The Effects of Noise Pollution in Marine Environments

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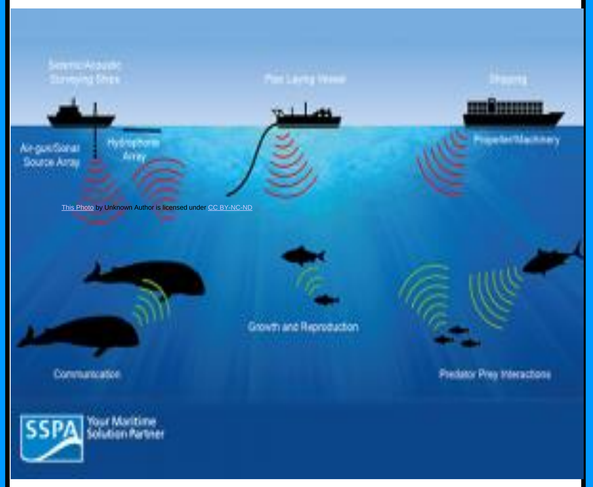
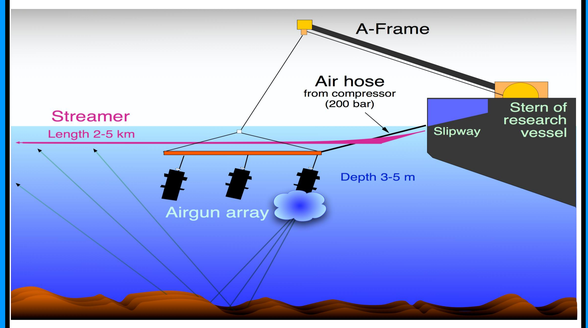
BIO-208 Environmental Problems

Human created noise in the marine environment can pose risks to the organisms living in the area.

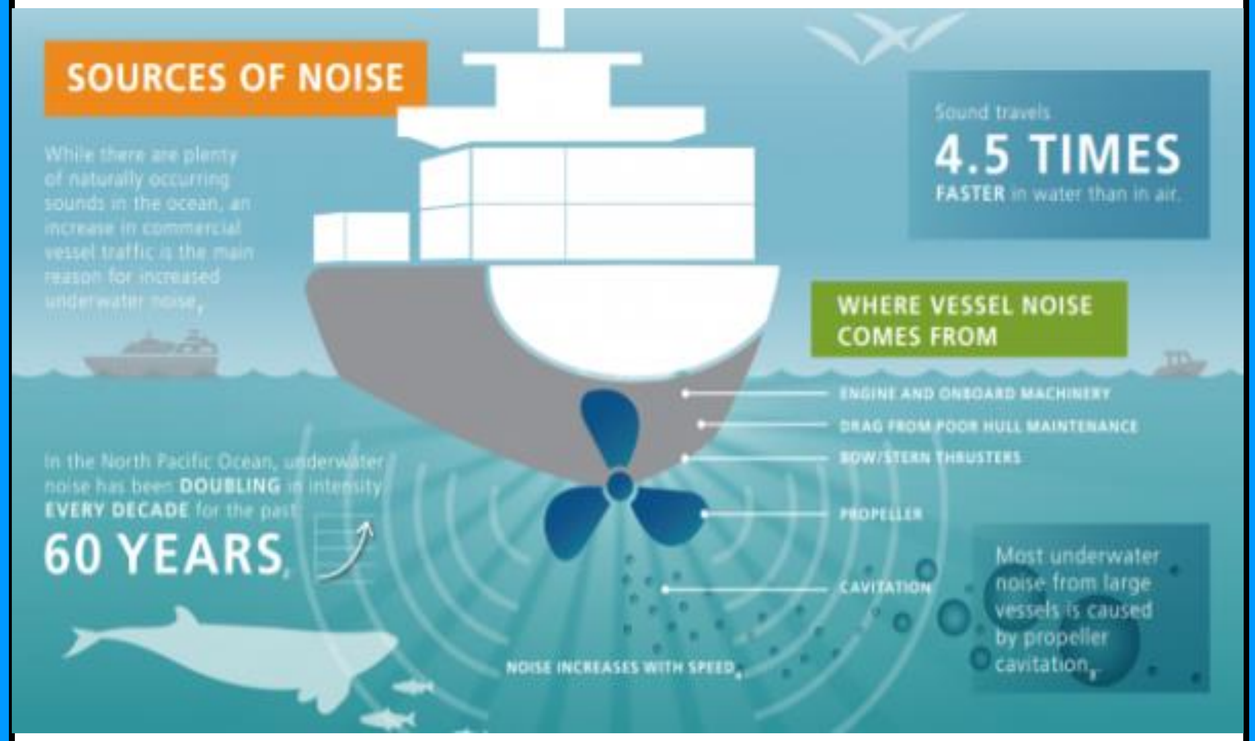
- Noise in the ocean is most prominent in the northern hemisphere. The noise has doubled every decade and is expected to maintain.
- Air guns are the most common tools used to map out oceans for gas and oil exploration. These guns can go on for days, even weeks.
- South Pacific ocean has the least noise pollution.
- Solutions include noise reduction technologies and alternate uses to sonar. The goal is to co-exist with marine life in the future.



Most common tools used by gas and oil industries is the air gun. The air gun is a huge factor in noise pollution as it sends out bursts of noise that can go on for days or even weeks at a time.



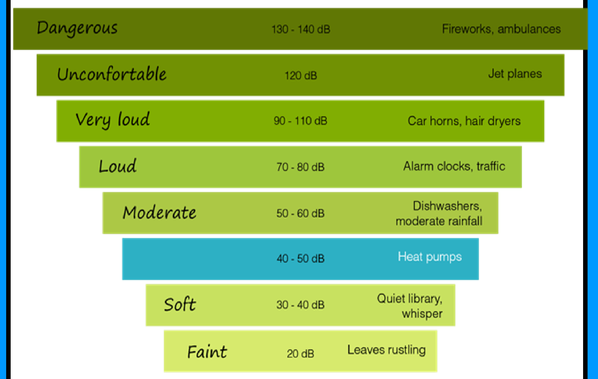
Sources of noise include the following, effecting all living organisms around it, big and small.



Noise pollution has had a serious effect on wild life in the ocean. Similar to humans, mammals and fish are sensitive to noise and can cause significant damage. Majority of ocean creatures are effected by noise, however mammals such as whales and dolphins are more susceptible to noise. Fish are effected as well.

Noise pollution can cause several different damages to marine life in the ocean. One major negative effect noise can create is interfering with animals ability to use sound

Noise scale



Another negative effect of noise pollution is its' ability to damage areas of the brain and lungs. Along with damaging the brain, noise pollution can effect how fish form schooling groups, and damage immune systems of different animals. Overall, significant damage Is done to marine wild life from noise pollution.

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