

# Impact Report '25



MOST LIFE ON EARTH LIVES IN THE DARK

DR. SYLVIA EARLE

MISSION BLUE



**A Message  
of Hope and  
Responsibility**

# From the Founder

**FOR MOST OF HISTORY**, we did not understand how essential the ocean is to life on Earth.

**Now we know. And knowing means we have a responsibility — and an opportunity — to act.**

Sixteen years ago, Mission Blue began with a simple idea: **that hope, grounded in science and community, could ignite global action.**

Today, Hope Spots span 115 countries and the High Seas — places critical to the health of our ocean and the stability of our planet.

What began as inspiration has become measurable protection. What began as a spark has become a global movement.

**We are living in a decisive decade.**

**The science is clear.**

**The tools exist.**

**The will is growing.**

The question is no longer: can we protect the ocean?  
The question is: whether we will.

**With gratitude and urgency,**



**Dr. Sylvia Earle**

Founder, Mission Blue



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# A Year in Summary

**KATE MORRISON**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**DR. SYLVIA EARLE**  
FOUNDER AND CEO

**DR. TESSA HEMPSON**  
CHIEF SCIENTIST

# From Leadership

**AS WE REFLECT** on the past year, we are reminded that protecting the ocean is both a scientific and a human endeavor.

Across the Mission Blue network, Hope Spot Champions, scientists, and local communities continued to demonstrate what is possible when knowledge, leadership, and passion come together in service of a living ocean.

From advancing marine science and biodiversity monitoring to strengthening community-driven conservation efforts around the world, the Hope Spot network continues to grow as a powerful platform for ocean protection.

In 2025, Mission Blue deepened its commitment to science-informed conservation. Through forging new collaborative partnerships and harnessing emerging tools we are working across our Hope Spots network to build the knowledge base needed to better understand and protect the ocean ecosystems that sustain life on Earth.

At the same time, the strength of Mission Blue remains rooted in people. Our global network of Champions and partners continues to lead locally grounded solutions that inspire action far beyond their communities. Their work reminds us that meaningful ocean protection begins with those who know and care for these places most deeply.

Looking ahead, this decade is decisive. By combining science, community leadership, and strategic partnerships, Mission Blue is working to accelerate progress toward the global target of protecting at least 30% of the ocean by 2030.

We are deeply grateful to the partners, supporters, and Champions who make this work possible. Together, we are building a global movement to secure a healthy ocean — while there is still time.

With gratitude,

**Kate Morrison** and **Dr. Tessa Hempson**



# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Message From the Founder</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Summary From Leadership</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Hope is Contagious. Protection is Possible.</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Impact by the Numbers</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Building A Global Movement for Ocean Protection</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Hope Spots: From Hope to Action</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Welcome New Hope Spots</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Hope Spot Grantees 2025</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>From Reef Monitoring to Mangrove Restoration</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Extraordinary People. One Ocean.</b>
<b>32</b>	<b>Policy in Action</b>
<b>33</b>	<b>Advancing Ocean Protection</b>
<b>36</b>	<b>Partners in Protection</b>
<b>39</b>	<b>The Ocean Needs Leadership</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>Our Team</b>
<b>42</b>	<b>Financial Overview</b>

# Hope is Contagious. Protection is Possible.

**THE CASE FOR SUPPORT:** When Dr. Sylvia Earle launched Mission Blue in 2009, the goal was simple: **Ignite Hope.**

**Hope rooted in science.**

**Hope powered by community.**

**Hope that leads to protection.**

Sixteen years later, that spark has become the world's largest locally led marine conservation network — 168 Hope Spots across 115 countries and the High Seas, influencing more than 57 million square kilometers of ocean.

**But this moment demands more than inspiration.**

We are living in a decisive decade. Scientists agree that protecting at least 30% of the ocean by 2030 is essential to stabilize climate, safeguard biodiversity, and secure food systems for billions of people.

For the first time in human history, the tools, science, and global agreements exist to protect vast ocean ecosystems at scale. What is needed now is momentum. Hope Spots are not symbolic designations. They are accelerators of protection.

Mission Blue provides the global scaffold for locally led biodiversity action — amplifying community leadership with science, visibility, and policy momentum.

**The ocean can recover. We have seen reefs regenerate, sharks return, and ecosystems rebound when protection is real.**

Investing in Mission Blue means accelerating proven models of protection at the exact moment the world is ready to act.

**Hope is contagious.**

**Protection is possible.**

**Now is the time.**

A large school of manta rays swimming in deep blue water. The rays are densely packed, creating a shimmering, undulating pattern of light and dark shapes. The water is a deep, clear blue, and the overall scene is serene and majestic.

MISSION BLUE

Mission Blue is building something rare —  
a decentralized network that moves with speed,  
integrity, and courage.

