

All members of the IODP ocean science community shall conform to the highest accepted levels of environmental sensitivity. These principles enhance awareness of environmental issues in all members of this community and constitute a basis for IODP's expectations of all participants in its expeditions and drilling operations.

IODP Environmental Principles



The JOIDES Resolution Facility Board approved these guidelines on May 15, 2018

IODP Environmental Principles

Approved by *JOIDES Resolution* Facility Board: **15 May, 2018**

Latest Revision: **6 May, 2018**

(1) General Principles

As a community conducting research of the ocean floor, all persons and programmatic entities in the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) carry a responsibility to ensure that its activities have no significant environmental impact. The IODP is determined to conform to the highest accepted levels of environmental sensitivity. All members of the IODP ocean science community therefore will familiarize themselves with the principles outlined below and will ensure that they are adhered to by program personnel and science parties at sea.

These principles will enhance the overall awareness of environmental issues in members of the community and, as such, will constitute a basis for IODP's expectations of program personnel and scientific staff, particularly those participating in drilling operations. These principles define the standards that the IODP Science Operators (JRSO, CDEX, ESO) and contractors are committed to fully adhere.

The IODP Science Operators and all their operational (sub)contractors are fully responsible and accountable for drilling and related activities to their funding organizations (NSF, MEXT, ECORD), as well as to the international general public.

The latest version of the **IODP Environmental Principles** can be downloaded from <http://iodp.org/policies-and-guidelines>.

(2) Protection of Marine Life and the Environment

To protect marine life and the environment, the following principles are followed:

1. IODP will minimize the release of substances into the marine environment.
2. During operations, IODP will minimize impact on marine and seafloor life.
3. The IODP Science Operators will obtain all necessary permits.
4. A review of hazards to marine life and the environment will be conducted by IODP's Environmental Protection and Safety Panel (EPSP) and/or the Safety Panel for the relevant Science Operator to determine the associated risk level.
5. IODP will act to minimize any and all identified environmental risks through appropriate control measures.

(3) Disposal of Waste Materials and Restitution of the Environment

1. When operating within national jurisdictions, as defined under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, IODP will follow the host country requirements for the handling of drilling by-products.
2. All other waste materials generated during drilling operations will be disposed of by IODP in accordance with all applicable environmental legislation, standards, guidelines, and codes.

(4) Storage and Curation of Potentially Harmful Substances and/or Organisms

1. Samples will be transported and stored by IODP in such a way as to prevent contamination of the environment.

(5) Keeping the General Public Informed of IODP's Activities

1. IODP will inform the public of its operational plans.