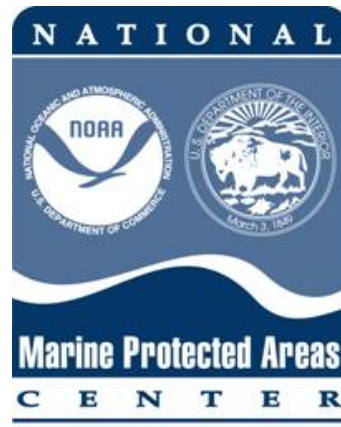


The State of Place-Based Management in US Waters: Results from the National MMA Inventory



Ocean and Coastal Program Managers' Meeting
March 7, 2007

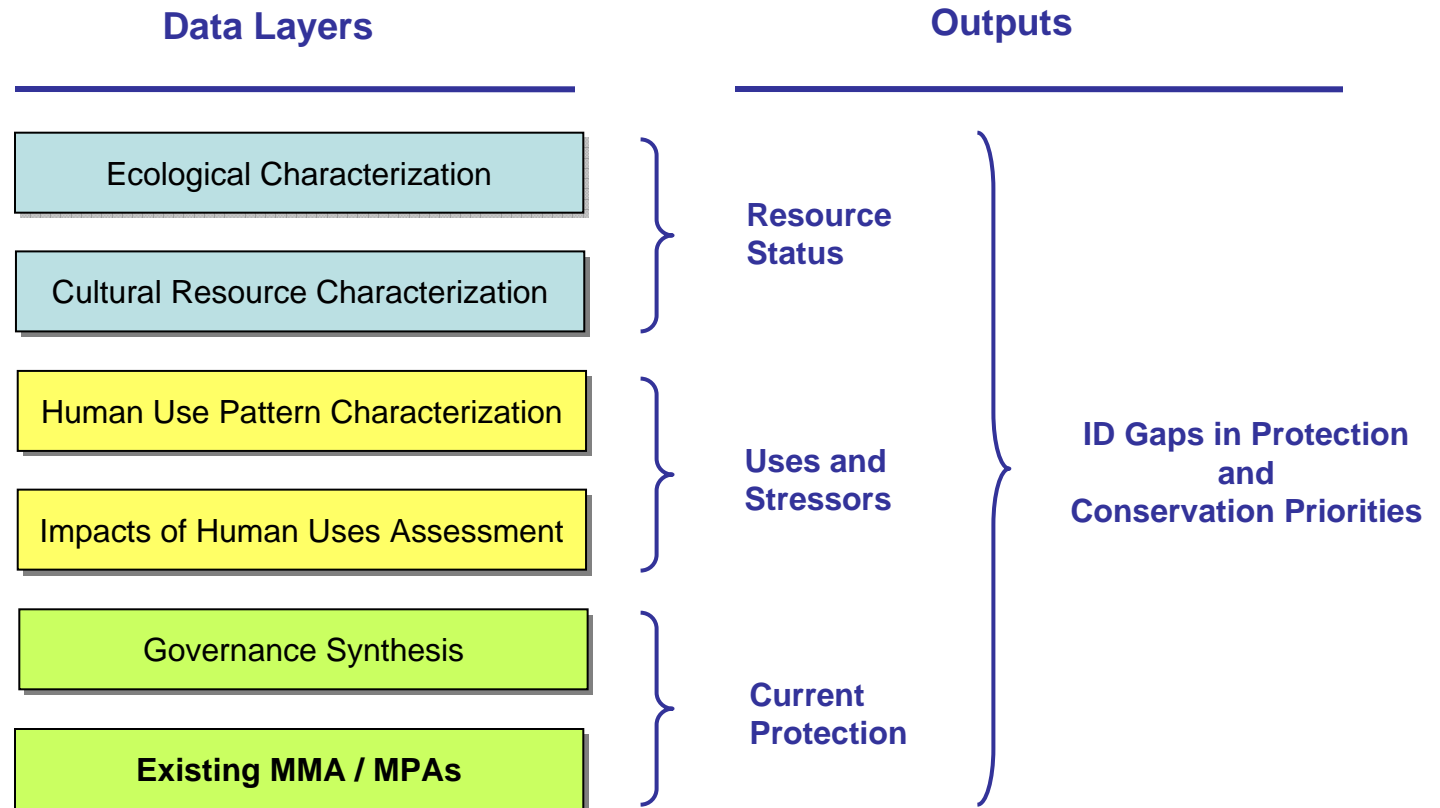
Charles M. Wahle, PhD
National MPA Center

www.MPA.gov

Executive Order 13158 on MPAs: What Was He Thinking?

- MPAs can be an effective ecosystem conservation and management tool, when based on strong science, meaningful stakeholder input and clearly articulated goals and objectives
- Strengthen the scientific foundation of MPA design, evaluation and adaptive management
- Collaboratively design a comprehensive, science-based and effective national system of MPAs meeting multiple conservation objectives
 - **understand the contribution of existing MPAs to regional and national goals**
 - identify gaps in protection for important habitats and resources

Integrated Assessments of Regional Place-Based Conservation Needs



MMA Inventory at a Glance



Joint NOAA-DOI initiative

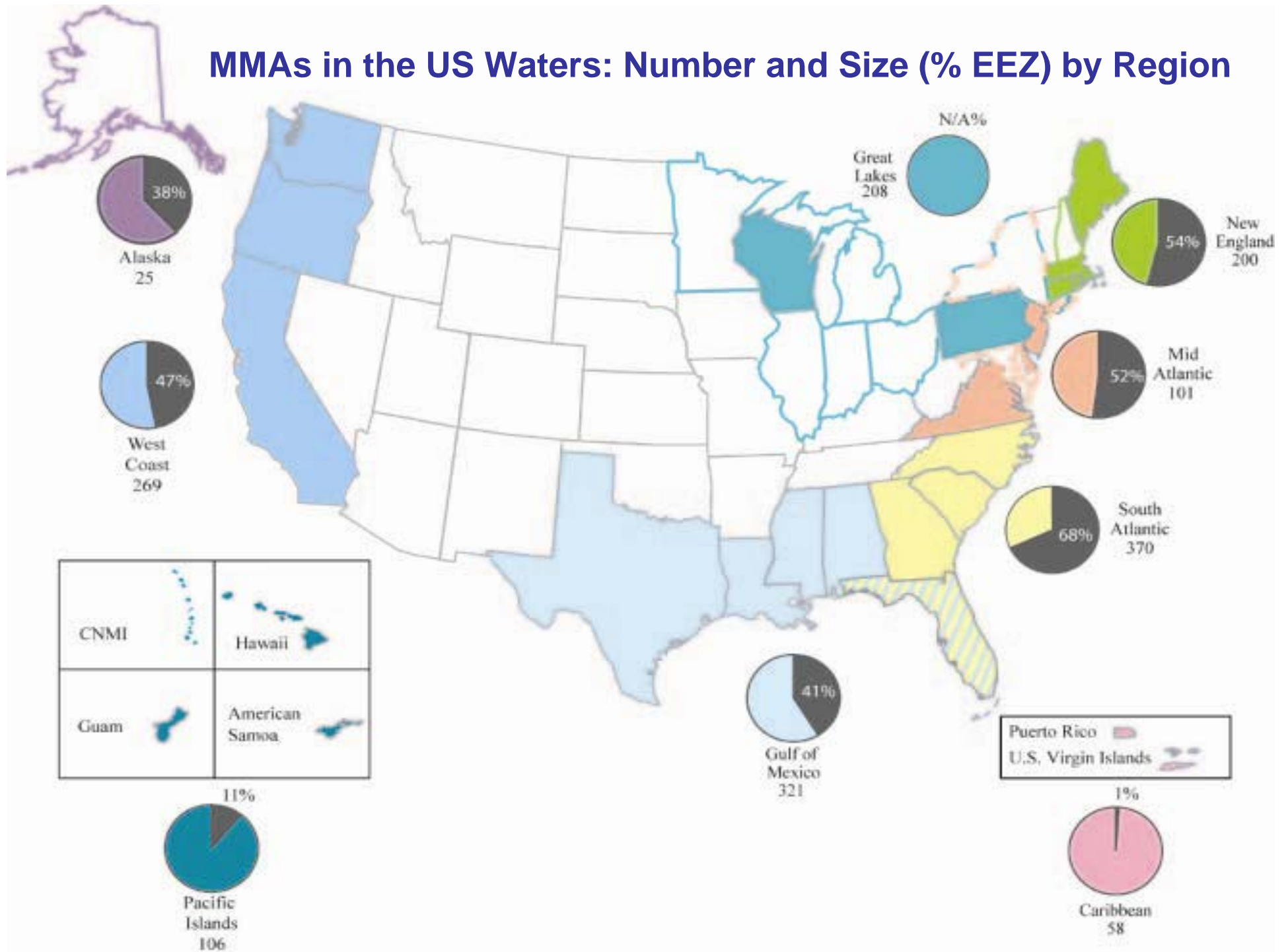
Federal-state-tribal partnership

Guided by interagency working group + state advisory group

Casts a wide net: over 1,500 MMAs

Collects data on description, location, boundaries, purpose, type and level of protection

MMA in the US Waters: Number and Size (% EEZ) by Region



National MMAs At A Glance

> 1500 individual MMAs in US waters

Most were established after 1970

Majority are multiple use; very few are no take

No take MMAs are typically very small

Most common MMAs in U.S. are state-managed; most are multiple-use sites allowing extractive uses

The rarest MMAs are federal, no-take reserves established to protect Natural Heritage values

