



*******NEWS ADVISORY*******

June 9, 2003
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**OCEAN POLICY EXPERTS TO ADDRESS CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS AT
CAPITOL HILL OCEANS WEEK**

Capitol Hill Oceans Week, a two-day symposium on Capitol Hill, will feature ocean policy experts from government, private industry, nonprofits, and academia. The first day will feature panelists addressing topics related to ‘**Exploring Our Oceans**,’ such as pharmaceutical discoveries and the future of ocean-derived energy resources. The second day, ‘**Managing Our Marine Areas**,’ will feature experts discussing topics including invasive species and public interaction with protected areas. Panel discussions will begin with an overview from a Member of Congress.

WHO: Dozens of ocean experts and advocates including renowned ocean explorers and NMSF Trustees **Jean-Michel Cousteau** and **Dr. Sylvia Earle**; Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality **James L. Connaughton**; Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy **Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.)**; Members of Congress, including U.S. House Oceans Caucus Co-Chairs **Tom Allen, Sam Farr, Jim Greenwood, and Curt Weldon**, and other Members of Congress that include **Senator Ernest F. Hollings** and **Representatives Neil Abercrombie, Lois Capps, Wayne Gilchrest, Bart Stupak, and W. J. “Billy” Tauzin**. *See Full List Attached*

WHAT:	<u>Exploring Our Oceans (June 11)</u>	<u>Managing Our Marine Areas (June 12)</u>
	Rayburn House Office Bldg., Rm. 2325	Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Rm. G11
	Drugs From the Deep	Success Stories
	Energy	Habitat Restoration
	Ocean Observing Systems	Enjoying Marine Areas: Public Interaction
	The International Perspective	Managing Invasive Species: Underwater Aliens

WHEN: **June 11—MEDIA AVAILABILITY**
Rayburn House Office Bldg., Rm. 2218
9:00am
Keynote speakers and participants will make themselves available to discuss Capitol Hill Oceans Week and other current ocean issues. Participants include:
The Honorable Tom Allen, Co-Chair, House Oceans Caucus
The Honorable Sam Farr, Co-Chair, House Oceans Caucus
The Honorable Curt Weldon, Co-Chair, House Oceans Caucus
Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Ret.) Chair, U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy
Jean-Michel Cousteau, NMSF Trustee, ocean explorer

WHY: Now in its third year, this symposium, coordinated by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, has established itself as one of the most important events of the year for exchanging knowledge and ideas about ocean issues and policies. Capitol Hill Oceans Week 2003 is intended to build bridges among the various ocean constituents, as well as to place ocean issues prominently before our nation’s leaders. Congressional Partners include Members of the following Committees: the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, the House Committee on Resources, the House Committee on Science, and the House Oceans Caucus.

Schedule Media Coverage with Laurie Howell – see contact information above. For more detailed information on Capitol Hill Oceans Week, please see www.nmsfocean.org.