

SPRING 2010
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TRAGEDY IN THE GULF

Inside the biggest oil
disaster in U.S. history -
and how to help

WIND ON THE RISE

The U.S. makes a run at
reclaiming its position as a
world leader in wind energy

PLUS

Chile adopts farmed
salmon reform, and more





Oceana campaigns to protect and restore the world's oceans. Our team of marine scientists, economists, lawyers and advocates win specific and concrete policy changes to reduce pollution and to prevent the irreversible collapse of fish populations, marine mammals and other sea life. Global in scope and dedicated to conservation, Oceana has campaigners based in North America, Europe and South and Central America. More than 300,000 members and e-activists in over 150 countries have already joined Oceana. For more information, please visit www.oceana.org.

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The Deepwater
Horizon oil rig
exploded:
Now what?



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A dead bird on the beach of Mississippi's Ship Island in May.

© Joe Raedle | Getty Images

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The Dirty Reality of Offshore Drilling Hits Close To Home

As I write this, we are experiencing the worst environmental catastrophe in the history of the United States. The Deepwater Drilling Disaster in the Gulf of Mexico is likely to gush more oil into the ocean than the wreck of the Exxon Valdez.

Its damage to the commercial and recreational fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico could extend generations into the future. And our beaches – from Louisiana to the Florida Keys – could suffer from an oil well 42 miles off the coast.

- Much of America's seafood comes from the Gulf of Mexico. The fisheries that produce 73 percent of America's shrimp and 59 percent of America's oysters are closed.
- Nearly 200,000 jobs in Louisiana, Texas and Florida depend on commercial fishing.
- Tourism in the Gulf is a \$4 billion economy.
- One of the world's two spawning areas for the endangered Atlantic bluefin tuna is in the Gulf of Mexico, right where the oil is gushing. Spawning season is now.
- Every single species of sea turtle found in the Gulf is already threatened or endangered by extinction under the terms of the Endangered Species Act.

Two years ago, President Bush ended a policy prohibiting ocean oil drilling in new areas of the lower 48 states, and then Congress allowed a similar policy it had agreed to every year for 26 years to lapse. That same year, at a national political convention, politicians chanted

"Drill, Baby, Drill." On March 31, just three weeks prior to the Deepwater Drilling Disaster, President Obama announced that the east coast of the U.S. from Delaware to Florida would be opened, for the first time, to oil and gas exploration.

Then, on April 20, as they were installing a plug on a well drilled 5,000 feet below the ocean surface, operators of a technically advanced deep water oil drilling platform triggered an explosion, killing eleven people and beginning an uncontrolled release of at least 210,000 gallons of oil a day - but experts agree it is probably much more.

President Obama should admit that he made a mistake in relying on the assurances of the oil companies that their ocean drilling technologies were safe. To protect our remaining beaches and fisheries from a similar catastrophe, he should impose a ban on ocean oil drilling. If he won't act, Congress should.

And the President needs to protect the Arctic. This summer, Shell intends to drill exploratory wells in the Arctic Ocean. The Deepwater Drilling Disaster occurred from drilling an exploratory well. No new safety procedures, spill response plans or impact reviews have occurred since the disaster, yet our government is on track to put our oceans at risk yet again, and this time in a less forgiving environment.

In February 2009, Oceana board member Ted Danson testified before Congress, repeatedly calling on the government to protect our oceans from the risks of offshore drilling. We followed that testimony with scientific reports, press work, online campaigning and persistent lobbying to build support for keeping our oceans out



of the hands of the oil companies.

Oceana supports affordable energy while reducing our carbon dioxide emissions. This can be provided by clean, renewable sources including ocean wind power.

We launched StopTheDrill.org, a petition site that allows people to sign on to end new drilling. Within a week, nearly 50,000 people signed. I hope you will add your name to the list.

We thank you for your support. Your generous support gives Oceana the resources we need to convert this disaster into lasting protections from oil drilling for our beaches and fisheries.

For the oceans,

Oceana is grateful for the grants, contributions and support it has received from dozens of foundations and companies and thousands of individuals. Oceana wishes to thank all of its supporters, especially its founding funders as well as foundations that in 2009 awarded Oceana grants of \$1 million or more: Arcadia Fund, Oak Foundation, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Sandler Foundation. For more information, please see Oceana's annual reports at www.oceana.org/annualreport.

U.S. Government Proposes Loggerhead Uplisting To 'Endangered'

In response to two petitions submitted in 2007 by Oceana, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Turtle Island Restoration Network, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a proposed rule in March to change the status of north Pacific and northwest Atlantic

loggerhead sea turtles from "threatened" to "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act.

In addition to changing the status of loggerheads off the coasts of the U.S., the proposal triggers a review of possible protections for critical loggerhead

habitat areas, including key nesting beaches, migratory corridors and where the animals feed in the ocean.

The announcement came as part of a government proposal to list loggerhead sea turtles around the globe as nine separate populations, each with its own threatened or endangered status.



Loggerhead turtle in the Canary Islands.

The proposal is based on a 2009 Fisheries Service status review, which identified nine discrete loggerhead population segments and found both north Pacific and northwest Atlantic loggerheads "currently at risk of extinction."

As a result of human-caused threats including commercial fishing and habitat degradation, loggerhead populations have declined by at least 80 percent in the northern Pacific and could become functionally or ecologically extinct by the middle of this century if additional protections are not enacted. Florida beaches, which host the largest nesting population in the northwest Atlantic, have seen loggerhead nesting decline more than 40 percent in the past decade.

In addition to demanding that the Fisheries Service protect sea turtles and their habitat under existing law, Oceana continues to call for comprehensive legislation that would protect U.S. sea turtles in the ocean as well as on beaches.

Chile Adopts Salmon Farming Reform

In March, the Chilean Congress passed groundbreaking legislation to prevent the escape of farmed salmon and further regulate the use of antibiotics in salmon aquaculture. The legislation is a direct result of Oceana's two years of campaign work to address the environmental impacts of salmon farming.

Upwards of 10 million salmon are estimated to escape each year, and they can travel great distances and threaten the health of native fish populations by competing for food and transmitting parasites and diseases.

