The IMarEST features career case studies of inspirational people working across a wide variety of professions in the marine sector. Listen to Marine professionals talk about their career experience and help you decide on your own career path.



Career Case Study – **Government**



Jemma Lonsdale

Job: Senior Advisor, Centre for Environment, fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) Education: BSc Biology, MSc Environmental Science, PhD Estuarine and Coastal Management

Role: I am responsible for providing scientific advice to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and the Welsh Government/ Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the potential risks and impacts to the marine environment of a wide range of human activities. In particular I focus on capital and maintenance dredging and dredged material disposal to sea, marine constructions (including nationally significant infrastructure projects), aggregate extraction and marine renewables. I act as a member of the UK delegation to International Maritime Organization contributing to The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) and London Convention/ London Protocol regarding the potential impacts of deep sea mining including review of legislative/ regulatory text. I am also involved in Research and Development projects, for instance I have done work on behalf of Natural England regarding the use of disposal sites near marine protected areas, and being able to publish scientific peer-reviewed papers.

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Career drive: It's easy to follow the subjects that interest you, early on in my role at ABP, I was convinced that I wanted to work for an environmental consultancy, carrying out impact assessments and writing the reports that would support any future development. But, as my role developed, and I got to see the other organisations roles more, I realised, that actually, rather than being in the private sector, I would prefer to work on the other side, the government/regulator side. With a growing need for sustainable development, there are many opportunities in ocean governance to ensure draft legislation is based on sound science and best practice, and ensuring applications for developments are (also based on sound science and best practice) not in breach of the multiple legislative drivers and obligations that our country has to abide by.

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Career Case Study – **Academia**



Alessandra Conversi

Job: Senior Researcher at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR)

Education: MSc Oceanography, PhD

Oceanography

Role: Senior Researcher at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR). Primary responsibilities include writing academic papers, participating to research projects, local and international Committees, and interest groups, organising workshops and conferences, reviewing articles and projects. I am co-chair for the largest conference in marine science in the world (Ocean Science Meeting 2020, San Diego, USA).

Career drive: I have worked for more than 20 years in the field of climate and global change impacts on marine populations and am particularly interested in studying the links between climate change science to societal changes and international policy actions. I would recommend ocean governance to science students as the industry is moving from traditional economy to sustainable, circular economy, hence opportunities are booming with the necessity to transform ecological (scientific) information into sustainably-oriented governance.

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Career Case Study – **Academia**



Chris Vivian

Job: Research Fellow at Imperial College Education: BSc Geology, PhD Oceanography

Role: I was a National Marine Advisor responsible for advice on the impacts of a range of human activities, particularly in relation to the OSPAR Convention and the London Convention/London Protocol. My main responsibilities are focussed on the assessment of pollution and other man-induced effects on the marine environment from a regulatory perspective, particularly with respect to waste disposal at sea, marine constructions and the dredging of marine sand and gravel deposits.

Career drive: I have worked my way up in Cefas and have gained 41 years' experience in the assessment of pollution and other man-induced effects on the marine environment from a regulatory perspective. I would highly recommend this field to up-and-coming marine scientists because it is interesting to work in an area that is currently gaining a higher profile and would suggest to students to look into appropriate marine science or international law academic qualifications and experience with national regulatory systems before moving into the international arena.

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Career Case Study – **Academia**



James Crabbe

Job: Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry Education: BSc and PhD in Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology

Role: Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry, Supernumerary Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford University, and Honorary Professor at Changchun University of Science and Technology, China. Member, Coral Specialist Group, IUCN. I assist FE colleges in improving their governance, and lectures and writing on governance abroad and in the UK.

Career drive: I have taken an academic route throughout my career, there is always a drive to progress research which certainly makes for an interesting career. I have published 265 refereed scientific publications in journals and books and served on the editorial boards of 12 international journals. Political and economic drivers offer ample opportunity in ocean governance and will be attractive to scientists with an interest in balancing these issues with a desire to see progression in sustainability and wellbeing.

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Career Case Study – **Consultancy**



Jim Portus

Job: Chief Executive, South Western Fish Producer Organisation Ltd

Education: Class I Master Mariner, BSc Nautical Science

Role: I am responsible for local management of fisheries quotas and for fish marketing arrangements in compliance with the regulations of the EU Common Fisheries Policy. I represent the owners of member vessels in a number of fisheries related committees.

Career drive: I am passionate about welfare issues affecting fishermen and their families. This a great sector to work in to contribute to the maintenance of good social and economic conditions in the fishing communities who support the rest of the country.

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Career Case Study – Consultancy



Role: I am currently consulting on an ecological study along the Northumberland coast, researching potential impacts on the recently designated MPA. I am designing and executing small scale coastal surveys for invasive and key species and monitoring changes in marine flora/fauna to present (written and verbal) public presentations.

Career drive: Ocean governance is a fundamentally important field which has global relevance and a huge diversity of opportunities. As an area that is multi-dimensional, multi-faceted and multi-disciplined, there is a wide-reaching socio-economic impact across many industries including business, politics, shipping, fishing etc and will only be effective through the collaboration of all stakeholders. Ocean governance, therefore, has a wealth of opportunities for people from all manner of backgrounds.

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Career Case Study – Industry and public communication



Matthew Bunce

Job: Self employed

Education: BA Hons International Business and French, M.Sc. Sea Use Programme (Law, Economics and Policy with Marine Sciences/Resources/Technology), PhD (Marine Studies – Env and Geog)

Role: Self-employed, drawing on 25 years cumulative academic and professional experience suited to working on cross-sector, interdisciplinary and complex issues including marine governance and climate change. My work recently has included DFID work in the Indian Ocean, small island natural disaster response, fisheries policy and at-sea observations of compliance, science communication.

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Career Case Study – Industry and public communication



Roland Rogers

Job: Freelance writer and researcher in Ocean Governance and Marine Robotics Education: BSc Fisheries Science, MSc Marine Law and Policy

Role: I am currently a freelance writer and researcher in the areas of Ocean Governance and Marine Robotics. I work on a pro bono basis but mainly I self-fund my own work or work through the professional bodies that I am a member of.

Career drive: Ocean governance is a fascinating sector, which allows you to make a tangible difference to how our oceans and seas are sustained for the benefit of future generations of all the worlds States.