



## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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### MESSAGE FROM WAYNE FOLLETT, CHAIR, ONE OCEAN

2025 was a productive year for One Ocean, with the advancement of initiatives and priorities in the organizations 2022-2026 strategic plan. With the end of the current term (2022-2026) approaching, exploration of a seventh term commenced this fall, with discussions initiated around objectives, priorities, and projects. To support this exercise, member and observer groups, in consultation with their respective organizations, were invited to complete a ten-question discussion guide. Responses were presented and discussed at the October 30 General meeting, which saw the participation of Directors, Official Observers and Working Group members. This exercise produced valuable feedback and highlighted members' appreciation for One Ocean's role in supporting both sectors in sharing ocean space adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador. We look forward to updating our strategic plan to guide the seventh term in the coming year.

As we wrap up 2025, thanks are extended to the One Ocean Directors, Official Observers, Standing Invitees, Working Group, and Fisheries and Land Tenure Committee members, for their time and continued dedication to the organization. Without the engagement from industry leaders who participate in One Ocean, the success we have all enjoyed would not be possible.

We also send our thanks and appreciation to the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University for continuing to house and provide services to One Ocean. One Ocean is truly fortunate to have a strong connection to the Marine Institute, a world-leading centre for ocean-related career education and research.

I would also like to formally recognize our Managing Director, Ashley Woodford, for her ongoing commitment to One Ocean and for consistently performing her responsibilities with exemplary professionalism. As always, if you have any questions about One Ocean, our activities, or operations, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Ashley.

### ONE OCEAN BOARD

In 2025, One Ocean General and Directors meetings were held in January (Annual Meeting), June and October. 2025 saw the welcoming of new One Ocean Directors Dwan Street, President, FFAW-Unifor, and Jamie Baker, Secretary-Treasurer, FFAW-Unifor.

An important objective for One Ocean is to build awareness and understanding of each sectors operational activities. As such, a component of One Ocean Board meetings is a roundtable, where industry members, along with observers to the Board, are invited to provide updates on activities of interest to



One Ocean member groups. This roundtable, in addition to that conducted at Working Group meetings, helps ensure both sectors are aware of proposed and upcoming activities, and provides the opportunity to proactively identify and address specific industry concerns.

## WORKING GROUP

The One Ocean Working Group met in January, May and September 2025. Activities of the Working Group included the continued administrative review of [One Ocean practices and protocols](#). As a result of this review, two existing protocols received a substantial update, with the following to be published on oneocean.ca:

### ***Two Industries, One Ocean – Effective Engagement for Proponents and Participants***

Replacing the “One Ocean Protocol for Consultation Meetings”, the purpose of *Effective Engagement for Proponents and Participants* is to help proponents conduct effective engagement with Newfoundland and Labrador fishing industry stakeholders as related to offshore petroleum programs or projects where there is potential for impact and/or interaction with the fishing industry. The document also offers suggestions on how to be an effective participant in an engagement process. We hope this protocol will serve as a useful guide, particularly for staff of companies and contractors who are assigned to conduct engagement, and for those new to participating in an industry engagement process.

### ***Guide for the Development of Fisheries Communications Plans for Exploration Drilling Programs.***

Replacing the former “One Ocean Protocol for Exploratory Drilling Projects in the NL Offshore,” this guide offers considerations and content for inclusion in an exploration drilling Fisheries Communication Plan.

The Working Group also continues to discuss revisions to the *One Ocean Guidance for the Utilization of Fisheries Liaison Officers and Fisheries Guide Vessels* and in the new year will review proposed changes to the *One Ocean Protocol for Seismic Survey Programs*.

As always, thanks are extended to members of the Working Group for giving their time, expertise and for their collegiality.

## FISHERIES AND LAND TENURE COMMITTEE

In 2023, mutual interest in a forum to discuss issues specific to fisheries and the land tenure process was identified, and the Fisheries and Land Tenure Committee, under One Ocean, was formed.

The committee provides a forum to exchange information, such as presentations and discussions on land tenure activities, and the sharing of information from fishing industry stakeholders in consideration of land tenure activities.

The committee is not a decision-making body and does not make recommendations to the One Ocean Board, or recommendations or positions representing One Ocean. Membership in the committee consists of representatives from: Association of Seafood Producers, Atlantic Groundfish Council, FFAW-Unifor, CAPP, C-NLOER, Natural Resources Canada, DFO, and the NL Department of Energy and Mines.

In 2025, the Fisheries and Land Tenure Committee met in March and in November. Meeting agendas included:

- Presentations from the C-NLOER on 2025 land tenure activities.
- Demonstration of the C-NLOER data and information hub.
- Presentation on conditions and mitigations for petroleum activities within a marine refuge.
- Discussion of fisheries trends and emerging fisheries.

## NOTABLE ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENTS

### MEETINGS WITH NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND SENATORS

One Ocean is endeavoring to meet with Newfoundland and Labrador Members of Parliament and Senators, with the objective of raising awareness about One Ocean and the organizations mandate. To date, meetings have been held with Joanne Thompson, Minister of Fisheries and MP for St. John's East, Paul Connors, MP for Avalon, and Thomas Osborne, MP for Cape Spear. Efforts to schedule meetings with the remaining MP's and Senators continue.

### WEST WHITE ROSE PROJECT

In the spring/summer of 2025, those in industry, along with many from around the province, watched with fascination as Cenovus Energy embarked on the tow out of the West White Rose (WWR) Concrete Gravity Structure (CGS) from its construction site at the Port of Argentia, into Placentia Bay, and on to the West White Rose field. One Ocean was pleased to be engaged with members of the Cenovus WWR project team, along with staff and harvester members of FFAW-Unifor, on the project Fisheries Liaison Committee (FLC).

Establishing such a committee provided a forum to share information and engage in proactive planning with fisheries stakeholders in areas where fish harvesting activities may interact with project marine scopes. Such committees also facilitate valuable opportunities for collaboration through the course of a project, as was demonstrated by the WWR FLC.

### SYNERGY 2025

In May, the Managing Director attended the 2025 Synergy exercise. The Synergy exercise is an annual on the water exercise of oil spill countermeasures to demonstrate operator capability to respond in the event of a spill. Hosted in 2025 by Suncor, the exercise has various regulatory and technical objectives and sees producing operators demonstrate equipment and show the industry's commitment to continuous improvement. Attending this exercise offers One Ocean and fisheries member groups a valuable chance to learn, and we appreciate the operators for inviting us to this annual event.

### EXXONMOBIL CANADA REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM - EAST COAST CANADA EXERCISE 2025

In October, the Managing Director attended and presented at the ExxonMobil Canada Regional Response Team Exercise, St. John's. In addition to providing an overview of the organization, the One Ocean presentation covered communication between the offshore petroleum and fishing industry in the event of an oil spill offshore, highlighting the One Ocean Oil Spill Communication Protocol. Thank you to ExxonMobil for the invitation.

## SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

On November 25, Managing Director Ashley Woodford appeared before the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources as related to their Study on the Newfoundland and Labrador's Offshore Petroleum Industry. The One Ocean presentation to the committee included an overview of One Ocean, the organizations mandate and activities.

## OTHER

Other 2025 meetings and engagements included:

- Placentia Bay Traffic Committee - attendance as an observer/guest at the January meeting.
- Laurentian Channel Marine Protected Area stakeholder meeting (hosted by DFO, March).
- Equinor Canada 2025 seabed survey update - attendance at update meetings with Equinor and representatives from fisheries groups (April).
- 2025 Energy NL Conference (June).
- Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) groundfish stakeholders meeting (June).
- Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) East Coast Advisory Committee meeting (September).
- Seismic program update with TGS (November).
- Bay du Nord – attendance at project update meetings, hosted by Equinor, with representatives from fisheries groups (November).

## LOOK AHEAD

### ONE OCEAN SEMINAR (FEBRUARY 2026)

At the time of writing, planning is underway for a One Ocean hosted seminar titled "*Fishing Industry in Newfoundland and Labrador – Essentials for the Offshore Petroleum Industry.*"

The "where, when and how" fisheries occur are topics that come up regularly in the context of interaction between the fishing and offshore petroleum industries in Newfoundland and Labrador. The objective of the seminar is to provide deeper insight into these topics for One Ocean member groups than we can cover at One Ocean meetings or through other forums

The seminar will take place at the Marine Institute, Ridge Road, and will be open to One Ocean petroleum, fishing and standing invitee member groups, along with other stakeholders by invitation.

## CONTACT

Chair: Wayne Follett	Managing Director: Ashley Woodford
Email: <a href="mailto:wayne_follett@hotmail.com">wayne_follett@hotmail.com</a>	Email: <a href="mailto:Ashley.Woodford@mi.mun.ca">Ashley.Woodford@mi.mun.ca</a>
Phone: (709) 351-1111	Phone: (709) 778-0511 (office), (709) 725-6997 (cell)

ONE OCEAN  
Marine Institute, 155 Ridge Road, PO Box 4920, St. John's, NL A1C 5R3  
[www.oneocean.ca](http://www.oneocean.ca)