Marine Spatial Planning in Oregon

Robert Bailey, Manager
Oregon Coastal Management Program
Department of Land Conservation and Development

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Background: State Ocean Planning

Oregon has had ocean planning infrastructure for many years

1977 – State Ocean Policy Goal 19

1987 – Ocean Task Force, *Ocean Plan* (oil & gas, marine minerals)

1991 – Ocean Program created: OPAC & *Territorial Sea Plan*

1994 – OPAC: initial *Territorial Sea Plan*
…long on policy, coordination, information;
…short on spatial delineation (except rocky shores)

2000 – amendments for submarine cables (standards, not areas)

2000 – revision of Goal 19 (OPAC & LCDC)

Why Marine Spatial Planning Now?

To solve a real-world problem:

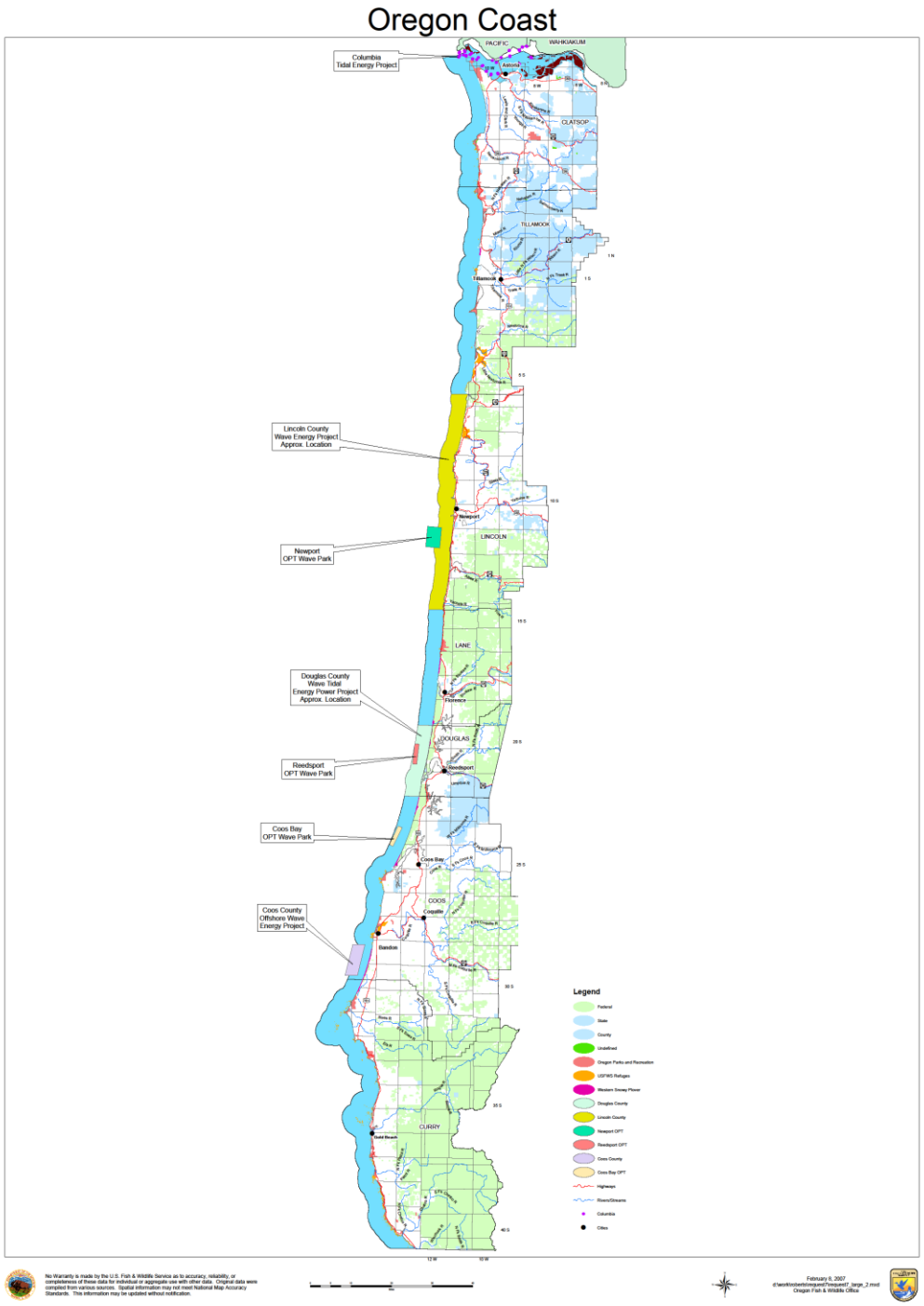
to fit a new industry into the heavily used nearshore ocean commons .