In early 2009, Oceana reported massive

escapes that took place on December 31, 2008, when 750,000 salmon and trout escaped due to storms in southern Chile.

Some of the escaped salmon carried a virus called infectious salmon anemia, and undoubtedly infected nearby fish farms.

Many of the native species affected by escaped salmon are the target species for artisanal fishing, which results in economic losses estimated in the millions annually.

The reform criminalizes farmed salmon escapes, imposing hefty fines as well as

prison sentences for violators. Salmon farms will be shut down after three violations in two years. In addition, within six months after the bill takes effect, the government will be required to issue new regulations to prevent escapes and mitigate their environmental impacts.

Oceana has already drafted a proposal to present to the government for consideration.

The reform also bans the preventive use of antibiotics, and requires companies to make public the amounts and types of antibiotics they use, in addition to the antibiotics' prescribed purpose.

Marine Wildlife Spared From Drift Gillnets In Oregon

In December, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission voted to stop issuing commercial fishing permits for drift gillnet gear used to target swordfish and thresher sharks in waters off the Oregon coast.

The decision, which effectively ends the use of the drift gillnets in Pacific Ocean waters off the coast of Oregon, came after Oceana testified before the commission on the dangers of using drift gillnets for targeting swordfish.

Drift gillnets are curtain-like nets up to a mile long that, in addition to their targeted catch, catch and kill sea lions, sharks, dolphins, endangered sea turtles, whales and other fish and wildlife.

70,000 Square Miles Proposed For Pacific Leatherbacks Protections

In January, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a proposed rule to designate more than 70,000 square miles of critical habitat for endangered Pacific leatherback sea turtles in the waters off California, Oregon and Washington.

The protections, which will be the first critical habitat designation for sea turtles in ocean waters off the continental U.S., were proposed in response to a petition submitted in September 2007 by Oceana, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Turtle Island Restoration Network.

Every summer and fall, Pacific leatherbacks migrate from their nesting grounds in Indonesia to the ocean waters off the U.S. west coast to feed on jellyfish. This 12,000-mile journey is the farthest known migration of any living reptile.

During the journey, leatherbacks face many threats, including capture in commercial fishing gear, ingestion of plastics, poaching, global warming and ocean acidification. Protection of their foraging habitats and migratory corridors is essential to their recovery.

While the proposal is a significant step forward for leatherbacks, it is not perfect. The government failed to include protections from entanglement in commercial fishing gear, which is a primary threat to the species.

In addition, the area proposed by NOAA excludes an expanse of leatherback foraging and migratory areas between the Umpqua River in Oregon and Point Arena in California.

NOAA must issue a final ruling on critical habitat within one year.

Texas Students Are 'Scared for Sharks'

In a spontaneous display of young ocean activism, the 2nd and 7th grade students at Good Shepherd Episcopal School in Dallas, Texas were inspired by Oceana's "Scared for Sharks" campaign and teamed up to raise more than \$2500 for Oceana's shark campaign during a month-long service learning drive. The school sent the donation and a letter notifying Oceana of the students' efforts.

The students held a week-long bake sale and had a "Caring Color Day," in which students wore shark-colored apparel, such as a gray or blue t-shirt, to show solidarity, and brought in \$2 for shark conservation.

To advertise their efforts, the students also made flyers with facts about sharks and urged their fellow students not to be scared of sharks, but scared for them.

Caribbean reef shark in the Jardines de la Reina, Cuba.



© OCEANA | Carlos Suárez

A team of scientists and campaigners from the U.S., Europe and South America went to Doha, Qatar in March for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora meeting, or **CITES**. The team filed video reports for the Oceana blog and spoke out on behalf of bluefin tuna, sharks and corals. While CITES failed to protect marine species, the U.S. and the European Union backed a bluefin tuna trade ban prior to the meeting in an indication that international support for saving bluefin is growing.

Adrian Grenier filmed a PSA with Oceana in March.



© OCEANA | Tim Calver

Another Oceana team went to Copenhagen in December for the **U.N. Convention on Climate Change**. Oceana posted ads on the Copenhagen subway and in the convention center urging delegates to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions, in addition to hosting panels on marine issues including ocean acidification.

Oceana was chosen as one of 10 organizations to be a beneficiary of O, the **Oprah Magazine's "Live Your Best Life"** walk in New York City on

May 9. Thousands of participants took part in the three-day event, which honors the magazine's tenth anniversary.

Danish cargo shipping giant **Maersk** announced it had cut greenhouse gas emissions and fuel consumption by as much as 30 percent simply by reducing its ships' cruising speed by half. If the entire global shipping fleet were a country, it would be the sixth largest producer of greenhouse gas emissions in the world. Oceana has been encouraging shipping companies to save money and reduce emissions by using slower speeds.

Oceana traveled with actor **Adrian Grenier** ("Entourage") to Pacific waters south of San Diego, Calif., to film a new public service announcement about saving bluefin tuna.

Board member **Ted Danson** announced plans to publish a book about his work to save the oceans. The book will be published by Rodale, which also produced Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth," and is slated to be out in early 2011.

Ted Danson appeared on CNN.com for a live interview on April 1. He also penned a column for CNN about the risks of overfishing the oceans.

Oceana launched the "**Ocean IQ**" quiz with a contest that allowed quiz takers to enter to win prizes that included Nautica gear and a trip to see sea turtles in the wild in Baja California. Thousands of people tested their ocean IQ. Join them at oceana.org/IQ.

Oceana also launched its second annual **Ocean Heroes contest**. In its first year, the campaign drew hundreds of nominees and thousands of votes on the finalists before crowning John Halas, who designed a low-impact boat mooring system, as the 2009 Ocean Hero. To learn about this year's Ocean Heroes, visit oceana.org/heroes.

Christie's International selected Oceana as one of four organizations to be the beneficiaries of its first-ever charity auction, held on Earth Day, April 22. **A Bid To Save The Earth** included a live auction at Christie's space in Rockefeller Center in New York City as well as an online silent auction hosted by Charity Buzz. The auction featured elite celebrity and travel items, including a swim lesson with gold medalist and Ocean Council member **Aaron Peirsol** and a walk-on role on board member **Ted Danson's** show "Bored To Death." For more information, visit www.abidtosavetheearth.org.



