

Announcing a Free Online Short Course:
"Bringing Nature's Value into Marine Planning"

Instructor: Gregg Verutes, Natural Capital Project

Background: The demand is growing for natural capital information in decision-making. Mapping and modeling the benefits that flow from nature to people (called "ecosystem services") can help uncover hidden costs and benefits of different natural resource management options, providing key information to improve the relationship between humans and the ecosystems on which we depend.

Course Description: This online short course builds on DEL's current online course offering, the Marine Planning Advancement Training (MPAT). It is designed for aspiring planners and practitioners. Learners will have the opportunity to interact with four exciting marine planning use-cases, interacting with real data, legal frameworks and decision-support tools. Participants can practice applying marine planning mapping techniques, tools, and activities such as stakeholder engagement, information management/synthesis, tradeoff analysis ("win-win-win") and outreach.

Format: Each self-paced module builds on the previous by introducing key concepts and in-depth analysis of real-life marine planning processes in North and Latin America, Asia and Africa. Optional tech assessment at the end of each module will be available for those interested in basic spatial analysis (GIS mapping).

- **Cost:** Free for a limited time
- **Materials:** Computer with stable internet connection. The Natural Capital Project's online Marine Planning Concierge hosts real-life examples, data and decision-support tools, including marine InVEST and QGIS software.
- **Schedule:** Three modules released from April - June, 2016
- **Time Commitment:** 60 minutes per module + 30 min optional assessment (asynchronous format does not require a set meeting time or any peer-to-peer interaction)
- **Prerequisites:** There are no prerequisites for this course. However, we recommend basic familiarity with GIS and marine planning concepts for individuals interested in completing the optional technical assessments.
- **Contact:** Gregg Verutes (gverutes@stanford.edu)