Background:

2006-2007:

A gold rush to stake claims with FERC, most in prime fishing areas.

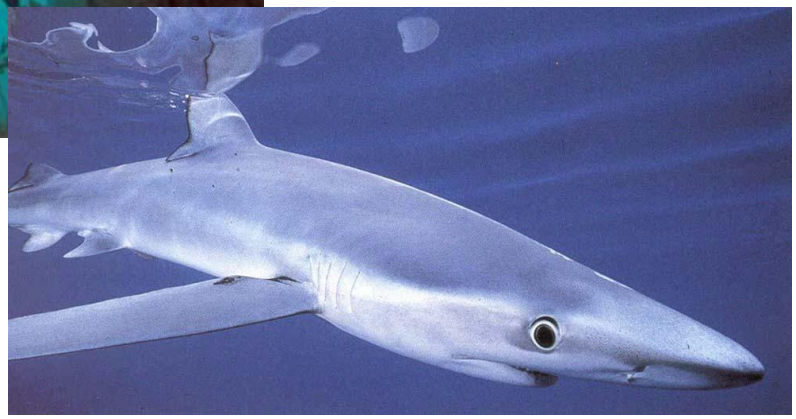
Little or no communication with fishers, other users.



Existing Industries Were NOT Happy

Environmental Concerns Were Raised

Effects on marine life?



Governor-level Direction

Governor's Executive Order March 2008:

DLCD: Amend *Territorial Sea Plan* to accommodate wave energy and minimize effects on existing uses; involve OPAC, industry, fishermen, communities; science-based.

ODFW: Develop list of marine reserve sites (no more than 9) through community process with OPAC.

Memorandum of Agreement with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission March 2008:

Amended *Territorial Sea Plan* will be used in FERC decision-making for ocean energy.

Process to Meet Governor's E.O.

Ocean Energy Planning Phase 1: Policies
March 2008 – November 2009

Amended *TerrSeaPlan* with policies, standards, criteria, procedures for wave energy development.

(Open, public process with consensus support at the end; informed by "lessons-learned from 3-year Settlement Process for OPT application to FERC)