Shark Biologist Michelle McComb

Scientists and children alike have long marveled at the hammerhead shark's peculiar head shape – also known as a “cephalofoil” – and speculated on the predator's design. Why, you can't help but wonder, are they shaped that way?

A study published in the *Journal of Experimental Biology* made headway toward answering that evolutionary question with surprising conclusions about hammerhead vision. One of the authors of the study, [Michelle McComb](#) of Florida Atlantic University, spoke to Oceana's online editor Emily Fisher about her team's discoveries.

What did you and your colleagues discover about hammerhead vision?

The popular literature is filled with claims that hammerheads have better vision, but this was never tested. Our goal was to quantify the extent of the visual fields of hammerhead sharks in contrast to more typical-shaped sharks, in order to determine if they possessed binocular vision.

What we found was a surprise – hammerhead sharks do have binocular vision, and even more surprising, the extent of binocular overlaps was greater than found in the typical-shaped sharks.

When we originally discussed this project we thought we were setting out to dispel the myth that hammerheads possessed binocular vision. We had no idea that hammerheads would have even larger binocular overlaps than normal sharks!

Why is it significant that hammerheads have binocular vision?

Binocular vision evolved to facilitate depth perception. Each eye sees a slightly different image and it's the subtle differences within these images that

are used for depth cues. So the wider separation of the eyes in hammerhead sharks enhances the stereoscopic effect and depth perception. This translates into a visual advantage for a predator like the hammerhead shark in its ability to accurately judge the distance of moving objects like prey.

'What we found was a surprise — hammerhead sharks do have binocular vision.'

As a result of your team's research, do we have a definitive answer for why hammerhead shark heads are shaped the way they are?

Our results support the idea that vision may have played a role in the evolution of the hammerhead. However, there are several other hypotheses that remain, some of which are untested.

It is possible that several factors in combination may have led to the evolution of the head shape, including the following hypotheses:

1. The head acts as a bow plane to provide hydrodynamic lift during swimming.
2. Possible enhanced electrosensory ability due to the larger size of the head and the potential for possession of more electrosensors in the head.
3. Enhanced olfactory ability due to the wide separation of the olfactory organs and naris (nostrils) on the head.
4. The head shape may help hammerheads pin down prey items like stingrays. However, this is not strongly supported because the diet of many hammerhead species (there are 8 species of hammerhead) does not include stingrays.

Have you ever swum with sharks?

I have swum with great white sharks off the coast of South Africa, bull sharks in Australia, hammerheads in Hawaii, lemon sharks in Florida and Caribbean reef sharks in the Bahamas.

Every time I see a shark while I am in the water, I get a thrill and I feel so lucky and humbled that I am sharing space with them. 🐾



CATASTROPHE IN THE GULF

By Suzannah Evans **Twenty years after Exxon Valdez, the Deepwater Drilling Disaster shows how vulnerable we still are.**

In the evening of April 20, two days before the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, something went wrong on the seafloor of the Gulf of Mexico, a mile underneath the oil rig named the Deepwater Horizon.

An explosion of methane, oil and mud erupted where the Deepwater Horizon's pipeline met the seafloor in a blowout that ruptured the pipeline, resulting in a gush of oil and natural gas from the underground reservoir directly into the ocean. The explosion coursed up the drill column and ignited the rig in an inferno that rivaled the most dramatic apocalypse movies.

Workers gathered on remains of the rig's deck as it became engulfed in flames. According to interviews survivors gave later, several jumped to the ocean more than eight stories below rather than wait for the lifeboats to be loaded.

In the end, 115 workers survived. Eleven were killed. The Deepwater Horizon sank two days later. The oil continued to gush from the ruptured pipe a mile below the surface. By the end of May, experts

agreed that it had surpassed the Exxon Valdez as the worst oil disaster in U.S. history.



The Deepwater Horizon represented the best technology the oil industry had to offer. Built in 2001 for \$350 million, the rig was longer than a football field and half again as wide. With its four wide-seated legs and towering derrick, the Deepwater Horizon resembled the exoskeleton of an enormous, futuristic insect.

In September 2009, at a different location, the Deepwater Horizon drilled deeper than any offshore rig had before: 35,000 feet down, below the ocean and thousands of feet of rock, it hit paydirt. The exploratory drilling yielded a new untapped resource that BP, the company leasing the rig, estimated contained three billion barrels of oil. A month later, BP extended its lease on the rig for three years at \$554 million.

When the rig exploded in April, it wasn't digging at record depths. At 18,000 feet, the rig was operating well within its range. BP had assured the Minerals

Management Service, the government agency that oversees drilling, that the venture was safe.

The Deepwater Drilling Disaster embodied the failings of the oil industry even as it developed more intricate technologies and recorded record profits.

'OFFSHORE DRILLING WILL NEVER BE SAFE IN ANY FORM.'

"Our ability to drill for oil has far outpaced our ability to clean up after an oil spill," said Dr. Jeff Short, Pacific science director for Oceana and one of the world's leading experts on the effects of oil spills on the environment. "Despite our best efforts, only about 14 percent of the oil spilled by Exxon Valdez was ever recovered. In the 20 years since, we are still struggling to protect ecosystems from devastating oil spills."

A month after the explosion, the Deepwater Horizon's busted pipeline was still spewing

ABOVE: The Deepwater Horizon rig burned and sank in a 36-hour period in April. Photos: U.S. Coast Guard.



a noxious mix of oil and natural gas. An attempt by BP to cap the leak failed, and other options, like drilling a relief well, would take months to implement.

Meanwhile, the oil rose to the surface. Thanks to weather patterns and ocean currents, the oil slick expanded and contracted every day, moving across the Gulf like a sticky shadow. In some places, it was whipped into a thick reddish mousse; in other places, it was a reflective sheen. By mid-May, it covered about 3,800 square miles.

Fishermen, who had been part of the Gulf's \$10.2 billion seafood industry, have been reluctantly enlisted to help with the cleanup after state and federal fishing closures kept them from their day jobs. But their efforts, along with the federal government, to skim or contain the oil were Sisyphean at best as the original break remained unstanchd.