PRINCE HUSSAIN AGA KHAN

# Mission Blue

## Impact by the Numbers

	2015	2025	Result
Designated Hope Spots	50	168	+ 234%
Countries Engaged	42	115	+ 173%
Ocean Area Covered	18 million km <sup>2</sup>	>57 million km <sup>2</sup>	+ 222%
Hope Spots with Increased Protection	—	21	Increased area of protection
Hope Spot Champions	60	>220	Largest global locally-led ocean network
Conservation Partners	75	>200	Strengthened global coalition
Grants to Hope Spot Champions	—	\$1,9 million	Direct local impact
Global Coverage of MPAs	3% protected	10% protected	1200+ threatened species safeguarded through the Hope Spot network
Public Reach	<1 million	>150 million	Rolex, Netflix, Podcasts, ABC, NBC, CNN

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**TED**

▶ [WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

# Building A Global Movement for Ocean Protection

**2025** marked 16 years of global impact while expanding scientific programming, strengthening policy influence, and deepening partnerships across continents.

In 2009, Dr. Sylvia Earle founded Mission Blue with a bold and unconventional vision. At the time, the marine conservation field was rich with scientific expertise, dedicated organizations, and local action. Yet it remained fragmented — lacking a unifying framework to connect efforts, elevate visibility, and drive collective impact at the scale required to protect the ocean.

**Sylvia recognized this gap.**

Rather than creating another organization focused on a single geography, species, or intervention, she built something fundamentally different: **a global platform designed to connect, amplify, and accelerate the work of others.**

I wish you would use all means at your disposal — films! expeditions! the web! more! — to ignite public support for a global network of marine protected areas, Hope Spots large enough to save and restore the ocean, the blue heart of the planet.

DR. SYLVIA EARLE

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# Hope Spots: From Hope to Action

**IN 2025** the Mission Blue Hope Spot network expanded both in reach and in impact – advancing from awareness to measurable protection outcomes.

Across oceans and communities, new Hope Spots and strengthened champions are driving science-based conservation, elevating local leadership, and accelerating progress toward 30x30.

Together, these efforts reflect a growing global movement turning hope into durable action for the ocean.