Ocean Energy Planning Phase 2: Mapping
September 2008 – Early 2012

Amend *TerrSeaPlan* to show spatial delineation of

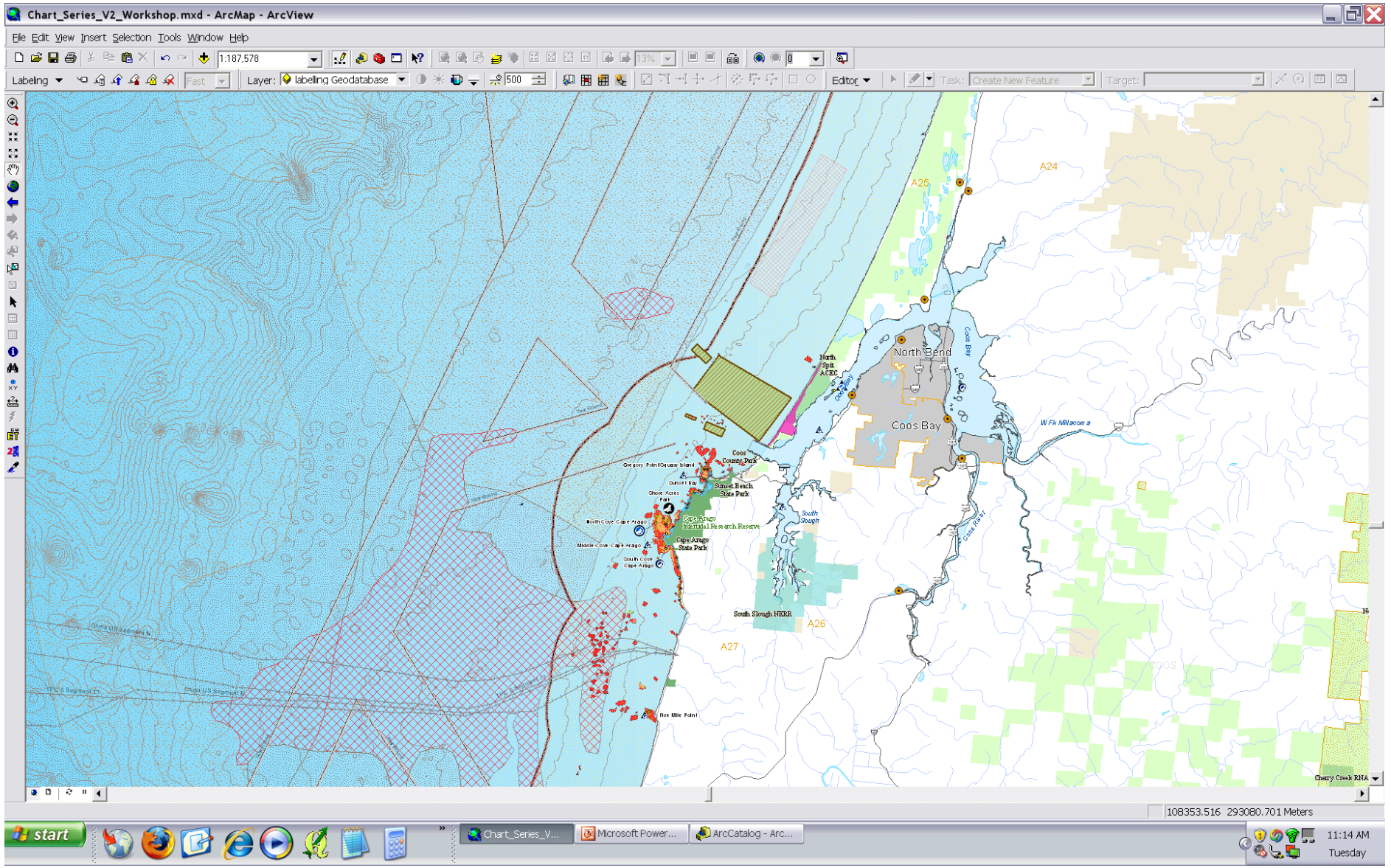
- Areas of Opportunity for industry;
- Areas of Ecological Concern (based on criteria in Goal 19);
- Areas Important to Fisheries (based on criteria in Goal 19).

To be completed early 2012

Phase 2 Outcome Objectives

1. Agreement among all stakeholders on
   - Ocean energy “opportunity” sites, demonstration sites pilot project test sites, etc.
   - Areas important to commercial/recreational fisheries
   - Important ecological areas
2. Minimal conflicts with other ocean users
3. Certainty to industry, communities, other stakeholders
4. Model for state-federal decisions for federal OCS (w/ FERC, BOEM).