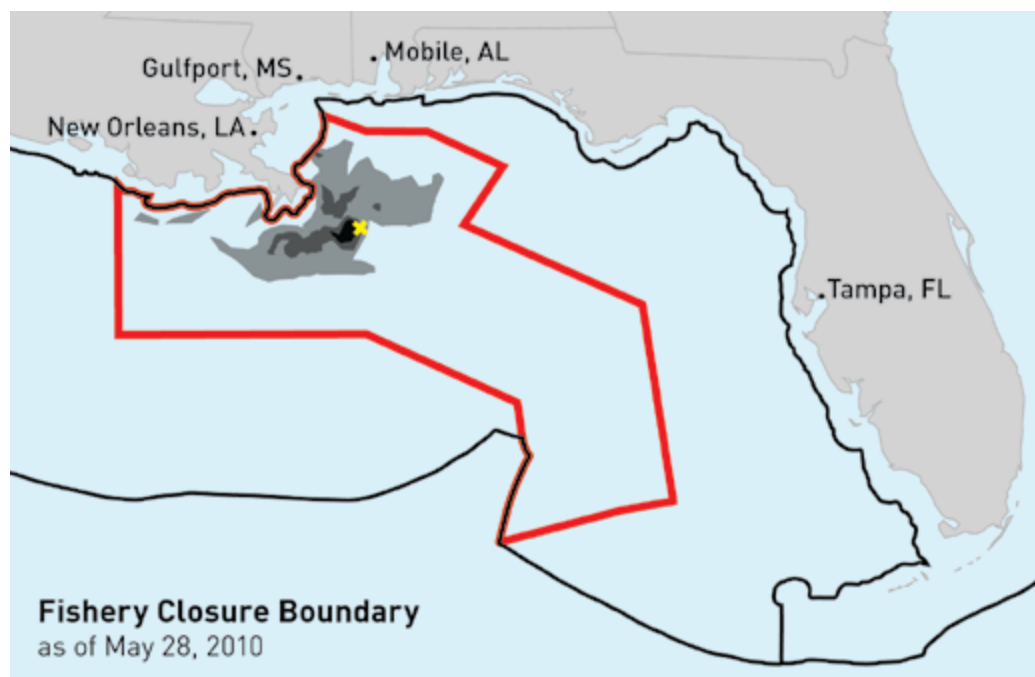
"The Deepwater Drilling Disaster is a stark reminder that offshore drilling is neither safe nor clean," said Jackie Savitz, senior campaign director for Oceana's climate and energy campaign. "This is a wake-up call. We need to stop the expansion of offshore drilling. We simply can't afford to let this happen again."

In March, the Obama administration announced a new offshore drilling policy that was mostly bad news for

conservation. While President Obama fully protected the ecologically important Bristol Bay of Alaska and cancelled some proposed lease sales in the Arctic, he left open other parts of the Arctic and announced plans to lease most of the eastern seaboard of the United States for exploratory drilling, much of it for the first time.

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-  Deepwater Horizon incident
-  State/federal water line
-  Closure area
-  Oil coverage



OCEANA'S CAMPAIGN

Oceana opposes offshore drilling, which will never be safe or clean.

In February 2009, Oceana board member Ted Danson testified before Congress, urging a ban on offshore drilling. In May 2010, in the aftermath of the Deepwater Drilling Disaster, Dr. Mike Hirshfield, Oceana's vice president for North America and chief scientist, also testified before Congress. Oceana's campaigners have traveled to numerous government hearings around the country to speak on the effects of offshore drilling on coastal ecosystems and communities.

We are hard at work on Capitol Hill to ensure that any legislation on climate change does not promote offshore oil and gas drilling. We also oppose oil and gas exploration in the U.S. Arctic.

**SIGN THE PETITION TO STOP
OFFSHORE DRILLING AND DEMAND
A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE AT
WWW.STOPTHEDRILL.ORG.**



LEFT: Oceana's Dr. Jeff Short took samples from the Gulf of Mexico in May. The samples will be crucial in proving the oil found in other areas came from the Deepwater break. Photo © OCEANA and Ocean Conservancy

RIGHT: Oceana's campaign has included ads that run in the Washington, D.C. subway.

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And in May, Senators John Kerry and Joe Lieberman presented climate change legislation that actually promotes offshore drilling – even as oil continued to gush from beneath the Gulf of Mexico, threatening to devastate wildlife and jobs in the worst environmental crisis in American history.

"Offshore drilling will never be safe in any form," Savitz said. "We're not willing to trade away our oceans and fishery and tourism economies to the oil industry. There can only be one solution to this – a clear plan for a clean energy future where we harvest wind, not dirty oil, from offshore."

The fallout from the disaster has begun. The planning process for drilling in Virginia, the east coast state farthest along, was postponed "indefinitely" by the Obama administration. Several prominent senators and at least two Republican governors have tempered their previous support for drilling.

But in the Arctic's Chukchi and Beaufort seas, where a major oil spill would far outstrip any human ability to clean it up, drilling has been postponed until at least next year.

"We've learned a major lesson in the Gulf, but it was a lesson we should have learned after Exxon Valdez," Short said. "Now, we must move quickly to prevent this from happening again." 🐼

MYTHS OF OFFSHORE DRILLING

BY SIMON MAHAN

MYTH #1: OFFSHORE DRILLING IS SAFE.

The Deepwater Drilling Disaster is not an isolated incident. Since 2006, the U.S. Minerals Management Service reports there have been at least 21 offshore rig blowouts, 513 fires or explosions offshore and 30 fatalities from offshore oil and gas activities in the Gulf of Mexico. Just last year, a new offshore oil drilling rig off the coast of Australia had a similar blowout, and spewed approximately 16,800 gallons of crude oil daily into the Timor Sea for about 75 days.

MYTH #2: OFFSHORE DRILLING WILL LOWER GAS PRICES.

Additional offshore oil drilling will not lower gas prices and will put millions of people's jobs at risk. In 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) estimated that by 2030 gasoline prices would be \$3.88 per gallon if all the U.S. oceans were open for drilling – just three pennies less than if previously protected ocean areas were closed. Oil is a global commodity; therefore additional U.S. oil supply would have to be significant enough to alter the global price of oil in order to affect local gasoline prices. The U.S. cannot produce enough oil from offshore areas to make a difference in global oil prices. Additionally, an oil spill can threaten the livelihoods of thousands of fishermen as well as economies that rely on coastal tourism.

