Maritime Spatial Planning
Developments in Australia

e-Nav Underway 2013

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Opinions contained in this presentation are the presenter’s and not necessarily those of AMSA or the Australian government
Presentation Outline

- What is MSP?
- MSP in Australia in general
- Water Space Management – NW and NE Australia
- Tools for MSP - AMSIS and S-10X
- Conclusions
What is MSP?

EC – MSP is about planning and regulating all human uses of the sea, while protecting marine ecosystems. It focuses on marine waters under national jurisdiction and is concerned only with planning activities at sea. It does not cover management of coastal zones or spatial planning of sea-land interface.

What is MSP?

UNESCO – MSP is a **public process** of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives that have been specified through a political process.

**Management v’s Planning** - Planning is one element of a larger process, which includes implementation, enforcement, monitoring, evaluation, research, public participation, and financing—all of which must be present to carry out effective management over time.

http://www.unesco-ioc-marinesp.be/marine_spatial_planning_msp
• MSP well advanced where its been done for ecological reasons, or in some areas where the main purpose has been for coastal zone management.

• As in other places MSP processes have not always adequately addressed shipping or maritime safety.

• AMSA has been engaged in many elements of MSP, but we have previously focused on discrete locations, or regions.

• AMSA formalizing MSP for shipping and maritime safety in the form of a national coastal shipping management plan.
What is MSP?
MSP in Australia

The Australian Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (GBRMP), well known example of marine park zoning.

Encompasses 2,300 km of coastline and is one of the world’s richest and most diverse marine ecosystems.

The GBRMP covers approximately 344,400 km², making it one of the largest marine protected areas in the world.

AUSTRALIAN COASTAL SHIPPING MANAGEMENT PLAN
Water Space Management

- NW Shipping Management Plan
- NE Shipping Management Plan and the NE WSM Working Group
- Examples of issues ‘unearthed’:
  - Port/pilot limits and shipping routes
Cairns issues Water Space Management
Tools for MSP – AMSIS

- **Australian Maritime Spatial Information System – AMSIS**

  a web based interactive mapping and decision support system that improves access to integrated government and non-government information

  contains layers of information displayed in themes of Maritime Boundaries, Petroleum, Fisheries, Regulatory, Environment, Native Title and Offshore Minerals.

  Information displayed can be interrogated for further details and deeper understanding

Why do we need a new international digital maritime boundary product specification?

Exchange by paper charts and lists of coordinates is limited by scale and volume of information.

Digital data transfer is increasingly ubiquitous.

A standard will be useful for ease of exchange and reduce limitations.

There are none in existence, as yet.
Conclusions

- MSP – relatively advanced for ecological purposes but less advanced for shipping and maritime safety
- AMSA is increasingly adopting MSP principles – a national coastal shipping management plan
- Water Space Management
  - consultative problem solving
  - needs tools, such as AMSIS
- Geoscience Australia engaged internationally to advance the establishment of an international digital maritime boundary product specification (S-10x)
Conclusions

- International development – a new Global Ocean Commission to be based at Somerville College, Oxford, UK and to be officially launched on 12 February at an event in London.
  - High seas issues
  - Governance and management
  - Key maritime bodies and stakeholders to be involved
  - Supported by influential political, business and philanthropic individuals/organisations
Thank you