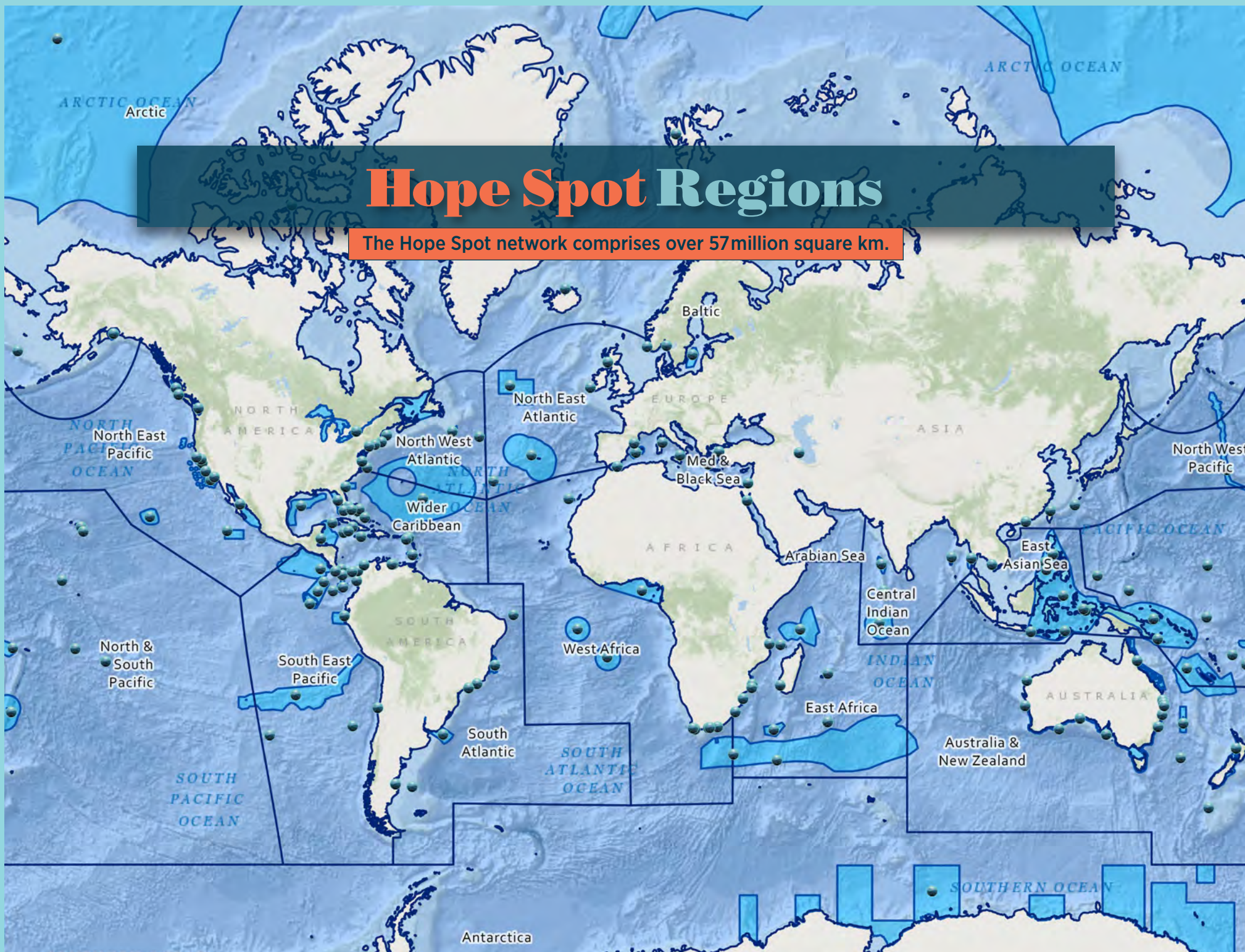
## Global Impact At-A-Glance

<b>Reach:</b>	<b>115 Countries</b>	Expanding Global Footprint
<b>Scale:</b>	<b>&gt; 57 million km<sup>2</sup></b>	Priority Areas for Ocean Protection
<b>Protection:</b>	<b>5 Regions</b>	Policy and Conservation Outcomes
<b>Network:</b>	<b>168 Hope Spots</b>	Growing Global Network

Mission Blue is the connective infrastructure enabling ocean protection at a global scale—linking science, local leadership, and policy. VASSER SEYDEL

# Hope Spot Regions

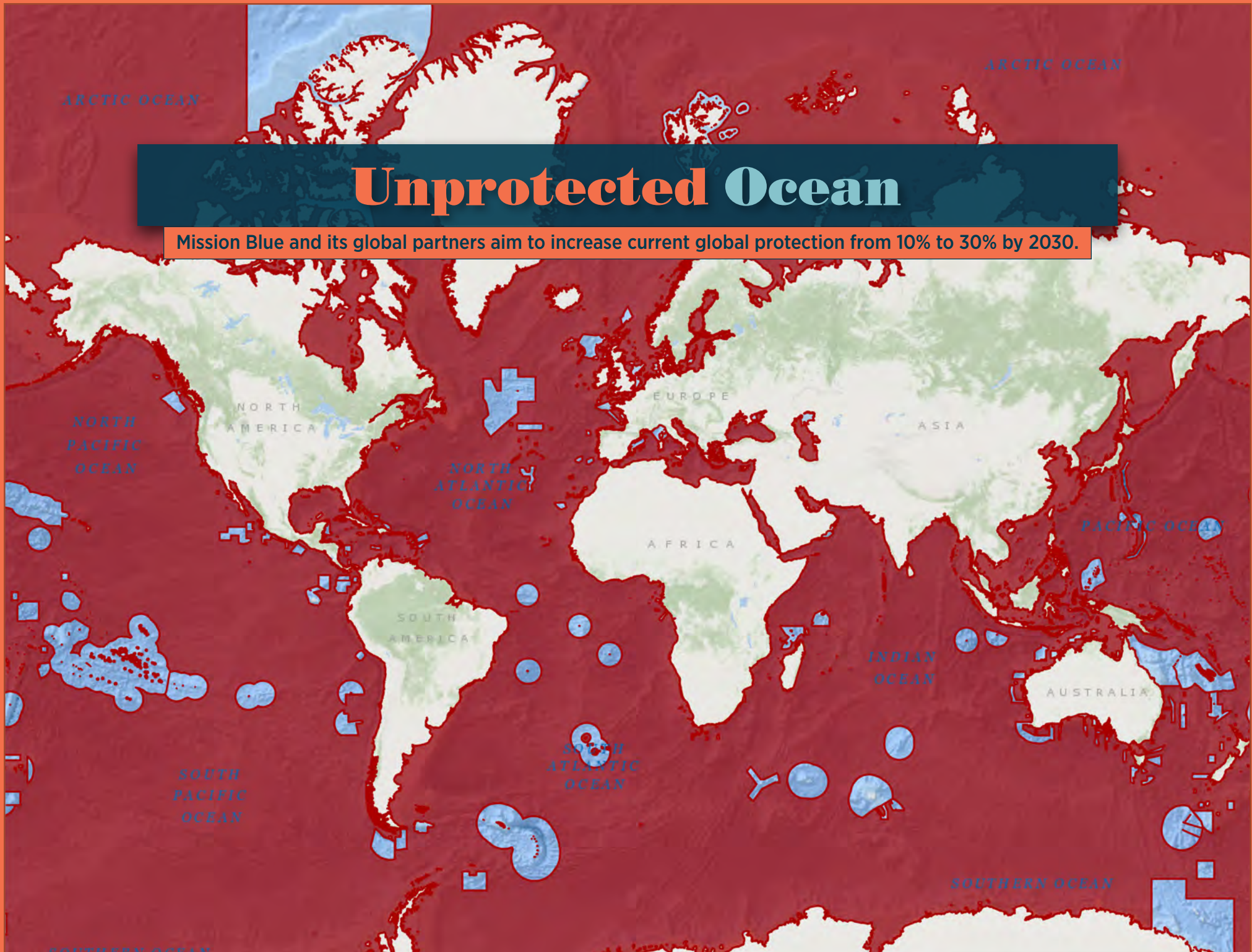
The Hope Spot network comprises over 57 million square km.



SOURCES: ESRI, TOMTOM, GARMIN, GEBCO, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, NOAA, GIS USER COMMUNITY

# Unprotected Ocean

Mission Blue and its global partners aim to increase current global protection from 10% to 30% by 2030.



## Welcome New Hope Spots of 2025



### 1. Fernando de Noronha, Brazil

A remote volcanic archipelago, Fernando de Noronha is widely regarded as one of the most pristine marine environments in the Atlantic, with exceptional water clarity and thriving reef systems. Its protected status has enabled remarkable biodiversity, serving as a critical refuge for sharks, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and a wide array of reef fish.

The islands play an essential role in supporting breeding, feeding, and migratory pathways for key marine species across the South Atlantic. Strong local stewardship and long-standing conservation measures have made Fernando de Noronha a model for sustainable ocean management.

As a Mission Blue Hope Spot, it represents both a sanctuary for marine life and a powerful example of what effective protection can achieve. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

### 2. Chesapeake Bay, USA

The largest estuary in the United States, Chesapeake Bay is a truly dynamic and highly productive ecosystem that supports thousands of species, including blue crabs, oysters, migratory birds, and important fish populations. Its vast watershed connects forests, rivers, farms, and cities, making it both ecologically significant and deeply intertwined with regional economies and cultural heritage.

Decades of collaborative restoration efforts have focused on improving water quality, rebuilding oyster reefs, and restoring critical habitats such as seagrass beds. While challenges remain, these efforts are demonstrating measurable progress and renewed resilience across the system.

As a Mission Blue Hope Spot, Chesapeake Bay represents a powerful example of large-scale ecosystem recovery driven by partnership, science, and community engagement. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)



### 3. **Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, USA**

Rising from the depths of the Pacific, Cordell Bank is a remarkable underwater plateau that creates a nutrient-rich haven supporting an extraordinary diversity of marine life — from dense invertebrate communities to critical feeding grounds for whales, seabirds, and sharks. As part of the highly productive California Current ecosystem, it plays a vital role in regional ocean health and climate resilience.

Protected as a National Marine Sanctuary since 1989, Cordell Bank represents one of the most biologically significant offshore environments along the U.S. West Coast.

The Hope Spot designation brings global recognition and renewed momentum to ongoing conservation, research, and stewardship efforts. Led by dedicated local champions, this designation helps elevate awareness and strengthen long-term protection of this unique and irreplaceable ecosystem. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

## Welcome New Hope Spot Champions



### We are proud to welcome new Champions stewarding these iconic Hope Spots.

- **Danielle Lipski**, Acting Superintendent of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries;
- **Monika Krach**, Executive Director of the Greater Farallones Association;
- **Jennifer Stock**, Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries; and
- **Gavin Chilcott**, Board President of the Cordell Marine Sanctuary Foundation, bring deep expertise and a shared commitment to ocean conservation.

Together, they are advancing coordinated stewardship across this globally significant marine ecosystem — strengthening protection, elevating public awareness, and helping ensure the long-term resilience of one of California's most biologically rich coastal regions.

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# Hope Spot Grantees 2025



# From Reef Monitoring to Mangrove Restoration

**SINCE** 2020 Mission Blue has deployed a dedicated **Hope Spot Champion Fund** to directly support the local leaders driving ocean protection around the world.

To date, Mission Blue has invested \$1.9 million in direct support to Champions globally—catalyzing local action with global impact.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the visionary funders, **Rolex** and **The Plum Foundation** who make this work possible.

Their investment empowers Hope Spot Champions — the on-the-ground changemakers advancing science, community engagement, and durable protection in some of the world's most critical marine ecosystems.

## 2025 Grantees: These projects demonstrate the power of investing in local leadership to achieve global ocean protection.

REEF ASSESSMENT © JEM MONGADO



### Grantee: Verde Island Passage, Philippines



**Project:** Sustaining Hope for the Verde Island Passage using Reef Citizen Science

**Hope Spot Champion:** Wilfredo Y. Licuanan

This project strengthened community-led reef monitoring and conservation by mobilizing citizen scientists and building local capacity across stakeholder groups. A total of 70 individuals were trained, and 65 reef surveys were conducted across three municipalities.

