- Focus here will be on **Marine Spatial Planning** (MSP)
- Definition – what's it really mean?
- International status and progress
- Australian directions – the decay from integrated Oceans Policy to partisan polarization
- Victoria – MACA and the proposed new Act: relevance to MSP

(Want to acknowledge Dr Rebecca Koss for directing to me various sources, and for lots of discussions around MSP – the outcome though is all my responsibility despite the assistance!)

MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

- One definition:

“Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) has gained acceptance as a ‘process to establish a more rational organisation of using marine space and user interactions in order to protect the biological diversity of the marine environment, while taking into account social and economic objectives”

– Maes (2008) quoted in Calado et al 2012 (Marine Policy journal)

See also: Koss and Wescott (2015) – Science and Policy in the marine environment.

Elements of predictability and repeatability of the process leading to more certainty for industries and conservation – what land use planning is supposed to produce currently.

(Psst...remember the third dimension in the sea – **depth**)

INTERNATIONAL PROGRESS – IMPRESSIVE

- European Commission seems to be leading the way
- “Our Ocean” – annual gathering to report on progress with marine environmental protection, see <http://www.ourocean2017.org/our-ocean-commitments>
- 2017 was in Malta (2020 in Palau), some reports from Malta:
 - 437 tangible and measurable commitments across the world
 - 7.2 billion Euros in commitments across the world
 - 2.5 million square kilometres of additional Marine Protected Areas
 - With 100 commitments from the corporate sector, the 2017 conference for the first time mobilised at scale the business community in ocean conservation. The EU's 36 commitments alone amounted to over 550 million Euros.

AUSTRALIA & MSP: *ONCE WERE CHAMPIONS*

- **Source:** Smyth and Wescott (2016) in Big, Bold and Blue. CSIRO Publishing.
- Failing the Nation: Integrated Oceans Policy to partisan political ideology/ grandstanding in just two decades
- The Current Position – MPA , oil and gas dominated
- ***Still a global leader*** – the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park as an example of MSP.
- What next?

VICTORIA

– “MACA” TOWARDS A FRAMEWORK FOR MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

- Do we need it? The feedback....from MACA consultation
- Where does it fit in the proposed new integrated system under the proposed Marine and Coastal Act?
- A ‘framework’ - means?
- One of a few real innovations proposed for the new Act and definitely the main marine one

MSP IN VICTORIA – *A PERSONAL VIEW*

- Why do we (Victoria) need any planning system in the marine environment?
- What might it look like?
- The role of VEAC * (declaration of individual potential conflict of interest)
- Beyond the VEAC (ECC/LCC) process in MSP for Victoria
 - What else might be required ?
 - Similarities and difference between statutory planning on land and what MSP might look like

*(*Remembering our coastal waters are entirely in public ownership)*