

High Seas Marine Protected Areas: Safeguarding Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

Co-hosted by the Environmental Law Institute and
the DC Bar, Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Section

Environmental Law Institute, Washington DC
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PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Jeff Ardron, Director, High Seas Program, Marine Conservation Biology Institute

Jeff Ardron, MSc, is currently working in Washington DC, as Director of the High Seas Program for the Marine Conservation Biology Institute (MCBI.org), and co-lead on its Surveillance and Enforcement of Remote Maritime Areas (SERMA) project. Previously, for three years he was a senior scientific advisor on marine protected areas (MPAs) for the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. He has also consulted widely, recently for marine planning projects in West Africa, Canada, and Europe. He serves on the IUCN World Commission on Protected areas as Advisor on MPA Design, Tools, and Software, and also serves as a Scientific Advisor on the High Seas MPA Task Force. He is a co-founder and current President of the Board for the Pacific Marine Analysis and Research Association (PacMARA.org) in British Columbia, Canada. He has worked in the fishing sector, NGO sector, in federal government, and within international conventions. Most recently, he is an active member of the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI.org), serving on its Science Board. A specialist in marine spatial planning, systematic conservation design, and international maritime policy, a central theme throughout his work is the bridging of marine science with policy development.

David Freestone, Executive Director, Sargasso Sea Initiative

Dr. David Freestone was recently appointed Executive Director of the Sargasso Sea Initiative, an international partnership lead by the government of Bermuda that seeks to establish a high seas protected area in the Sargasso Sea. Dr. Freestone has also been a visiting professor at the George Washington University Law School since January 2009, following his tenure at the

World Bank, where he had served as senior adviser and as deputy general counsel, and for eight years was chief counsel and head of the Environment and International Law Group. He is also senior adviser to the USA Multilateral Office of the International Union of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Dr. Freestone has written widely on international environmental law and law of the Sea and is the founding editor of the International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law (now in its 24th year) and a member of the editorial boards of the British Yearbook of International Law, International Yearbook of Environmental Law, and European Yearbook of Environmental Law.

Elizabeth Kim, Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, US Department of State

Elizabeth Kim serves as the Senior Coordinator for the Law of the Sea in the Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs within the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs at the Department of State. She is responsible for development, formulation, and coordination of U.S. objectives and initiatives in law of the sea matters and oceans policy. Dr. Kim heads the U.S. delegation to the United Nations General Assembly Working Group on issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction. Before coming to the State Department in 2008, Dr. Kim worked for 11 years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on marine pollution control, including the regulation of ocean dumping and vessel discharges. Dr. Kim holds a law degree and a PhD in marine ecology.

Russell La Motte, Principal, Beveridge & Diamond (member of World Ocean Council)

Mr. LaMotte practices in the area of international and U.S. environmental, climate change, and oceans law. As co-chair of the firm's International Environmental Practice Group, he represents clients in matters relating to international environmental and oceans-related regulatory regimes, and advises clients on multi-jurisdictional product compliance regulatory matters. He also serves as co-chair of the firm's Climate Change Practice Group, where he advises clients on both the emerging U.S. climate change regimes and the evolving international climate change framework. Mr. LaMotte served for over ten years as an international lawyer at the U.S. Department of State, where he was most recently Deputy Assistant Legal Adviser, and where he represented the U.S. Government in either designing, negotiating or implementing most of the major environmental and oceans agreements and initiatives. He has extensive experience with complex international dispute resolution and the legal aspects of the United Nations and other international organizations.

Moderator: John Pendergrass, Co-Director, International Programs, Environmental Law Institute

John Pendergrass has researched and written on a broad range of legal and policy issues focusing on what works in practice and how to improve the implementation of law. He writes regularly about innovative state environmental and natural resource programs as well as federal preemption of state laws. He leads ELI's Judicial Education Program to educate judges in the United States and throughout the world about environmental law. He also is Co-Director of ELI's International Programs. Pendergrass has been with ELI since 1988.