MYTH #3: OFFSHORE DRILLING WILL MAKE THE U.S. ENERGY INDEPENDENT.

The only way to become truly energy independent is to end our addiction to oil. The DOE estimates that the country would still import about 58 percent of its oil supply despite expanded domestic oil drilling, including opening up offshore areas. Currently, approximately 62 percent of the crude oil supplied to the U.S. comes from foreign sources. The United States simply does not have enough domestic oil to fulfill its demand.

Additionally, all oil is priced on a global market, regardless of its source or purchaser – domestic or foreign. Regardless of how much oil the U.S. produces, the oil will be sold to the highest bidder, meaning that domestic drilling would do little to alter the U.S.'s energy economy.



Wind Rises

By Suzannah Evans

The global offshore wind industry has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years, and the United States is working quickly to catch up.

The towering white turbines of Denmark's wind farms formed a striking backdrop for last year's U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, and acted as a symbol for Europe's global dominance in the race to establish wind as a viable source of clean energy.

But Europe wasn't the original pioneer of wind energy – the United States was. In the wake of the fuel crisis of the early 1970s, California established the world's first wind farms. By 1986, California represented nearly 90 percent of global wind power installations.

The United States' dominance would prove to be short-lived. In the ensuing years, Europe raced to build wind farms,

but the industry was quickly met with a problem of space: Densely-developed Europe just didn't have room for turbines large enough to generate the amounts of power needed to displace dirty fossil fuels.

And so, starting in 1991 in Denmark, Europe began building wind farms in the

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installation proposed off the coast of Nantucket. This 130-turbine farm located five miles offshore faced nearly a decade of struggle to become a reality. The Massachusetts state and local governments as well as the public supported the project, but questions about the impacts of the development stalled Cape Wind for years.

"The approval of Cape Wind is a signal that the U.S. is finally getting serious about offshore wind," said Jackie Savitz, senior campaign director for Oceana's climate and energy campaign.

Electricity generation is the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S., producing about 40 percent of the 6,000 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emitted each year. The energy-hungry U.S. is already the largest consumer of electricity in the world, and the U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates that the country's demand for electricity will grow 39 percent by 2030.

Carbon dioxide emissions have already led to increasingly acidic waters in our oceans, which is projected to lead to mass extinctions of corals and major ecological disruptions. Melting sea ice, species shifts and fishery impacts are just some examples of the problems climate change is predicted to cause in the oceans.

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Previous page: A Danish offshore wind farm in Middelgrunden, Denmark.
© Siemens AG Energy Sector

ocean. Now Europe is home to 830 offshore wind turbines installed in 39 farms. More than 100 gigawatts of new offshore wind projects are already in the works – the equivalent of 100 nuclear power plants. According to the European Wind Energy Association, these projects could provide Europe with 10 percent of its energy and save 200 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year.



The U.S. has enormous potential for clean wind energy production. According to the Department of Energy (DOE), large swaths of the Midwest are windy enough to qualify as "good" locations for wind turbines. But the United States' largest population centers are located on the coasts, and transmitting wind power long distances to urban centers is expensive and technologically complex. Fortunately, the American coasts provide an even richer wind resource: the ocean. The DOE has declared thousands of miles of coastline to be "excellent," "outstanding" or "superb" sources of wind.

Despite this wealth of renewable energy, the U.S. has yet to install a single offshore wind turbine – although dozens of proposals are in the works. In April, the U.S. made a huge leap forward with the federal approval of Cape Wind, an

Savitz's team studied the impacts of offshore wind development in Europe, which has been underway for nearly two decades. The most well-publicized environmental concern about wind turbines is their effect on bird populations. But scientists discovered that most birds flocks avoided wind turbines once they were constructed, and that for every 10,000 birds killed by human activity, less than one death was caused by wind turbines.

Meanwhile, a study published in *Nature* in 2004 estimated that 19 to 45 percent of global species will go extinct under a mid-range estimate of climate warming, underscoring the importance of shifting towards carbon-free clean energy.

In 2009, the U.S. added enough wind capacity to power 2.4 million homes.

"Offshore wind has the potential to be a big part of the solution to the greatest environmental challenge we face – climate change," Savitz said. "While we are concerned about sea birds and other marine life, we think if it's done right, the impacts of offshore wind can be small compared to the alternative."

"Fossil fuels, the traditional source of energy, are dirty and finite, but wind is plentiful and clean," Savitz said. "Using wind, a free fuel, instead of oil, natural gas and coal eliminates carbon emissions and will ultimately lower our energy bills."



Wind energy faces many challenges – including its natural competitors in the fossil fuel industries.

"What many people don't realize is that expanding offshore drilling compromises our ability to develop offshore wind," Savitz said. "The two will compete for investments, materials, installation ships and marine expertise which will raise the costs of offshore wind farms and slow their progress. We need to prioritize clean energy and stop the expansion of offshore drilling so that we can get the best bang for our buck."

The footprint of wind energy pales next to the coal industry, which disturbs an area the size of Rhode Island every year. And while wind farms reap energy from the same space, the coal industry must continually move on to new sources, destroying additional habitat with every new project. About half of Americans already live in a place with dangerous levels of smog, and coal-based electric plants are

the largest source of mercury pollution in the country.

The good news is that the U.S. has reestablished itself as a burgeoning force in the wind industry after years of trailing Europe. In 2009, the onshore wind industry added nearly 10,000 megawatts of capacity in the U.S., enough to power 2.4 million homes or generate as much electricity as three large nuclear power plants, according to the American Wind Energy Association. The wind industry has the capacity to power an additional million homes every five months.