The data generated directly informed management decisions, including the temporary closure of a degraded reef site — demonstrating the power of community science to drive real protection outcomes. The initiative established a strong foundation for long-term monitoring and significantly advanced conservation efforts within this globally important marine corridor. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

SHARK TAGGING © EDUAR HERRERO



### Grantee: Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica



**Project:** Community-Based Mangrove Restoration and Marine Conservation

**Hope Spot Champions:** Ilena Zanella & Andres Lopez

This project delivered measurable ecosystem restoration and strengthened local stewardship through a comprehensive, community-driven approach. Over 24,000 mangroves were planted across 20 hectares, supporting coastal resilience and biodiversity.

In parallel, 44 research expeditions advanced scientific understanding of sharks and rays, while community workshops, clean-ups, and sustainable livelihood initiatives deepened local engagement. The certification of Costa Rica's first three UNESCO Blue Schools further expanded ocean education and awareness.

These efforts enhanced ecosystem protection, community ownership, and long-term conservation capacity. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

COMMUNITY VESSEL ON A MISSION © DAN ABBOTT



**Grantee: Balearic Islands, Spain**



**Project: Community Vessel: Science, Education, and Awareness at Sea**  
**Hope Spot Champion: Brad Robertson**

The Community Vessel Pilot demonstrated an innovative model for marine conservation by integrating science, education, and collaboration aboard a mobile, ocean-based platform.

Engaging over 90 participants, the initiative generated valuable ecological data, tested new monitoring approaches, and strengthened partnerships across government, scientific institutions, and local communities.

The project also supported targeted restoration actions and established a scalable framework for long-term, community-led conservation in the Balearic Islands. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

SHANNON MCINTYRE RAKE AND STUDENTS © MISSION BLUE



**Grantee: Aliwal Shoal, South Africa**



**Project: The Aliwal Shoal Diving Education and Art Programme**  
**Hope Spot Champion: Russel Symcox**

In 2025, this program engaged 80 youth in immersive marine education experiences within the Aliwal Shoal Marine Protected Area. Through hands-on learning, diving exposure, and creative expression, participants developed a deeper understanding of ocean ecosystems and conservation challenges.

The program strengthened ocean literacy, fostered a sense of stewardship, and inspired interest in marine-related careers — empowering the next generation as advocates for long-term protection of this iconic Hope Spot. ► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)

SHELLEY PAYNE · SALISBURY ISLAND



ANITA KOLNI · SYDNEY COAST



RICK & JAIME ISBELL · TAVARUA ISLAND



ILENA ZANELLA & ANDRES LOPEZ · GOLFO DULCE



YUDMILA CHUNGUANE & FRANCESCA TROTMAN · JANGAMO BAY



AMY WARREN · GUANAHACABIBES



DAVID AVILÉS & GEMMA INFANTE · ALBORÁN SEA



ALLEN CHEN & ERIN TSENG · DATAN ALGAL REEF



CHRIS PHAM · AZORES · SYLVIA & SHANNON



RUSS SYMCOX & CLAIRE TAYLOR · ALIWA SHOAL INDIAN OCEAN



BRAD ROBERTSON · BALEARIC ISLANDS



ANGELA SMITH · COASTAL FLORIDA



KARINA AINELSON & SYLVIA GIBSON · SF BAY



JENNIFER LODER & CHRIS ROELFSEMA · MORETON BAY



CÉCILE GASPARD · TETIAROA ATOLL



ALIWA SHOAL



ANNABEL LAWRENCE · ARGYLL COAST & ISLANDS



ALINE AGUIAR & CAIO SALLES · CAGARRAS ISLANDS



BONNIE MONTELEONE · CAPE HATTERAS



BEN FITZPATRICK · EXMOUTH GULF & NINGALOO COAST



NOHORA GALTAR · CABO TIBURÓN



RAY BOUCHARD, TRACY TIPPIN & VICKY LOVE · FLORIDA GULF COAST



WILFREDO Y. LICUANAN · VERDE ISLANDS PASSAGE



ELENI ATSIKBASIS · LESVOS



JOHN AITCHISON · ARGYLL COAST & ISLANDS



# Extraordinary People. One Ocean.

**ACROSS** 168 Hope Spots, local Champions are transforming science into policy, community into momentum, and hope into measurable protection.

Meet the global network of Champions protecting the places that matter most.

The following pages feature five Hope Spot highlights where community leadership, science, and global advocacy have converged to create meaningful, lasting ocean protection.

- **Whale and Dolphin Sanctuary of Uruguay:** New MPA.
- **Exmouth Gulf and Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area, Australia:** New Marine Park.
- **Quirimbas Archipelago, Mozambique:** New EPA declared.
- **Tavarua Island, Fiji:** New Marine Reserve declared.
- **Great Fringing Reef of the Red Sea, Egypt:** New Marine Reserve established.

Hope Spots prove that local leadership, backed by science, can drive global change.

