

Dear colleagues,

The UK's first Marine and Coastal Policy Forum, hosted by the Centre for Marine and Coastal Policy Research, the Marine Institute University of Plymouth is just over 3 weeks away. This inaugural forum aims to be a highly exciting and engaging event, providing a platform on which to address the key challenges facing marine policy in the UK. Keynotes will be given by Laurence Mee, Dan Laffoley and Bob Earll.

The forum will deal with four themes:

- Management and Planning of Marine Resources
- Science Policy Integration for Coastal and Marine Governance
- Social and Economic considerations in Marine Policy
- Marine Conservation and Ecosystem Based Management

We are delighted to inform prospective attendees that a Special Issue of the international peer-reviewed journal *Marine Policy* will be published to capture the ideas presented and discussed within the Marine and Coastal Policy Forum 2011. The overall theme of the issue is '**Marine and Coastal Policy in the UK: challenges and opportunities in a new era**' and will incorporate any of the topics included in the forum. It is anticipated that the special issue will discuss key influences, approaches, techniques and challenges facing marine and coastal policy in the UK. Any speaker, workshop leader, poster presenter and Forum participant who wished to contribute a paper to the special issue is invited to do so. Papers are typically 4,000-6,000 words in length, although innovative contributions are encouraged. All papers submitted will be subject to rigorous peer-review. A detailed summary of the guidelines to authors is attached to this email. The timeline for production of the special issue is:

Submission of completed papers:	30 th September 2011
Peer-review feedback to authors:	30 th November 2011
Submission of final papers:	15 th February 2012

If you are interested in contributing a paper to the Special Issue, please provide a draft title and names of authors to Steve.fletcher@plymouth.ac.uk. A detailed summary of the guidelines will be sent to prospective authors. If you have any questions about the Special Issue or wish to discuss ideas for a paper, please contact Steve Fletcher by email or telephone: (0)1752 586177

For more information, please access our website www.marcopolforum.org which contains more information including student poster presentation prizes and the list of workshops being held during the forum, the rationale behind them and the facilitators involved.

Registration is still open and the programme is attached for your perusal.

We look forward to seeing you all at this, the UK's first Marine and Coastal Policy Forum.

Kindest regards,

The MarCoPol 2011 Committee