"Using wind instead of fossil fuels makes sense on every level," said Savitz. "We're hard at work to ensure that the United States expands its wind resources offshore, rather than expanding offshore drilling into previously protected ocean areas. This will help to ensure a clean energy future." 🌬️

THE BENEFITS OF WIND

The U.S. Department of Energy expects many benefits if we source 20 percent of our energy from wind by 2030 – a feasible goal known as "The 20 Percent Scenario." The benefits include:

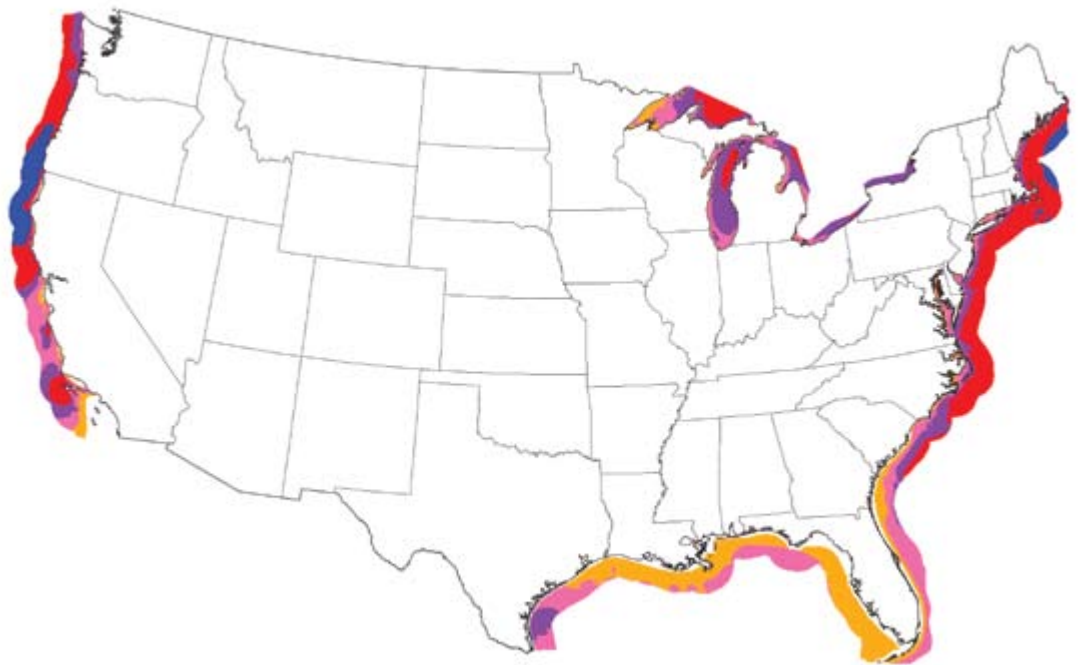
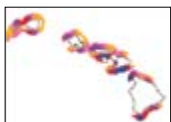
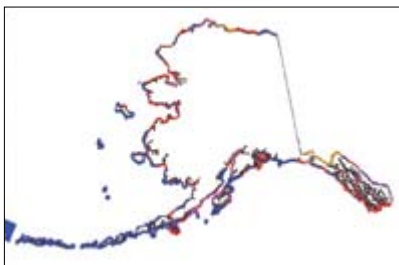
- Reducing annual electric sector carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S. by 825 million metric tons.
- Saving 4 trillion gallons of fresh water used by electricity plants.
- Creating artificial reef-like habitats for fish and other sea creatures under wind turbine platforms.
- Diversifying and stabilizing national energy supplies, helping ease our dependence on polluting foreign fuels.



Oceana's delegation in Copenhagen included Dr. Mike Hirshfield and campaign director Jackie Savitz.

Oceana's campaign

Oceana's climate and energy campaign is working to help expand offshore wind operations in Europe, and help the U.S.'s industry get off the ground. Oceana's in-depth reports on wind energy will help answer many of the questions legislators and the public have about wind farms. For more information about the campaign, and to see video of Oceana's trip to an offshore wind farm in Denmark during the U.N. Climate Change Conference, visit www.oceana.org.



U.S. Offshore Wind Potential

Fair
 Good
 Excellent
 Outstanding
 Superb

ABOVE: The Department of Energy classified much of the U.S. coastline as excellent, outstanding or superb sources of wind energy.



A diver explores South Water Caye, Belize.

Oceana Arrives in Belize

By Suzannah Evans

Oceana's first Central American office snags an early victory.

The small Central American country of Belize is home to a large part of the world's second largest coral reef, and now it has an Oceana office to help protect this incredible marine ecosystem.

The official opening is well-timed for the country's famed reef. In 2009, the United Nations placed the Belize Barrier Reef on its list of World Heritage sites that are endangered, and recommended that immediate action be taken to save this ecosystem from overfishing, pollution and other threats that risk its vitality.

In November, Oceana board members and staff visited Belize to celebrate

Oceana's official opening of its first Central American office.

The group included Oceana CEO Andrew Sharpless, Vice President for North America Dr. Mike Hirshfield and marine scientist Margot Stiles, as well as board members César Gaviria, the former Secretary General of the Organization of American States and former president of Colombia, and Dr. Daniel Pauly, a renowned fisheries scientist.

A few weeks after Oceana's opening, the country got a very public reminder that ocean preservation is a prime issue.

With Audrey Matura-Shepherd, Oceana's vice president for Belize, as host, the group visited with Prime Minister Dean Barrow as well as CEO for Fisheries Gabino Canto and the leader of the opposition, Johnny Briceño.

Dr. Pauly, one of the world's leaders in the study of overfishing and a professor at the Fisheries Centre of the University of British Columbia, gave a presentation on marine conservation to an overflow audience of Belizean students, fishermen and members of the tourism industry.

"The response to Oceana's presence was heartening," Matura-Shepherd said. "Belizean people from all walks of life showed that they are extremely interested in protecting their ocean, which is not only critical to our economy for seafood and tourism, but also part of our heritage."

Belize's marine ecosystem has remained relatively healthy, but only about three percent of Belizean waters are fully protected. A few weeks after Oceana's opening, the country got a very public reminder that ocean preservation is a prime issue.

In December, the residents of the seaside village of Punta Gorda looked out to the horizon and spotted Jamaican fishing boats. They had arrived, unannounced and without permits, to fish in Belize's diverse waters.

Many of Punta Gorda's local fishermen still work the shallow waters inside the Belize Barrier Reef from individual canoes using age-old methods to provide lobster, shellfish and reef fish for Belizeans, as well as a small but thriving export business. The Jamaican boats, with more sophisticated commercial gear, offered no such promise for the local economy or the continued sustainability of Belize's fisheries.