Commercial fishing is more restricted than recreational fishing



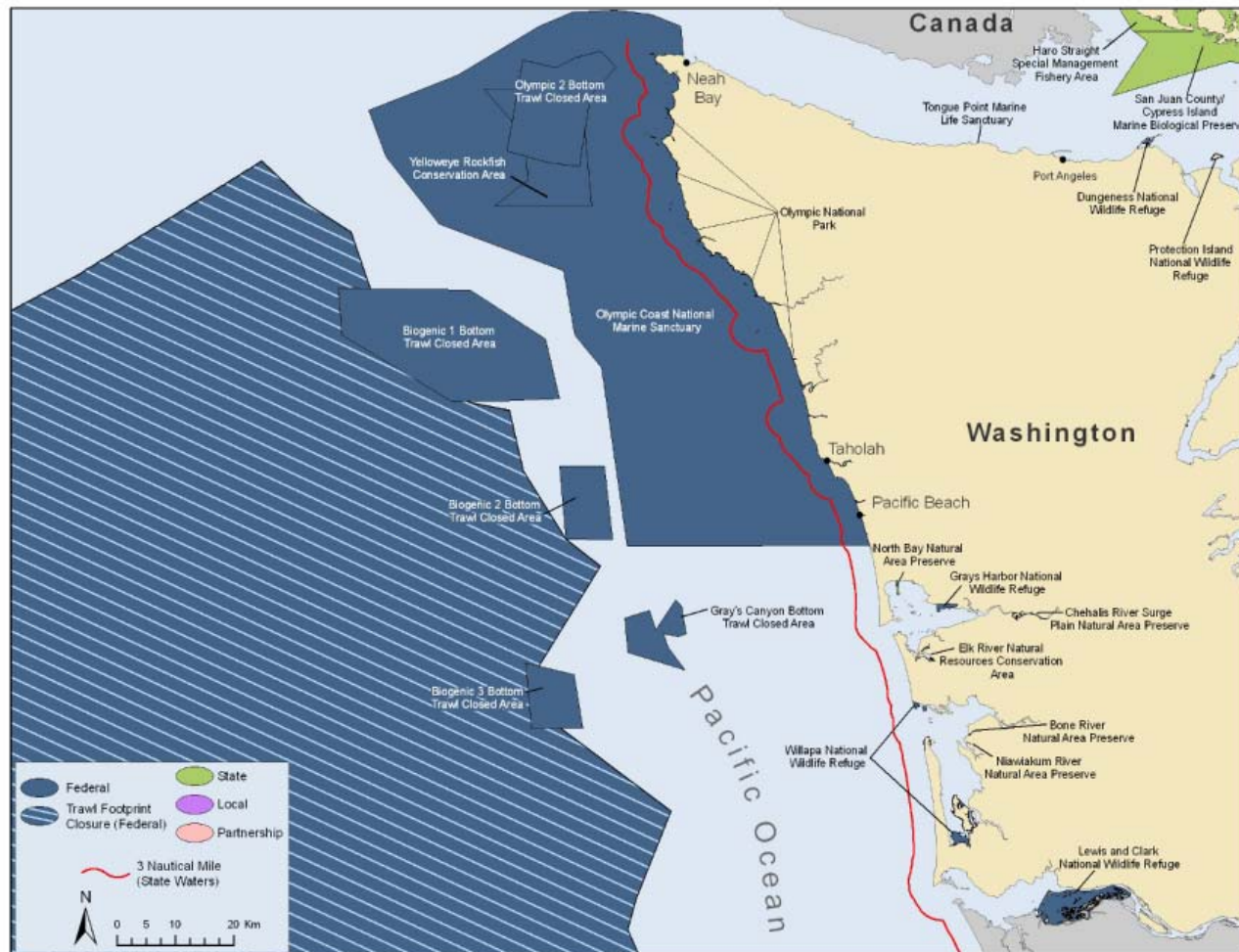
