

Ocean Rights: An emerging movement

Tuesday June 18th, 2019, 12:00-1:30 Pacific Standard Time

By internet: <https://zoom.us/j/757896922>; Webinar will be recorded

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in law and policy to protect the Ocean. The course will highlight the evolution of legal principles and guidelines for marine protected areas, and the successes and challenges with the current frameworks. The course will then introduce Ocean Rights and the Earth Law Framework for Marine Protected Areas, a guideline for evolving current frameworks to include Rights of Nature, providing for a non-anthropocentric approach to marine protection. Among the case studies to be explored, will be an in depth presentation on the Marae Moana Marine Park. Created in 2017, the Park exemplifies the commitment towards Ocean Rights and implementation of the Earth Law Framework.

Chair: Michelle Bender, Ocean Rights Manager, Earth Law Center

Panelists:

<p>Barbara Lausche</p> 	<p>Barbara Lausche is an international environmental lawyer with more than 30 years of experience working with governments and organizations worldwide, concentrating on conservation. A member of IUCN's World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) since 1980, she has actively contributed over the years to IUCN law publications and projects in developing countries. She continues to advise on protected areas law, compliance with international conventions, law and policy principles of biodiversity conservation, and since the late 2000s, marine and coastal issues and connectivity conservation. She also is an active member of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and its Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group and Director of the Marine Policy Institute (MPI) at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium.</p>
<p>Michelle Bender</p> 	<p>Michelle Bender is the Ocean Rights Manager at Earth Law Center (ELC), spearheading an innovative and paradigm-shifting solution to our ocean management challenges. She also serves on the executive committee of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature; and is a member of the IUCN's World Commission on Environmental Law. Michelle also conducts ongoing work for NOAA and the Friends of the Sea Otter, focusing on Large Marine Ecosystem governance and marine mammal protection. In 2018 she was named one of 15 Youth Ocean Leaders by the Sustainable Ocean Alliance. Michelle graduated Summa Cum Laude from Vermont Law School, where she earned a Master's in Environmental Law and Policy and holds a B.S. in Biology with a Marine Emphasis from Western Washington University.</p>
<p>Jacqueline Evans</p> 	<p>Jacqueline Evans is the Director of the Marae Moana Coordination Office at the Cook Islands Office of the Prime Minister. Jacqui has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji and a Master of Arts in Geography from the East West Center, Hawaii. Her lifelong commitment has been to the protection of the marine environment in the Cook Islands. Jacqui has worked for WWF and local Cook Islands NGO, Te Ipukarea Society, an IUCN member. Jacqui has also worked in the Cook Islands government at the Ministry of Marine Resources, National Environment Service and Ministry of Health. Jacqui recently received the 2019 Goldman Environmental Prize for Islands and Island Nations for her work to establish Marae Moana, the Cook Islands Marine Park, over the entire Cook Islands ocean territory. At the prize ceremony, Jacqui advocated for the rights of the ocean.</p>