The coastal community in Belize erupted upon discovering the Jamaican fishermen. A meeting in Punta Gorda was packed to

continued >



Gillnet fishing off the coast of Belize.

Oceana's goals in Belize

Under the leadership of Audrey Matura-Shepherd, Oceana's first Central American office has an ambitious agenda to help protect one of the world's most extensive marine ecosystems from exploitation.

- Ban bottom trawling, the most destructive type of fishing.
- Protect juvenile fish. Too often, fishermen, desperate to catch something, catch small juvenile fish that have not yet reproduced, severely inhibiting the ecosystem's ability to maintain healthy fish populations. Oceana will help Belize stop catching undersized fish by popularizing the use of rulers to measure fish.
- Ban fishing by foreign fleets. Oceana will help Belize create its first national policy to protect the country's marine resources and economy from foreign fishing.
- End gillnet fishing. Gillnets are made of microfilament plastic and catch many species other than fish, including sea turtles and marine mammals.

For more information about Oceana in Belize, visit www.oceana.org/central-america.



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overflowing with citizens speaking out against the sudden and potentially illegal arrival of the foreign vessels.

Matura-Shepherd and her newly-formed Oceana staff sprung into action and quickly pressured Prime Minister Dean Barrow to turn these foreign vessels away – which he did.

"The Jamaican fishing boats are just the beginning," Matura-Shepherd said. "We already know that other countries are interested in exploiting Belize's marine resources. But this victory was a great way to introduce Oceana in Belize, and I hope it will be the first of many." 🐟

Top: Oceana CEO Andy Sharpless, Oceana board member César Gaviria, Prime Minister Dean Barrow, Vice President for Belize Audrey Matura-Shepherd, board member Dr. Daniel Pauly and Vice President for North America Dr. Mike Hirshfield.



Bottom: Oceana CEO Andy Sharpless, Vice President for Belize Audrey Matura-Shepherd, Johnny Briceño, Oceana board member César Gaviria, Vice President for North America Dr. Mike Hirshfield and board member Dr. Daniel Pauly.

Make every day **EARTH DAY**

Oceana is a member of EarthShare, a federation that represents the nation's most respected environmental and conservation charities in hundreds of workplace giving campaigns across the country.

EarthShare's payroll contribution program allows donors to direct their contributions to Oceana; to any combination of EarthShare's members; or to all of them through one general gift to EarthShare! To find out more about how you and your workplace can support Oceana through an EarthShare campaign, please email info@oceana.org or visit EarthShare's website at earthshare.org.

Member of
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Toby Usnik

On April 22, the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, renowned auction house Christie's hosted a one of a kind inaugural Green Auction to benefit four environmental charities, including Oceana. The event raised \$2.4 million for conservation.

Toby Usnik, the Senior Vice President and International Head of Corporate Communications for Christie's International, had the initial idea to create the Green Auction and for the past year has been the catalyst and mastermind behind the event. The idea emerged because environmental issues have become increasingly important to the clients, staff and partners of Christie's, according to Usnik.

'I love to be in the water — it clears my head and feels like home to me.'

To choose from the hundreds of environmental organizations, Christie's identified groups that were highly regarded by

clients and colleagues, as well as organizations that received a top rating of four stars from Charity Navigator. Oceana fit the bill.

"When we began to consider partners, we were struck by how far Oceana has come so quickly," Usnik said. "It has a real entrepreneurial spirit that has moved it to the fore, and from its board to its staff members, it seems to be a beautifully aligned and effective organization."

Usnik was first introduced to Oceana when a colleague's father passed away. Because her father adored the oceans during his life, the family asked visitors to his memorial service to donate to Oceana in his memory. Soon after, he discovered that

an old friend, Susan Cohn Rockefeller, had joined Oceana's Ocean Council. He has been an Oceana supporter ever since.

Usnik grew up in the Midwest, so the only waters he knew as a kid were lakes. "My mother had us swimming almost before we could walk," he said. "To this day I love to swim and to be in the water — it clears out my head and feels like home to me."

Nowadays he and his partner escape from the hustle and bustle of Manhattan to Fire Island, a barrier island off Long Island. "I've been going there since I moved to New York 23 years ago, and many of my fondest memories and closest friends are associated with the beach at Fire Island," he said. 🌊

CHRISTIE'S green auction

A BID TO SAVE THE EARTH

Oceana would like to thank Christie's for its first-ever Green Auction. A Bid to Save the Earth benefitted four leading environmental organizations, including Oceana.

For more information, visit www.abidtosavetheearth.com.





Sandy and Harriet Sandhu with Oceana chairman Keith Addis.

Photo © Duffy Healy

'End of the Line' Screening

In January, MacGillivray Freeman Films sponsored a screening of "The End of The Line," a documentary about overfishing narrated by Oceana board member [Ted Danson](#).

Oceana chairman [Keith Addis](#) and board members [Herbert Bedolfe III](#) and [Valarie Whiting](#) spoke to the guests about Oceana and the SeaChange Summer Party, Oceana's Orange County gala. [Greg MacGillivray](#), the founder of MacGillivray Freeman Films, showed a clip of a film he is producing in conjunction with Oceana called "To The Arctic."

RocknRola

Oceana's Ocean Council chair, [Susan Cohn Rockefeller](#), debuted her nature-inspired jewelry line RocknRola at an event in New York City in February. Sales from the jewelry line benefit Oceana's work to protect the oceans.

Held at Buck House, a gallery owned by Ocean Council member [Deborah Buck](#), the launch was attended by Oceana chairman [Keith Addis](#) and board member [Sam Waterston](#).



Top: Oceana vice president for global development Bettina Alonso and Ocean Council vice chair Lea Haratani. Bottom: Oceana board member Sam Waterston, Ocean Council member Deborah Buck, Oceana chairman Keith Addis and Ocean Council chairwoman Susan Cohn Rockefeller.

Photos © Jon Dee

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ROCKNROLA JEWELRY:
visit www.rocknrola.com



Pre-Event for Hamptons Splash Party

Ocean Council member [Lois Robbins Zaro](#) and [Andrew Zaro](#) held an event on March 15 in New York City, which was attended by Ocean Council chair [Susan Cohn Rockefeller](#), board chairman [Keith Addis](#), board member [Sam Waterston](#) and Oceana CEO [Andy Sharpless](#), all of whom spoke passionately about Oceana's work. The cocktail party served as the launch of our Hamptons Splash Party to be held later this summer. Guests at the party were asked to join the event committee for the Hamptons Splash event. Learn more at www.oceanasplashparty.org.



