



Action Guide

Ocean Justice

July 2023

At strategic times throughout the year, The Ocean Project provides guidance to encourage young conservation leaders from around the world to advance ocean and climate conservation action. These engagement opportunities are a way for you to take action and raise awareness among your networks about ways to get involved to scale the impact of your action. This resource is meant to be a guide - we encourage you to personalize or adjust as you wish and get as creative as you can to encourage conservation action!

Background

Ocean justice encompasses the ideals of fairness, inclusivity, and sustainability by addressing the intersection of environmental protection, social equity, and human rights in our interactions with the ocean. It entails redefining the scope of ocean advocates to include both younger and more diverse voices, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their background or location, have the opportunity to contribute to the protection and development of our shared natural heritage.

In recognizing the ocean as a shared public resource, ocean justice emphasizes that our ocean belongs to all people, transcending geographical boundaries. As such, ocean conservation efforts must foster a sense of shared responsibility and ensure its benefits are accessible to present and future generations. [Read More about Ocean Justice](#)

Dive into action:

For World Ocean Day 2023, the White House Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Science and Technology Policy, on behalf of the Ocean Policy Committee, announced their interest in developing the United States' first ever-ocean justice strategy! To help develop this strategy, they're asking for the public's input through an open comment period until 24 July 2023. During this time, people can submit their opinions and recommendations on a variety of topics that impact our one shared ocean. Political leaders will consider all public comments as they finalize the national ocean justice strategy.

Although this involves U.S.-specific policy matters, we encourage participation from youth worldwide. We are eager to see U.S. policymakers draw inspiration from diverse global perspectives, whether innovative approaches, effective policies, or impactful actions taken in your country. Together, we can create a sustainable and just future for our shared ocean!

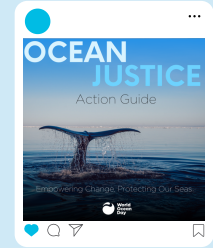
Continue on for suggested actions!



Suggested action:

Small time commitment (Publicize) - 5 minutes

Sharing the opportunity to shape the U.S. Ocean Justice Strategy on social media and with large networks is crucial for spreading awareness and encouraging participation. Even if you don't submit a public comment, sharing the message can amplify the impact.



[Check out the @WorldOceanDay Instagram to share the graphic]

Medium time commitment (Submit an Ocean Justice Public Comment) 30 mins - 1 hour:

Follow these quick how-to steps:

- **Understand the Notice:** Read the public notice and select the questions you want to respond to.
- **Brainstorm Key Points:** Spend a few minutes generating important ideas about your comment and community issues.
- **Draft Your Outline:** Create an outline focusing on critical points that align with the questions or areas of focus.
- **Review and Submit:** Carefully review your comment for clarity, coherence, and grammar before submitting it.
- **Track Agency Responses:** Sign up for email alerts or follow up on agency responses.

Click [here](#) to provide a comment.

Click [here](#) to check out public comment templates.

Larger time commitment (Join the Youth Zoom Discussion) – 1 hour and 30 minutes

The Ocean Project and EarthEcho International are hosting an ocean justice strategy Zoom discussion to draft a comment letter for the White House Ocean Justice Strategy. The discussion will focus on the perspectives and voices of young people and review questions from the Ocean Justice Federal Register notice. We ask participants to provide insights, solutions, and ideas on how the U.S. government should move forward with ocean justice. The event will take place on Wednesday, July 12th at 8 pm EST and RSVP is required.

RSVP [here](#):

Additional Resources:

- [Ocean Justice: Protecting and Restoring Our Blue Planet for Future Generations](#)
- [Mainstreaming Equity and Justice in the Ocean](#)
- [On Environmental Justice, Climate Justice, and Ocean Justice](#)
- [Ocean justice can help empower communities of color on the frontlines of the climate crisis](#)

For 21 years, [The Ocean Project](#) has globally coordinated World Ocean Day as an opportunity to unite and rally the world on 8 June, and throughout the year, to take personal, community, and societal action on behalf of our blue planet. It is powered by the Youth Advisory Council, this year comprised of 26 young people from 21 diverse countries.