KATE MORRISON, MANAGING DIRECTOR

# Whale and Dolphin Sanctuary of Uruguay

BREACHING HUMBACK WHALE © RODRIGO GARCIA PINGARO

## Highlighted Hope Spot A new Marine Protected Area.

### Uruguay's fight to protect the whales.

The establishment of the Isla de Lobos Marine Protected Area in 2024 marks a major step forward in Uruguay's ocean stewardship.

Driven by sustained advocacy from local leaders, including Hope Spot Champions Organización para la Conservación de Cetáceos, this protection safeguards critical habitat for sea lions, fur seals, and migratory whales. It represents meaningful progress toward Uruguay's commitment to protect 10% of its ocean by 2030.

This milestone demonstrates how long-term, locally led advocacy — amplified through the Hope Spot network — can translate into lasting protection outcomes.

► EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT



HOPE SPOT CHAMPION MAY ROVAHZ  
[ORGANIZACIÓN PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE CETÁCEOS]



URUGUAY

HOPE SPOT®



SENSORIAL EXPERIENCE © CAROL, FUNDACION VERDE



SCHOOL OUTING © GONZALO BRAVO



ISLA DE LOBOS AEREA © J. IKATU



**Exmouth Gulf and  
Ningaloo Coast  
World Heritage Area  
Western Australia**

## Highlighted Hope Spot A new Marine Park announced.

### This area really rocks.

On September 4, 2025, the Cook Government announced the establishment of a whole-of-gulf marine park, marking a major conservation milestone for Exmouth Gulf.

This achievement reflects decades of sustained research, advocacy, and community leadership driven by Hope Spot Champions Oceanwise, alongside partners including Cape Conservation Group, Protect Ningaloo, and many others.

The Hope Spot designation helped elevate global visibility and strengthen the case for protection, supporting a unified effort to safeguard this ecologically and culturally significant region. While the new marine park represents an important step toward long-term protection, it also underscores the continued collaboration needed to secure lasting conservation outcomes.

► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)



HOPE SPOT CHAMPION BEN FITZPATRICK [OCEANWISE]



MANGROVES AND SAND FLATS © BEN FITZPATRICK



WESTERN AUSTRALIA



BLUE RINGED OCTOPUS © ANDREW DAVENPORT



WHALE SHARK © ALEX BELL

# Quirimbas Archipelago

## Mozambique

## Highlighted Hope Spot A new EPA declared.

### One of the most bio- diverse regions in the Western Indian Ocean.

First recognized as a Mission Blue Hope Spot, this designation elevated the region's global significance and helped catalyze on-going efforts led by local champions.

In 2025, the Government of Mozambique formally declared the area an EPA, marking a major milestone in securing long-term protection.

Mission Blue also played a key role in galvanizing the Mozambique conservation alliance, helping to mobilize nearly \$3 million in recent funding.

Together, these efforts represent a powerful model of how global recognition, local leadership, and coordinated investment can drive lasting ocean protection.

► EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT



HOPE SPOT CHAMPION GELICA INTECA [FUNDAÇÃO QUIRIMBAS]



DUGOUT CANOE © DR. MARK ZIEMBICKI



BUBBLE AND CLOWN FISH © DR. MARK ZIEMBICKI



NAPOLEON WRASSE © DR. MARK ZIEMBICKI

# Tavarua Island

## Fiji

TAVARUA ISLAND AERIAL © SARAH LEE



## Highlighted Hope Spot A new Marine Reserve established.

### A miraculous success story.

The establishment of the Tavarua Island Marine Reserve marks an important milestone in Fiji's leadership in ocean conservation.

Officially protected in 2025, these waters safeguard an exceptionally biodiverse reef system, home to one of the largest populations of giant clams and more than 200 coral species.

Rooted in years of community-led stewardship and strengthened by its designation as a Mission Blue Hope Spot, the reserve demonstrates how local leadership, supported by a global network, can deliver lasting protection for vital marine ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.

► EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT



HOPE SPOT CHAMPIONS RICK & JAMIE ISBELL  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF JAMIE, WHO INSPIRES US STILL.



FIJI



CLOWNFISH © SCOTT WINER



BABY CLAMS IN ISLAND NURSERY © JAMIE ISBELL



SHALLOW CORAL REEF © SCOTT WINER



# Great Fringing Reef

of the Red Sea, Egypt

TURTLE FEEDING ON SEAGRASS IN MARSA ALAM © RENATA ROMEO

## Highlighted Hope Spot A new MPA declared.

### These reefs provide a vibrant symbol of hope.

The Egyptian government made a major announcement at COP27 in 2022, when the Minister of Environment declared that the entire Great Fringing Reef would be protected through a new MPA spanning over 2,000 km of coastline.

This initial announcement signaled intent and momentum, linking directly to the Hope Spot designation, and laid the groundwork for full legal protection.

That commitment was later formalized in December 2025, when Egypt issued a Prime Ministerial decree officially designating the reef as a national MPA.

This sequence is a strong example of how Hope Spot recognition helped catalyze national-level protection.

