

# Ocean Policy Committee

## Readout of the June 3, 2024 Ocean Policy Committee Deputies Meeting

On June 3, 2024, the Deputy Co-Chairs of the Ocean Policy Committee (OPC), Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Director of Climate and Environment at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and Sara Gonzalez-Rothi, Senior Director for Water at the White House Council on Environmental Quality, convened a meeting of the OPC Deputies. The Deputy Co-Chairs provided opening remarks that highlighted OPC activities over the last year and the Biden-Harris Administration's many actions to conserve, protect, and restore the ocean.

OPC Deputies were briefed on three ocean-related strategies released on the same day as the meeting, including: 1) the [National Strategy for a Sustainable Ocean Economy](#); 2) the [National Ocean Biodiversity Strategy](#); and 3) the [National Strategy on Aquatic eDNA](#). The Deputies also received an update on implementation of the [Ocean Climate Action Plan](#) (OCAP), published in March 2023, which guides ocean-based climate mitigation and adaptation actions. The Deputies were briefed on recent and forthcoming public meetings of the [Ocean Research Advisory Panel](#).

The Ocean Co-Use working group briefed the Deputies on their efforts to advance the availability of data and tools, foster interagency relationships to maximize data sharing, and promote the use of MarineCadastre.gov for coordination and data distribution. OPC Deputies discussed the importance of shared data platforms and how these efforts can be prioritized by the OPC.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about ongoing and potential future actions by the OPC that may be addressed in the next OPC Action Plan, including implementation of key actions under the National Strategy for a Sustainable Ocean Economy. A meeting of the OPC Principals is planned for Fall 2024.

OPC membership consists of the:

### Departments

- Secretary of Agriculture
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Defense
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Homeland Security
- Secretary of Justice
- Secretary of State
- Secretary of the Interior

- Secretary of Transportation

### **Executive Office of the President**

- Assistant to the President and National Climate Advisor
- Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
- Assistant to the President for Economic Policy
- Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism
- Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
- Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality
- Director of the Office of Management and Budget
- Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Representative from the Office of the Vice President

### **Agencies and Service Branches**

- Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency
- Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)
- Chair of the Committee on Maritime Transportation Systems
- Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the of the Army Corps of Engineers
- Chief of Naval Operations
- Commandant of the Coast Guard
- Director of the National Science Foundation
- Executive Director of the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate