Marine Protected Areas: Virtual Library

About the Library

A major feature of the U.S. marine protected areas website is the virtual library, which contains more than 1,100 records and is constantly expanding. Easily accessible from the home page (http://mpa.gov), the library provides information, facilitates partnerships, identifies key needs and challenges, and encourages public participation in the design, implementation, and evaluation of MPAs throughout the United States.

The MPA Library serves researchers, scientists, resource managers, policy makers, educators, other stakeholders, and the general public. Resources include full-text documents and reports, citations to books, articles, and conference proceedings, GIS tools and maps, newsletters, news articles, links to other websites, conferences and workshops, listservs and discussion lists, and more.

Our Collections

The library includes four main collections:

Bibliography: Citations and links to articles, books, manuals, research papers, reports, and proceedings on marine protected areas.

Institutions and Organizations: Governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in MPA research, analysis, and management with links to websites.

MPA Websites: Websites or web pages relevant to marine protected areas including academic courses, bibliographies, directories, GIS tools, international sites, legislation and regulations, listservs and online discussions, multimedia, online newsletters, and MPA research projects.

Conferences and Workshops: Conferences and workshops focusing on the management and science of MPAs.

Useful Features

Some useful features of the MPA Library database include:

• Comprehensive, searchable database of MPA literature

• Keyword list to facilitate choice of search terms

• Digitized and archived reports and documents generated by the National MPA Center

• Increased availability of links to online full-text documents

• Access to international information on MPAs

How We Gather Resources

Scientists, policy developers, program managers and others involved in MPA planning and research may forward citation suggestions to the MPA library. Other resources are added based on searches of bibliographic databases and online catalogs, periodic Internet searches, and relevant listservs and online news sources. Each resource added to the MPA library is reviewed for authority, currency, accuracy, intended audience, and pertinent subject matter. The MPA Library welcomes recommendations for additions. Send your comments to **mpalibrary@noaa.gov**.

For More Information:

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Marine Protected Areas
CENTER

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