► [EXPLORE THIS HOPE SPOT](#)



HOPE SPOT CHAMPIONS DR. MAHMOUD HANAFY [HEPCA], SHANNON MCINTYRE RAKE [MISSION BLUE], NOUR FAÏD [HEPCA]



EGYPT



REEF © RENATA ROMEO



DUGONG © FABRICE DUDENHOFER



YELLOW SCROLL CORAL © RENATA ROMEO

# Policy in Action

In 2025, guided by Dr. Sylvia Earle's global leadership, Mission Blue helped elevate ocean protection priorities in key policy forums and national dialogues.



# Advancing Ocean Protection

**THROUGH** strategic convenings, scientific advocacy, and high-level engagement, Mission Blue influenced marine protection conversations and policy momentum in:

- Bahamas
- Brazil
- Chile
- France
- French Polynesia
- Italy
- Monaco
- Norway
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

**Grounded in science and moral clarity, Sylvia's voice continues to resonate with heads of state, ministers, Indigenous leaders, scientists, and global institutions.**

**Mission Blue's role is catalytic for:**

- Elevating critical ocean places onto national agendas.
- Strengthening the scientific case for expanded MPAs.
- Supporting implementation of 30x30 commitments.
- Connecting local Champions with global policy platforms.

**When local leadership is amplified by trusted global influence, protection accelerates. 2025 demonstrated the power of combining science, visibility, and principled advocacy to move policy from intention to action.**

## A New Model for Ocean Conservation

Through the Hope Spots network, Sylvia reframed conservation as a community-led, globally connected movement.

**This model is grounded in a simple but powerful idea: lasting ocean protection happens when local leadership is supported, connected, and visible at a global level.**

**Instead of centralized program delivery, Mission Blue enables:**

- Local “Hope Spot Champions” to lead conservation in their own regions.
- Scientists, NGOs, and communities to align around shared priorities.
- Global storytelling to elevate local success and influence policy and investment.

## 16 Years of System-Level Impact

**Over the past sixteen years, this approach has created a multiplier effect across the global ocean conservation landscape:**

- Hundreds of community leaders empowered as conservation changemakers.
- A global network of Hope Spots spanning critical marine ecosystems.
- Increased visibility for locally led conservation efforts, elevating them onto the global stage.
- Strengthened collaboration across organizations, sectors, and geographies.
- Accelerated policy progress and funding flows through amplified, place-based impact.

**These outcomes are not the result of one single program — they are the result of a system designed to enable many efforts to succeed simultaneously.**



## The Ripple Effect

**Sylvia's legacy is best understood not through individual projects, but through the ripple effect her model has created:**

- Each Hope Spot becomes a center of action.
- Each Champion becomes a multiplier of impact.
- Each local success contributes to broader global progress.

**This distributed approach reflects a fundamental truth: ocean conservation at scale cannot be delivered from the top down — it must grow from the bottom up.**

## A Platform for the Future

**Today, Mission Blue stands as a global infrastructure for ocean conservation, uniquely positioned to help achieve the goal of protecting at least 30% of the ocean by 2030.**

**Sylvia's vision has laid the foundation for a model that is:**

- Scalable across geographies and ecosystems.
- Resilient, rooted in local leadership.
- Collaborative, bridging science, community, and policy.
- Catalytic, leveraging investment into broader impact.

## Enduring Impact

**Sylvia did not set out to build a traditional conservation organization.**

**She built a movement — one that continues to grow, adapt, and expand through the people and places it empowers.**

**Her greatest contribution is not a single achievement, but a living system — one that enables ocean protection to happen everywhere, all at once.**



Hayes  
Foundation



code  
blue

# Partners in Protection

## Institutions Advancing a Living Ocean

**Enduring change requires enduring partnerships.**

**Mission Blue is strengthened by a circle of visionary institutions who share a long-term commitment to ocean protection — not as charity, but as responsibility.**

**These partners do not simply fund programs.**

**They help build the global platform accelerating protection in the ocean's most critical places.**

## Foundational Global Partners

Organizations that help shape Mission Blue's global vision, credibility, and long-term scale — providing multi-dimensional support across funding, influence, and platform.

- **Rolex**
- **National Geographic**
- **The Plum Foundation**
- **Hayes Foundation**
- **Focused on Nature**
- **Code Blue Foundation**



## Protection at scale is not achieved alone, it is built through aligned leadership.

### Impact Partners

Partners that advance Mission Blue's programs while mobilizing global audiences through creative campaigns and purpose-driven engagement.

- **Biotherm**
- **MSC Foundation**
- **Rona and Jeffrey Abramson Foundation**
- **Eric Schwartz Family Foundation**

### Science, Data & Systems Partners

Collaborators providing critical science, data, & technical capabilities to strengthen ocean understanding and protection.

