



Marine Conservation Policy	Action number	-----
	Release Date	01/2023
	Review and modification date	09/2022
	Review and modification number	01
	number of pages	03
	Date the procedure was approved	12/2022
	Deans Council Resolution No.: 2023/50	
Policy Statement	<p>AAU is committed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advancing Marine Research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting and conducting research focused on marine ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation, and promoting the sustainable use of marine resources. ▪ Encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration in marine research to address complex conservation challenges. 2. Education and Capacity Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offering workshops, seminars, and public lectures to raise awareness and understanding of marine conservation issues within the university community and the general public. 3. Sustainable Practices and Operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementing sustainable practices in university operations to minimize negative impacts on marine environments, such as reducing plastic use, properly managing waste, and promoting sustainable seafood in university dining services. ▪ Encouraging responsible behavior during university-related activities in coastal and marine areas to protect marine habitats and species. 4. Community Engagement and Outreach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging with local communities, non-profit organizations, government agencies, and industry partners to promote marine conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participating in and supporting community-based conservation initiatives and citizen science projects related to marine ecosystems. <p>5. Advocacy and Policy Influence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leveraging the university's expertise and research findings to inform and influence marine conservation policies and practices at local, national, and international levels. ▪ Actively participating in public discourse and policy development related to marine conservation and management. <p>6. Responsible Procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensuring that procurement policies and practices support the sustainable use of marine resources and prioritize products that are certified to be sustainable and environmentally friendly. <p>7. Monitoring and Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regularly monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the university's marine conservation initiatives and practices. ▪ Reporting on the university's contributions to marine conservation and using this information to improve policy and practice.
<p>Policy Purpose</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy is to articulate AAU's commitment to the conservation of marine ecosystems and the promotion of sustainable practices that protect marine biodiversity and habitats. This policy outlines the university's commitment to integrating marine conservation into its research, education, community engagement, and operational practices.</p>
<p>Policy Scope</p>	<p>This policy applies to all university activities that directly or indirectly impact marine environments, including academic research, educational programs, community outreach, procurement, and any other activities related to marine ecosystems.</p>
<p>Policy Responsibilities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Office of Sustainability is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinating the implementation of this policy. ▪ Providing guidance and support to departments and units on integrating marine conservation into their activities. 2. The Research Office is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting faculty and students in conducting marine conservation research and disseminating findings to the wider community. 3. All university departments and units involved in marine-related activities are responsible for:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ensuring that their practices align with this policy and contribute positively to marine conservation. <p>4. All members of the university community are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Contributing to the university's marine conservation efforts through responsible behavior and participation in relevant initiatives and programs.
Policy Compliance	Non-compliance with this policy may result in a review of operations and procedures to identify areas for improvement. Continuous non-compliance may lead to further actions as deemed necessary by the university administration.
Policy Review	This policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised every year or as needed to ensure it remains effective, reflects the latest scientific understanding and best practices in marine conservation, and aligns with the university's sustainability goals.