

## January–February 2026 Odyssey Brief: Advancing Dialogue, Data, and Regulatory Readiness

2026 is off to a busy start for Odyssey Marine Exploration, marked by engagement across government, industry, and scientific forums as critical minerals, offshore resources, and responsible ocean development move to the forefront of policy and investment priorities.

### January/February at a Glance

In February, Odyssey focused on three consistent priorities that underpin our strategy:

- Strengthening policy and regulatory dialogue around offshore critical minerals
- Reinforcing technical credibility through science-led engagement and data-driven exploration
- Expanding stakeholder understanding across government, industry, and academic communities

Together, these efforts reflect Odyssey’s role as a disciplined, exploration-first partner, supporting informed decision-making around offshore mineral resources.

### Policy & Regulatory Engagement: Advancing Informed Dialogue at the Federal Level

Throughout February, Odyssey continued its engagement across U.S. offshore mineral policy and regulatory processes, including state and federal discussions and strategic planning associated with potential offshore mineral activity.

This work included high-level U.S. government meetings involving Odyssey President and COO [John Longley](#), focusing on strengthening awareness and informed support for offshore critical mineral development within established regulatory frameworks, while providing information on the company’s specific projects that support U.S. government critical mineral initiatives.

February also saw significant industry advocacy activity in Washington. On January 22, 2026, Erik Milito, President of the [National Ocean Industries Association \(NOIA\)](#), testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources during a hearing titled “[Deep Dive: Examining the Regulatory and Statutory Barriers to Deep Sea Mining](#).” The hearing brought together industry and technology perspectives and focused on the strategic importance of ocean minerals, regulatory frameworks, and the role of offshore expertise in supporting U.S. resource security.



## Policy Momentum to Watch

Recent developments continue to shape the environment in which Odyssey operates. A deeper discussion of these trends—and why they matter for Odyssey’s portfolio—is available in the Odyssey blog, [U.S. Policy Momentum Signals a Reshaped Critical Minerals Landscape - and Odyssey is Ready](#).

Key themes include:

- Strengthening North American coordination on critical minerals and fertilizer inputs
- Growing emphasis on allied supply chains
- Expansion of strategic stockpiling and long-term procurement frameworks
- Increased focus on transparent science, geological mapping, and environmental data

Together, these signals reinforce a clear trend: the United States and its allies are restructuring the global critical minerals landscape around security, transparency, and resilient supply chains—areas where Odyssey’s proposed projects in the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf, Mexico, and the Cook Islands are already aligned – a message recently echoed in the 2026 State of the Union address.

## ACCF Offshore Critical Minerals Forum

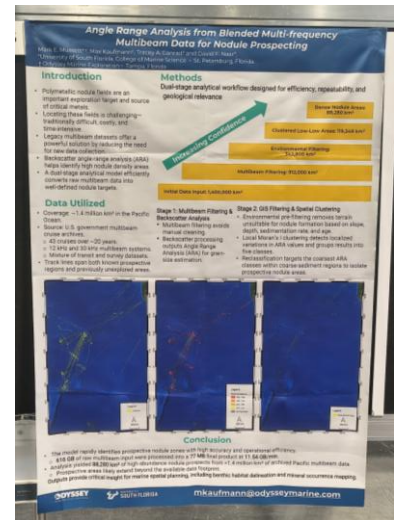
As title sponsor of the [ACCF Critical Minerals Forum](#) in Washington, D.C., Odyssey helped convene policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders to examine the role marine minerals can play in secure, resilient supply chains. Odyssey CEO Mark Gordon participated in the *Development Opportunities & Challenges* panel, contributing to a broader dialogue on how offshore resources, science-led exploration, and regulatory clarity intersect with national priorities.



## Engaging the Industry and Academic Community

Odyssey participated in [SME MINEXCHANGE 2026 – Salt Lake City](#) in Salt Lake City (February 22–25), where Director of Marine Mineral Research [Mark Mussett](#) presented as part of the “Best of OTC Marine Minerals” session. For Odyssey, the forum provided an important opportunity to introduce marine minerals and offshore technologies through a familiar mining and engineering lens to a predominantly land based audience. Discussions focused on how offshore mineral systems align with established mining disciplines, drawing on Odyssey’s decades of offshore operational experience to highlight engineering continuity, project development rigor, and transferable best practices. These conversations reinforced Odyssey’s view that marine minerals are not a speculative departure from mining, but rather a natural extension of modern geoscience and resource development, particularly as supply- chain- resilience and domestic resource security gain urgency.

At the [AGU Ocean Sciences / MOS Conference](#) in Glasgow (February 22–27), Marine Geologist [Max Kaufmann](#) presented research showcasing Odyssey’s work in seafloor mapping, marine geology, and applied ocean science. The presentation generated strong engagement from academic researchers, government scientists, and technology providers—reflecting interest in practical, data-driven approaches to understanding the deep ocean. The conference emphasized biological and environmental research and Odyssey’s contribution highlighted the value of integrating environmental science with robust geoscience, mapping, and modeling frameworks. This work reinforces the role of high-quality data, efficient analytical tools, and applied science as foundational inputs to informed regulatory review and responsible decision-making.



## A More Accessible Platform for Odyssey’s Work

February marked the launch of Odyssey’s refreshed website—[www.OdysseyMarine.com](http://www.OdysseyMarine.com)—providing a clearer, more accessible platform to communicate our capabilities, projects, and science-led approach to investors, government stakeholders, and partners.

The updated site reflects Odyssey’s evolution and supports more timely sharing of research, regulatory engagement, and thought leadership, including expanded content through an enhanced Resource Library.

## Exploration Success at Sea

Moana Minerals recently concluded Expedition 5 aboard the Anuanua Moana with Odyssey’s own Director of Marine Operations on board to direct the recovery the Autonomous Benthic Mini Landers that were deployed last year. Stay tuned for an update on the data recovered and how it will contribute long-duration, in-situ environmental data from the deep seabed and near-bottom water column for the Cook Islands.

## Further Reading

For readers interested in broader policy, regulatory, and analytical perspectives shaping discussions around ocean minerals and critical mineral supply chains, the following resources provide useful context:

- [BOEM Proposes Rule Changes to Support Critical Mineral Exploration and Development Essential for National Security and Economic Prosperity](#)
- [Harvest deep-sea minerals to combat China](#)
- [What is Trump’s Deep-Sea Strategy for Critical Minerals](#)

## Looking Ahead

As national and international discussions around critical minerals, food security, and supply chain resilience continue to accelerate, Odyssey remains focused on technical preparation, thoughtful participation, and regulatory readiness.

On March 10, Odyssey will continue its engagement with the investment community when Chairman and CEO Mark Gordon presents at the [iAccess Alpha Conference](#). The invitation-only forum provides an opportunity to engage directly with institutional investors and analysts on Odyssey's strategy, project portfolio, and positioning within the evolving offshore critical minerals and ocean resources landscape.

Building on the policy, scientific, and industry conversations held in January and February, Odyssey will continue to contribute data, more than 30 years of offshore experience, and multidisciplinary technical expertise to support science-based exploration and informed decision-making. The months ahead will remain focused on collaboration, data quality, and disciplined process as governments, partners, and stakeholders evaluate the role offshore resources may play in secure and resilient supply chains.

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