

Defying Ocean's End

Defying Ocean's End was inspired by an urgent need—to address the sharp decline in ocean wildlife, the disturbing increase in ocean pollution and the neglect of policies and resources to solve these problems. In May/June 2003 an invited team of international ocean scientists, economists, lawyers and conservationists—and representatives from governments, corporations and the media—gathered in Los Cabos, Mexico, to build a global action plan for ocean conservation. A business team assisted the experts in identifying near-term priorities and costs.

This book is the result. It focuses on the seven key fields of action identified at that meeting:

- Ocean-use planning and marine protected areas
- Economic incentives and disincentives
- Land-ocean interface
- Maintaining and restoring functional marine ecosystems
- Communications
- Ocean governance
- Unknown ocean

Since the *Defying Ocean's End* Conference, a coalition of major conservation NGOs—including Conservation International, the Natural Resources Defense Council, The Nature Conservancy, The Ocean Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund and IUCN-The World Conservation Union—have begun working together to put the agenda into concerted action.

Defying Ocean's End is a guide for all who care about the future of the ocean.

Our collective challenge is nothing less than the creation of a framework and steps for a practical agenda of global action—including costs and impacts—to safeguard the ocean for generations to come.

—Sylvia A. Earle (from the Preface)

COVER DESIGN BY KIM BIELER

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