Mapping Step 1: Assemble Existing Information



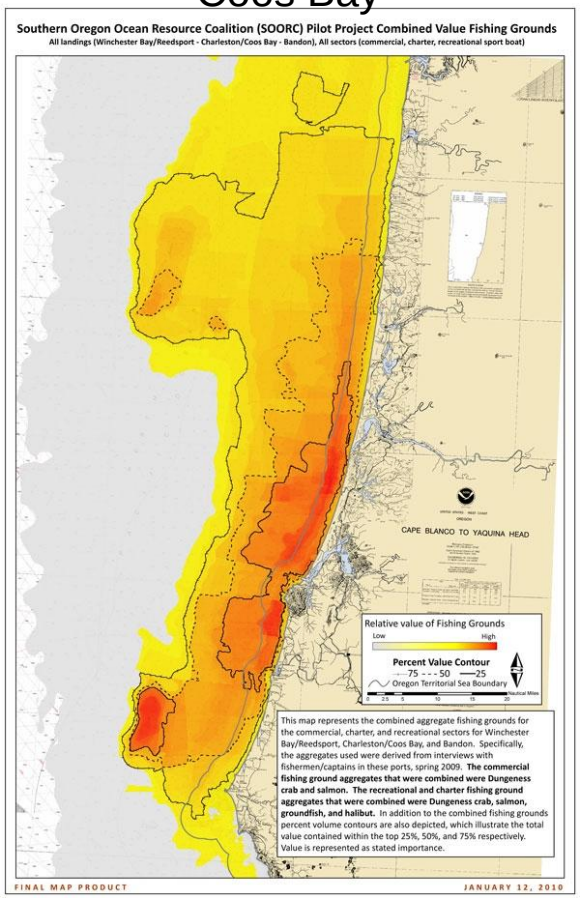
Mapping Step Two: Map Fisheries

600 + interviews with fishermen in all ports (Ecotrust, local groups).

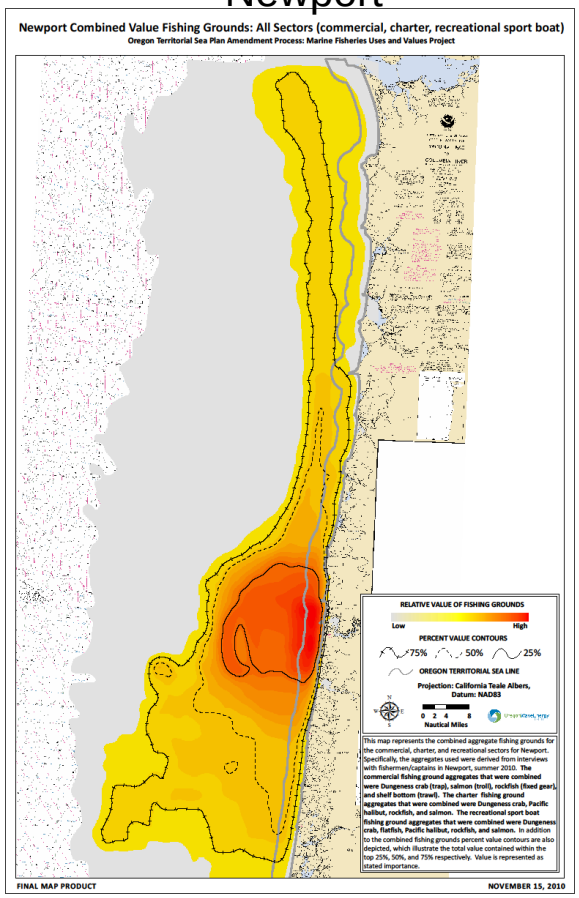
Confidentiality issues difficult but overcome.

Community teams (SOORCE, FINE, etc) played big role.

