

**NOAA Office of General Counsel International**  
**Section Issues Covered in Alphabetical Order**

(Last Updated May 12, 2016)

- Antarctic Issues - *Stephanie Altman with Ole Varmer*
- Arctic Issues - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - Arctic Council and its Working Groups (in particular PAME)
  - Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission
  - Shipping, Marine Tourism, Maritime Domain Awareness, MPAs, Environmental Governance
  - U.S. Interagency Arctic Policy Group (APG)
  - U.S. Arctic Policies, Strategies and Plans (e.g., National Security Policy Directive 66, National Strategy for the Arctic Region and its Implementation Plan)
- Biological Diversity - *Ole Varmer w/Derek Campbell and Stephanie Altman*
  - Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)
  - Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)
- Climate Change & Marine Geoengineering - *Richard Mannix*
  - Climate Engineering
- Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning: Jurisdiction - *Ole Varmer*
- Data Buoys and Vandalism - *Peter Oppenheimer*
- Derelict Fishing Gear & Marine Debris - *Stephanie Altman*
- Great Lakes Issues - *Ole Varmer w/ Derek Campbell*
  - Integrated Coastal & Ocean Management
  - International Cooperation and Agreements with Canada
  - Jurisdiction, Management and Enforcement
  - Legal Capacity Building - Technical Assistance
- High Seas Marine Protected Areas - *Ole Varmer w/ Peter Oppenheimer*
- Heritage (cultural & natural) - *Ole Varmer*
  - Admiralty Jurisdiction & Maritime Law
  - RMS *Titanic* and other Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH)
  - UNESCO Conventions, e.g., UCH, World Heritage, Trafficking Cultural Property
- International Fisheries - *Derek Campbell*
  - Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing
  - Other international fisheries instruments and negotiations (e.g., UN Fish Stocks Agreement; FAO Compliance Agreement, RFMO negotiations, FAO negotiations)
  - Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing
  - Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)
  - UN General Assembly Fisheries Resolution

- International Hazardous Waste, Chemicals, Pesticides and Persistent Organic Pollutant Management - *Richard Mannix*
  - Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste
  - Minimata Convention on Mercury
  - Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
  - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
  - Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (Dubai Declaration)
- International Mechanisms for Environmental Impact Assessment - *Richard Mannix*
- International Organization Cooperation & Funding - *Ole Varmer*
- Jurisdiction - *Richard Mannix w/Ole Varmer*
  - Enforcement
  - International Bases for Jurisdiction
  - Sovereign Immunity
- Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution - *Richard Mannix*
  - UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Sources (GPA-LBS) - *w/Stephanie Altman*
  - Marine Disposal of Mine Tailings
- Law of the Sea Convention - *All*
  - Baselines and delimiting Maritime Zones and continental shelf - *Ole Varmer*
  - Interpretation, Accession and Implementation - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - Major Maritime Powers Issues - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - Marine Scientific Research - *Peter Oppenheimer and Ole Varmer*
  - Maritime Boundaries with other nations - *Ole Varmer*
  - NOAA Working Group on Law of the Sea - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - NSS Sub-Interagency Policy Committee on Ocean Policy - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - Related International Instruments Regarding Marine Environmental Protection - *Peter Oppenheimer*
  - UN General Assembly Oceans Resolution - *Peter Oppenheimer*
- Legal Capacity Building, Environmental & Natural Resource Governance - *Stephanie Altman*
- London Dumping Convention/1996 Protocol - *Richard Mannix*
  - CO<sub>2</sub> Sub-seabed Sequestration Agreements
  - Marine Geo-engineering
  - Ocean Fertilization
  - Strategic Plan to Broaden LC/LP Purview
- Marine Pollution (vessel-based and land-based) - *Stephanie Altman*
- Marine Protected Areas, Place-based Management, and Environmental Governance in the High Seas- *All*
- Marine Scientific Research - *Peter Oppenheimer w/Richard Mannix*
  - Law of the Sea Convention Part XIII
  - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
  - Operational Oceanography and Observations

- Protected Resources
  - Convention on Migratory Species MOUs - *Derek Campbell*
  - International Sea Turtle Conservation (e.g., Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles; Sec. 609 of Public Law 101-162 (shrimp-turtle certifications)) - *Derek Campbell*
  - Seabirds - Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels - *Peter Oppenheimer*
- Seabed Management - *Peter Oppenheimer (w/Ole Varmer & Richard Mannix)*
  - Deep Seabed Mining
  - Extended Continental Shelf
  - International Seabed Authority
  - Submarine Cables & Pipelines
- Seaward Limit/Geographical Scope of Laws - *Peter Oppenheimer w/Ole Varmer*
- Ships, Regulation of
  - Anti-fouling Convention - *Stephanie Altman*
  - Aquatic Nuisance Species (i.e., Ballast Water and Biofouling) - *Stephanie Altman and Peter Oppenheimer*
  - Coastal state authority to regulate ships - *Peter Oppenheimer and Stephanie Altman*
  - Greenhouse Gas Emissions - *Stephanie Altman*
  - IMO “tools” (PSSAs, ATBAs, Special Areas, Ship Routing, Reporting and No- Anchoring Requirements, Vessel Traffic Services) - *Stephanie Altman*
  - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS), International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) and other IMO instruments - *Stephanie Altman*
  - Intersection of MARPOL and the London Dumping Convention/London Protocol  
*Stephanie Altman*
  - Polar Shipping Code - *Stephanie Altman*
  - Port Access Route Studies (PARS) - *Stephanie Altman*
  - Port Entry and International Law - *Peter Oppenheimer and Stephanie Altman*
  - Ship Strikes of Cetaceans - *Stephanie Altman*
  - Sovereign Immunity and International Law - *Peter Oppenheimer and Stephanie Altman*
- Statutory Authorities & Policy Drivers - *Richard Mannix*
- Surveys, Mapping and Charting – International issues: *Ole Varmer w/ Peter Oppenheimer*
- Trade and Environment - *Derek Campbell w/Stephanie Altman*
  - International Fisheries Instruments with Trade Provisions
  - Regional and Bilateral Free Trade Agreements - *w/ Stephanie Altman*

- U.S. Natural Resources Laws with Trade Provisions (e.g., High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act, MMPA, Pelly Amendment)
  - WTO (e.g., GATT, TBT, Dispute Resolution)
- Underwater Noise - *Stephanie Altman*
- Unmanned Maritime Vehicles - *Peter Oppenheimer*
- Zones and Boundaries - *Ole Varmer w/ Stephanie Altman & Richard Mannix*
  - U.S. Baseline Committee
  - Delimitation of Maritime Zones
  - Delineation of the Outer Limit of the Extended Continental Shelf
  - Implications of Sea Level Rise
  - International Maritime Boundaries