

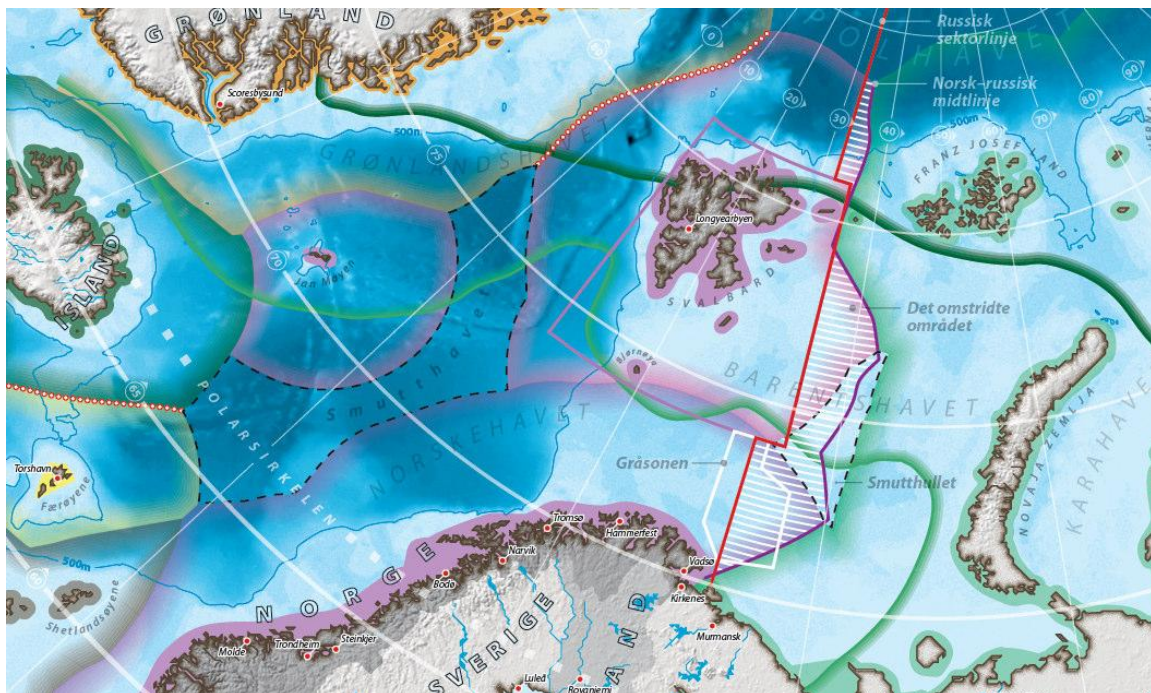
Ocean Maps Programme

Maps as Research Transmission Tools

Compared Maps are very useful tools in the transmission of research. They may be used to illustrate historical developments, the current status and possible future developments of maritime jurisdiction, resources, infrastructure, and climate and environmental changes, etc.

Award Winning Maps on the Northern Areas

Ocean Futures has developed two series of maps, covering the northern areas and North Norway respectively. A third series of circumpolar maps are under development. All maps are electronic, layer- and GIS-based. Ocean Futures has received the BCS Award for its maps on the northern areas. The award - bestowed by the British Cartographic Society – is regarded as one of the foremost awards of its kind in the world, and it is the first time that a Norwegian institution has won it.



© 2008 Ocean Futures, Oslo: Segment on Map on Maritime Jurisdiction in the North.

Holistic Approach

Today's maps on the northern areas are usually one dimensional – and the focus is on a single theme at a time. Such maps are needed. When Ocean Futures developed its maps, the aim, however, was to create maps that were “holistic”, that is, maps that would include a number of different yet linked ocean activities and themes.

The map on maritime activities in the Barents Sea shows for instance fishing activities, oil and gas activities, and shipping lanes. The map is layered and each layer can be viewed singly or on top of each other thus producing a holistic picture of how various ocean activities can influence or interfere with each other.

Further Development of Existing Maps and Creating New Circumpolar Maps

The existing maps on the northern areas, and North Norway, and the new circumpolar maps that Ocean Futures is now developing, are built on three different base maps (“mother- maps”). The various layers are then placed on top of the base maps. Additional activities can thus be given visual expression by adding new layers.

The map series of the northern areas consist for instance of one base map and eight different theme maps showing maritime jurisdiction, oil and gas activities, fishing and aquaculture, environment and ocean activities, infrastructure and transport, mineral extraction, energy production, and forestry – in the North.

The map series on North Norway consist of a base map and two theme maps on infrastructure, and population structure.

The new circumpolar maps will focus on jurisdiction, resources, infrastructure, and climate and environment – in addition to security issues.

The maps are, as mentioned, GIS based (Geographic Information System) ensuring, for example, that the maritime jurisdiction maps are 100 per cent correct.

Cooperation is the key to the good results

All maps are products of close collaboration between Ocean Futures (which took the initiative, was responsible for data collection and analyses, project leadership, and is copyright owner) and several sub-contractors. These are UnParalleled of the US (graphic design), ERA of the UK (GIS data processing), Statens kartverk (GIS data North Norway), and Rayon of Norway (flash formats).

Global Maps

Ocean Futures has so far concentrated on maps on northern areas. We plan to make maps on jurisdiction, resources, infrastructure, the environment and the climate also on other parts of the world’s oceans.

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