



President Clinton and Vice President Gore exploring tidepools in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary with sanctuary staff. Official White House photography

“We must continue the critical dialogue that has begun and build together across party, regional, economic, and other interests a comprehensive oceans agenda for

the 21st century. . . . We have to make this an American issue that transcends party and other philosophical differences, that is at the core of our own humanity and our obligation to our children and our grandchildren.”

— President William Jefferson Clinton

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A. Meinesz
Dana Minerva
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John Pisani
Ron Poulsen*
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Michael Reeve
Suzanne Schwartz
Fran Sharples
Russell Smith*
Mike Soukup
Dr. Richard Spinrad
Anne Tenney
Gabrielle Tenzer*
Benjamin Tuggle
Ken Turgeon
Ole Varmer*
Beth Viola
Craig Vogt
Deirdre Warner-Kramer*
Robert Wayland
Jeffress Williams
Sally Yozell

* Final writing group

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“Hope, creativity, and imagination will be required to meet the challenges that we face with our oceans. But they are, after all, the traits that first enabled and inspired explorers to take to the sea. They are traits that allowed us to look at our inextricable ties to our environment and invent new ways to protect our natural wonders. . . . In the 21st century, these traits must lead us to preserve our living oceans as a sacred legacy for all time.”

— President William Jefferson Clinton

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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Office of Public and Constituent Affairs

14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6013

Washington, D.C. 20236

Telephone: (202) 482-6090 • Fax: (202) 482-3154

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A photograph of a calm ocean with a bright sun reflecting a shimmering path on the water's surface. The sun is positioned in the upper right, creating a bright, shimmering path of light that extends towards the viewer. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is a lighter blue. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

Turning to the Sea: America's Ocean Future