

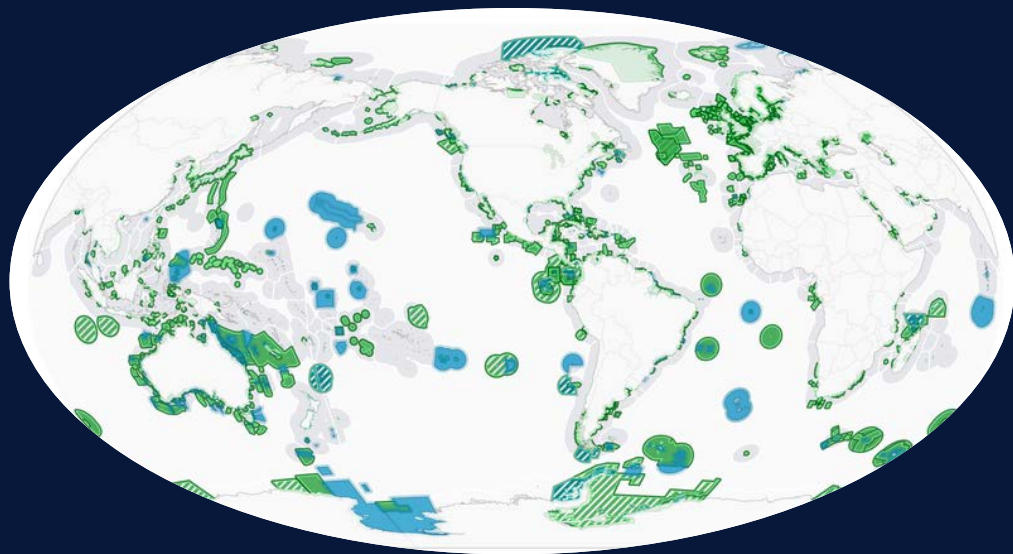
Pristine Seas

Collecting Data to better protect the world's oceans

What is Pristine Seas?

Pristine Seas is National Geographic Society's flagship ocean conservation initiative, combining exploration, research, media, economics, and policy — working with local communities, Indigenous Peoples, and governments — to protect vital places in the ocean.

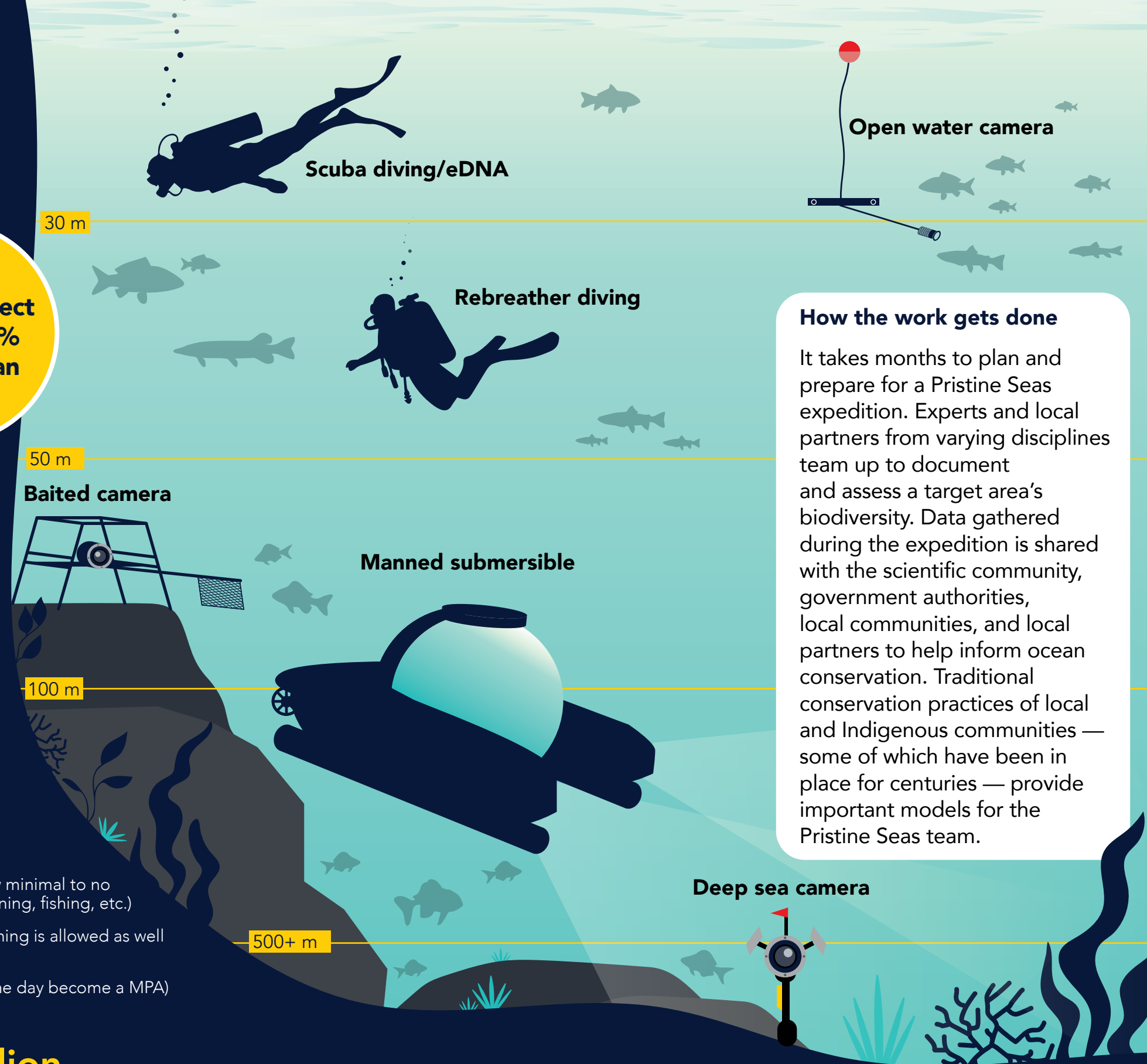
This program aims to protect at least 30% of the ocean by 2030



Marine Protected Areas

Level of Protection

- Highly-full Protected Zones (areas that allow minimal to no extractive or damaging practices, such as mining, fishing, etc.)
- Less Protected Zones (areas where some fishing is allowed as well as tourism activities)
- ▨ Proposed/Pending Zones (areas that may one day become a MPA)



How the work gets done

It takes months to plan and prepare for a Pristine Seas expedition. Experts and local partners from varying disciplines team up to document and assess a target area's biodiversity. Data gathered during the expedition is shared with the scientific community, government authorities, local communities, and local partners to help inform ocean conservation. Traditional conservation practices of local and Indigenous communities — some of which have been in place for centuries — provide important models for the Pristine Seas team.

43 expeditions in more than 20 countries

27 of the largest marine reserves in the world

6.5 million square kilometres of ocean — an area more than twice the size of India — where marine life thrives and helps replenish surrounding areas



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