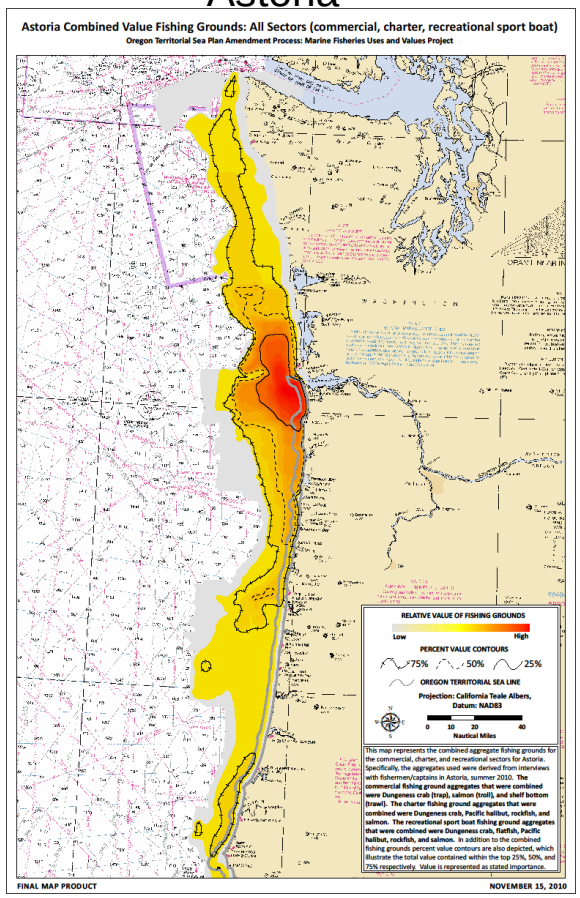
Coos Bay



Newport



Astoria



Mapping Step Three: Ecological Atlas

ODFW lead

NOAA Office of Biogeographic Assessments.