Top: Hostess Lois Robbins with Oceana board member Sam Waterston and Ocean Council chair Susan Cohn Rockefeller. Middle: Sir Thomas Moore and Hillary Hogan. Bottom: Andrew Fox, Caroline Hirsch, Bonnie Lautenberg and Ari Shalom.

Photos © Jon Dee

Chef Bryan Voltaggio

Chef **Bryan Voltaggio** earned national renown when he cooked his way to the finals of "Top Chef," ultimately finishing second to his brother Michael. But before television brought him fame, Voltaggio was already a restaurant industry veteran. He trained at the Culinary Institute of America and worked as a sous chef and eventually executive chef under mentor Charlie Palmer in New York and Washington, D.C.



In 2008, Voltaggio realized his dream of opening his own restaurant with the debut of Volt in his hometown of Frederick, Maryland, an hour from the nation's capital. At Volt, he serves modern American cuisine with an emphasis on local and seasonal ingredients.

"Thankfully, you don't have to be an expert on the science behind this movement," Voltaggio said. "We just

have to choose to embrace it. By purchasing sustainable, local, and organic products we will prove there is a demand, lowering the costs for the growers, fisherman, and ranchers, recreating the food chain for our country."

Volt's menu changes to reflect fresh, seasonal ingredients, and sustainable seafood is an important part of the mix.

"I always tell my staff that my little restaurant can't change the world, but if we help to spread the word and improve our knowledge and practices without compromising the quality of our cuisine, then we are doing our part," Voltaggio said. "The guests who dine here may or may not notice, but I believe we are at the point where they should expect it." 🍷

Farmed California White Sturgeon with cauliflower, truffle, romanesco and Summer Creek Farm Yukon Gold potato broth

Serves four

For the Sturgeon

4 ea. 4 oz portions of white sturgeon
(see source)
4 tblsp. olive oil
2 cups water
1 cup salt
1.75 oz. sugar

1 lemon zested
2 sprigs thyme
5 black peppercorns
½ bay leaf
½ garlic clove smashed

Make a brine for the fish with the water, salt, sugar, lemon zest, herbs, and garlic. Bring to a simmer and strain.

Cool the brine then pour over the fish for 10 minutes. Remove the fish and vacuum pack with the olive oil. Preheat an immersion circulator to 57C. Cook the fish for about 12 minutes in the circulator, this depends on the thickness of the fillets.

For the Potatoes

24 parisienne cut Yukon Gold potatoes (thin slices then cut into pieces)

¼ cup clarified butter

4 tblsp. whole butter

¼ cup vegetable stock

Vacuum pack the potatoes with the clarified butter after seasoning with salt and pepper. Cook in a combi oven set to steam and 190F for twenty minutes or until done. Cool quickly in an ice-water bath.

* Combi oven is a steaming oven.

For the Potato Broth

1 qt. remaining potato trim from

parisienne cut potatoes

¼ cup diced prosciutto

½ onion diced

1 sprig thyme

1 qt fish fumet

Add the diced prosciutto to a medium sauce pan over medium heat. Lightly brown the prosciutto add the onion, sweat until translucent. Add the aromatics and the stock. Stew the broth until all flavors have incorporated, strain the stock and reserve. Once it has started to cool, the fat should separate to the top of the broth. Using a spoon or ladle remove that fat and discard.

For the Potato Glass

1 peeled Idaho potato cut thin on slicer

¼ cup clarified butter

Cut eight potato slices into rectangles 4" X 1½". Season with salt and pepper,

brush on clarified butter and place between two layers of parchment paper. Bake at 300F until crisp. Reserve in an airtight container or a dehydrator until ready to plate.

For the Truffle Puree

7 oz. vegetable stock

7 oz. truffles small diced

1.75 oz. minced shallot

1 tblsp. canola oil

Sweat the shallots in the oil, add the truffle, sweat for 5 minutes, add the stock, bring to a simmer. Puree and pass through a fine sieve. Reserve seven ounces for the truffle gel.

For the Truffle Gel

7 oz. truffle puree (see previous recipe)

½ tsp. gellan gum

For the Cauliflower Florets

16 purple cauliflower florets, blanched

16 white cauliflower florets, blanched

16 yellow cauliflower florets, blanched

1/4 cup butter fondue

Warm blanched cauliflower in the butter fondue, season with salt and pepper.

For the Cauliflower Puree

1 cup diced cauliflower florets

1 cup heavy cream

.5 gr xanthan gum

Heat the cauliflower with the cream. Stew until the cauliflower is tender enough to puree. Place the cauliflower and cream in a high-speed blender, puree with the xanthan gum and pass through a fine sieve, season with salt and pepper.

For the Garnish

16 battons of truffle

to taste zhatar (combination of thyme, sesame and ground sumac)

8 plushes emerald crystal lettuce

Heat the cauliflower with the cream. Stew until the cauliflower is tender enough to puree. Place the cauliflower and cream in a high-speed blender, puree with the xanthan gum and pass through a fine sieve, season with salt and pepper.

For the Sauce

¼ cup minced truffle

2 tblsp. minced shallot

1 sprig thyme

¼ bay leaf

6 toasted peppercorns

¼ cup banyuls vinegar

½ cup veal demi glaze

Reduce the shallots and truffle with the banyuls by one third. Warm the demi glaze and evaporate for 30 minutes, add the aromatics. Skim the sauce while cooking. Strain the sauce and add the banyuls truffle reduction to taste. Add whole butter to the sauce as needed.

To serve:

Remove the sturgeon from the vacuum bag, place a spoon full of the cauliflower puree on the plate. Scatter the diced truffle gel, cauliflower in butter fondue and romanesco. Place the crystal lettuce and battons of truffle, season the white cauliflower florets with the zhatar. Place the potatoes and the potato glass, spoon the truffle reduction around.



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PARTING SHOT

Stony sea urchin in Spanish waters.



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