EARTH'S AMPHIBIOUS TRANSFORMATION

In the first history of the oceanic Anthropocene, Stefan Huebner explores the twentieth-century extension of human habitats into oceanic spaces. He shows how the effects of this amphibious transformation have followed a very different trajectory from human-driven change on land, in terms of both socioeconomic development and environmental degradation. The extension of the human habitat through artificial islands such as seabed-fixed and floating structures has granted vertical access to Earth's different spatial layers, from the fossil fuels beneath the seabed to outer space. Huebner asks why this transformation occurred; how it has been shaped by political, economic, and environmental factors; and how it has altered marine environments. A deeper understanding of Earth's amphibious transformation compels us to reconsider the history and future of climate change, sea level rise, energy transitions, human–marine species interactions, globalization, and even urbanization, including floating cities. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

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The History and Present of the Oceanic Anthropocene

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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

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www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009734783

DOI: 10.1017/9781009734820

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When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009734820

First published 2026

Cover image: Spilhaus ArcGIS Pro Project

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

A Cataloging-in-Publication data record for this book is available from the Library of Congress

ISBN 978-1-009-73478-3 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-009-73481-3 Paperback

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