- **Esri**
- **IUCN** — Mission Blue's longstanding relationship with IUCN reflects a deep alignment of core values: advancing the protection of the ocean and all of nature through science, collaboration, and global action. From our earliest days, Mission Blue has pursued a global approach in sync with IUCN's objectives, and we are pleased to be more solidly connected with IUCN as the "United Nations for Nature."

MISSION BLUE



DR. SYLVIA EARLE

# The Ocean Needs Leadership

BE PART OF IT.

**The next five years are decisive.**

**Mission Blue is accelerating full protection in the ocean's most critical places – uniting Champions, science, and influence on a global scale:**

- Power Local Leadership.
- Advance Science.
- Strengthen Protection.
- Shape the Future of the Ocean.

▶ [WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

Hope is great — we need hope.  
But hope alone isn't enough.  
We need hope leading to action.

DR. SYLVIA EARLE

THE MOMENT IS NOW.

# Board of Directors



**Sylvia Earle, PhD**  
President & Co-Chair



**Prince Hussain Aga Khan**



**Nicola Esposito**



**Ted Janulis**



**Kristin Lindblad**



**Gabrielle McGee**



**Amy Novogratz**



**Shannon O'Leary**



**Philippe Prufer**



**Shari Sant**



**Vasser Seydel**



**Elizabeth Taylor**



**Kate Morrison**  
Managing Director



**Laura Cassiani**  
Chief Advancement  
Officer



**Louise Baldwin**  
Hope Spots Specialist



**Emily Davenport**  
Communications  
Director



**Carolina Dratva**  
Advancement Support  
Services



**Taylor Griffith**  
Digital Content



**Dr. Tessa Hempson**  
Chief Scientist

# Our Team



**Moloko Kgowedi**  
GIS Analyst



**Dan Laffoley**  
Chair  
Hope Spot Council



**Kristen Lennex**  
Donor Relations  
Associate



**Sean Malloy**  
Digital Content



**Robin Metoxen**  
Accounting



**Shannon McIntyre Rake**  
Hope Spots Program  
Manager



**Tamika L. Washington**  
Controller



**Erin Whittle**  
Director of Development

# Stewardship. Strength. Scale.

## Financial Overview and Institutional Growth

Mission Blue's growth reflects disciplined stewardship, strong governance, and long-term commitment to durable ocean protection.

Over the past decade, we have scaled responsibly — strengthening our financial foundation while expanding global impact.

### Financial Summary

#### Assets

##### Current Assets

Checking/Savings	\$ 2,427,169
Accounts Receivable	\$ 372,956

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<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,800,125</b>
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Fixed Assets	\$ 32,113
Other Assets	\$ 18,924

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<b>Total Fixed &amp; Other Assets</b>	<b>\$ 51,038</b>
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<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,851,163</b>
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### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 108,276
Credit Cards	\$ 18,003
Other Current Liabilities	\$ 76,389

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**Total Liabilities** **\$ 202,668**

#### Net Assets

With Donor Restrictions	\$ 962,529
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 1,938,531
Net Income	- \$ 252,565

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**Total Net Assets** **\$ 2,648,495**

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**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$ 2,851,163**

### Revenues and Expenses

#### Revenue Without Donor Restrictions

Corporate Contributions	\$ 73,535
Foundation Contributions	\$ 364,876
Board Members	\$ 201,100
Individual Contributions	\$ 307,216

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**Total Revenue Without Donor Restrictions** **\$ 946,727**

#### Revenue

<b>With Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>\$ 1,844,984</b>
Investments	\$ 24,129
Online Sales & Programs	\$ 5,926

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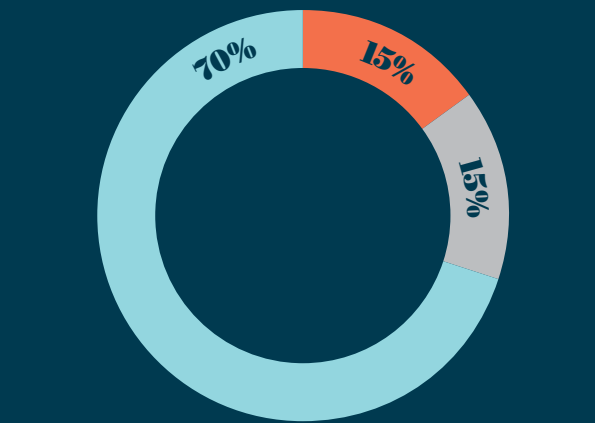
**Total Other Revenue** **\$ 1,875,039**

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**Total Revenue** **\$ 2,821,766**

#### Expenses

Hope Spots Programs	\$ 2,141,706
<b>Operations</b>	<b>\$ 469,039</b>
Development	\$ 463,586




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**Total Expenses** **\$ 3,074,331**

► MISSION BLUE FINANCIALS

MISSION BLUE

**“No Ocean, No Life.”**

2025 IMPACT REPORT

# No Blue, No Green.”

DR. SYLVIA EARLE



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