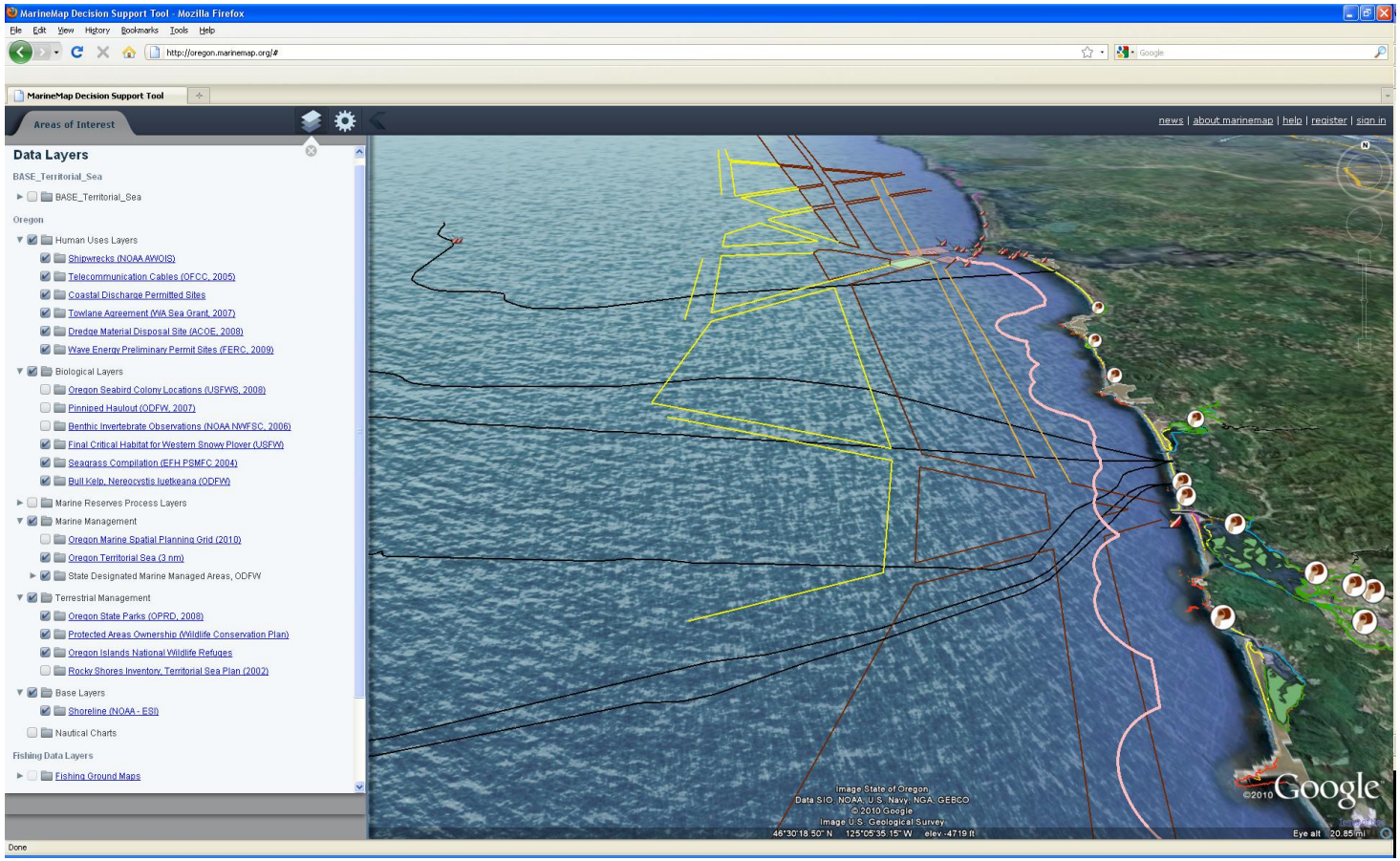
The Nature Conservancy

Mapping Step Four: Decision-Support Tools

Develop online Oregon MarineMap

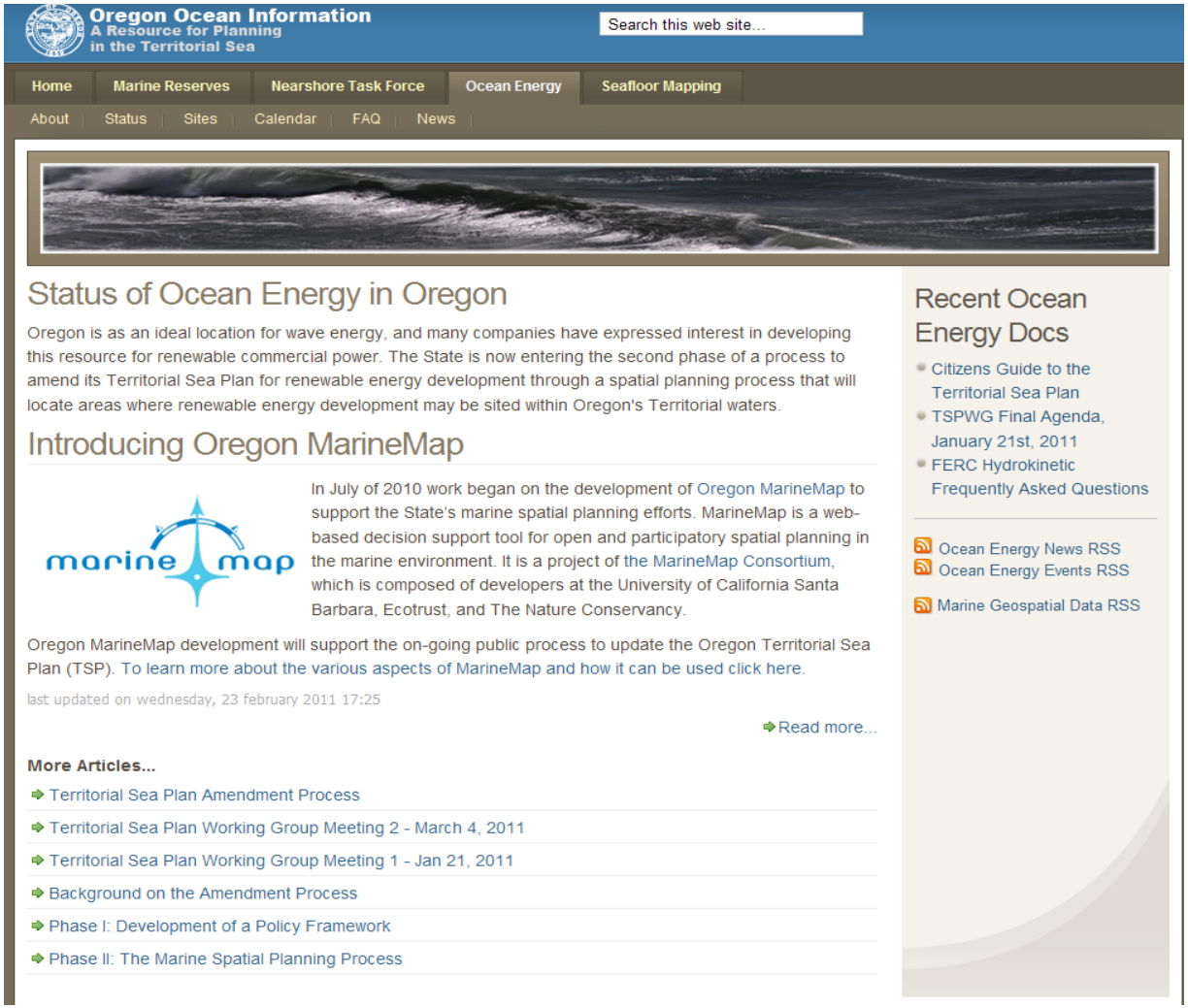
http://oregon.marinemap.org/

Google Earth platform, Open Source software



Create Website as Information Portal

http://www.oregonocean.info



Use Advisory & Stakeholder Groups

Ocean Policy Advisory Council:
Territorial Sea Plan Working Group

Round two of public meetings on proposed alternatives (FALL, 2011)

Community Groups: SOORC, FACT, FINE, POORT, FishCred, etc

LCDC Territorial Sea Plan Advisory Committee (Spring 2012)

Partner-Driven Process

- OCZMA (Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association)
- Community Advisory Committees (renewable energy)
  POORT, SOORC, FINE, FACT, NSAT, FOORC
- OWET (Oregon Wave Energy Trust)
- Ocean Policy Advisory Council/Scientific & Technical Advisory Comm
- Oregon Extension Sea Grant
- Ecotrust (technical support)
- Surfrider Foundation
- Conservation Community (The Nature Conservancy, Our Ocean, Packard Foundation)
- State Agencies: DLCD, ODFW, DSL, OPRD
- Federal agencies: BOEM, NOAA NOS, NOAA NMFS
- Oregon Legislature

State – Federal Supporting Activities

State- BOEM Ocean Alternative Energy Task Force

- Extend Oregon's work into federal waters
- Provide for state federal coordination & communication
- Ensure that agency actions are based on sound science
- Promote data sharing and communication

State – FERC Memorandum of Agreement

- FERC will use Oregon amendments to *Territorial Sea Plan* in licensing decisions in state waters.

State – NOAA Cooperative Assessments

- NOAA/NOS NCCOS Biogeographic Assessments Branch is assisting ODFW & DLCD in synthesizing ecological data for use in mapping decision-making.

Regional Marine Spatial Planning

WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT on OCEAN HEALTH

WASHINGTON OREGON CALIFORNIA

Has promoted communication between OR, CA, WA, on respective ocean planning activities;

Renewable Energy Action Team (Oregon is co-chair) is using NOAA funding to develop region-wide handbook for siting ocean energy;

Will make recommendations to Regional Planning Body to be convened by National Ocean Council.

Is sponsoring workshop on regional data portal to integrate data streams in OR, WA, CA.

Benefits from Marine Spatial Planning

For industry and stakeholders:

- Increases certainty for investments & operations
- Reduces costs in time and effort at project scale
- Strengthens industry – industry ties
- Ensures role in planning process

For government:

- Promotes better, more efficient decisions
- Streamlines, clarifies decision process
- Reduces the Oops! Factor

For public

- Provides transparency
- Preserves wide range of public values

Conclusion:

Marine Spatial Planning is

A tool box for ocean users, developers, agencies, the public, and stakeholders to work together to get “the job” done.

Oregon’s MSP tool box contains:

- policy tools
- process tools
- communication tools
- data acquisition and management tools
- decision-support tools

Not The End