West Coast MMAs



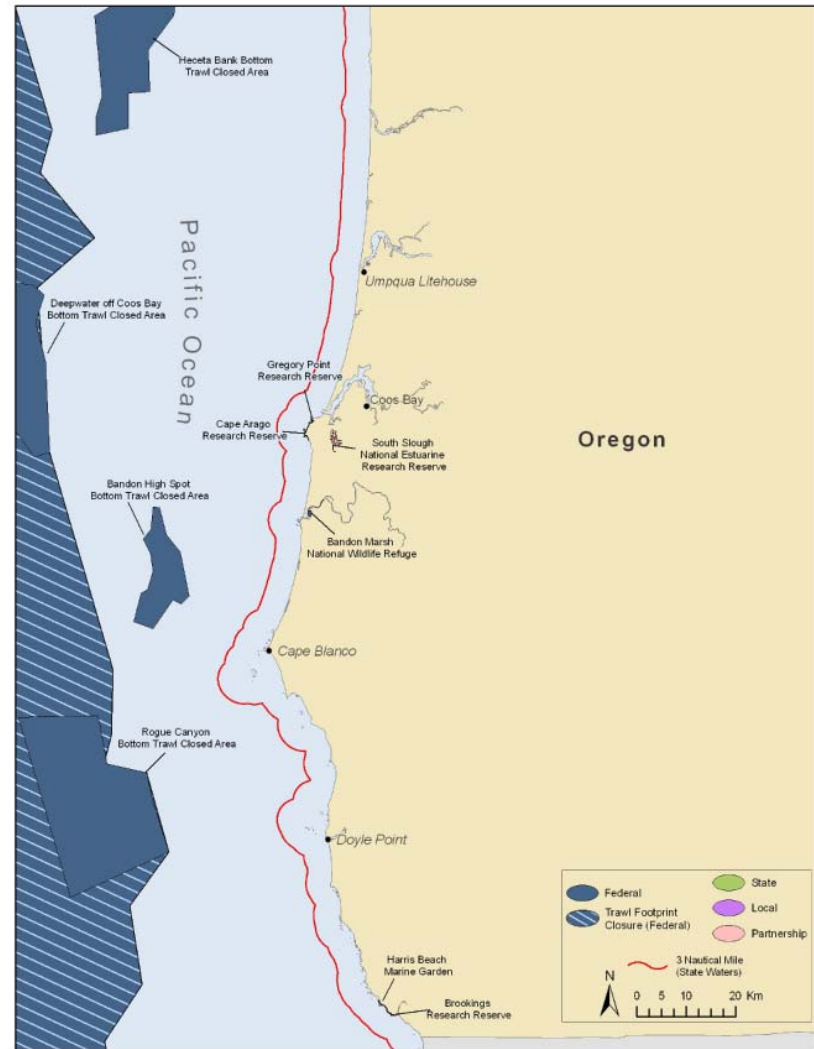
MMA in Washington: NWS + PS



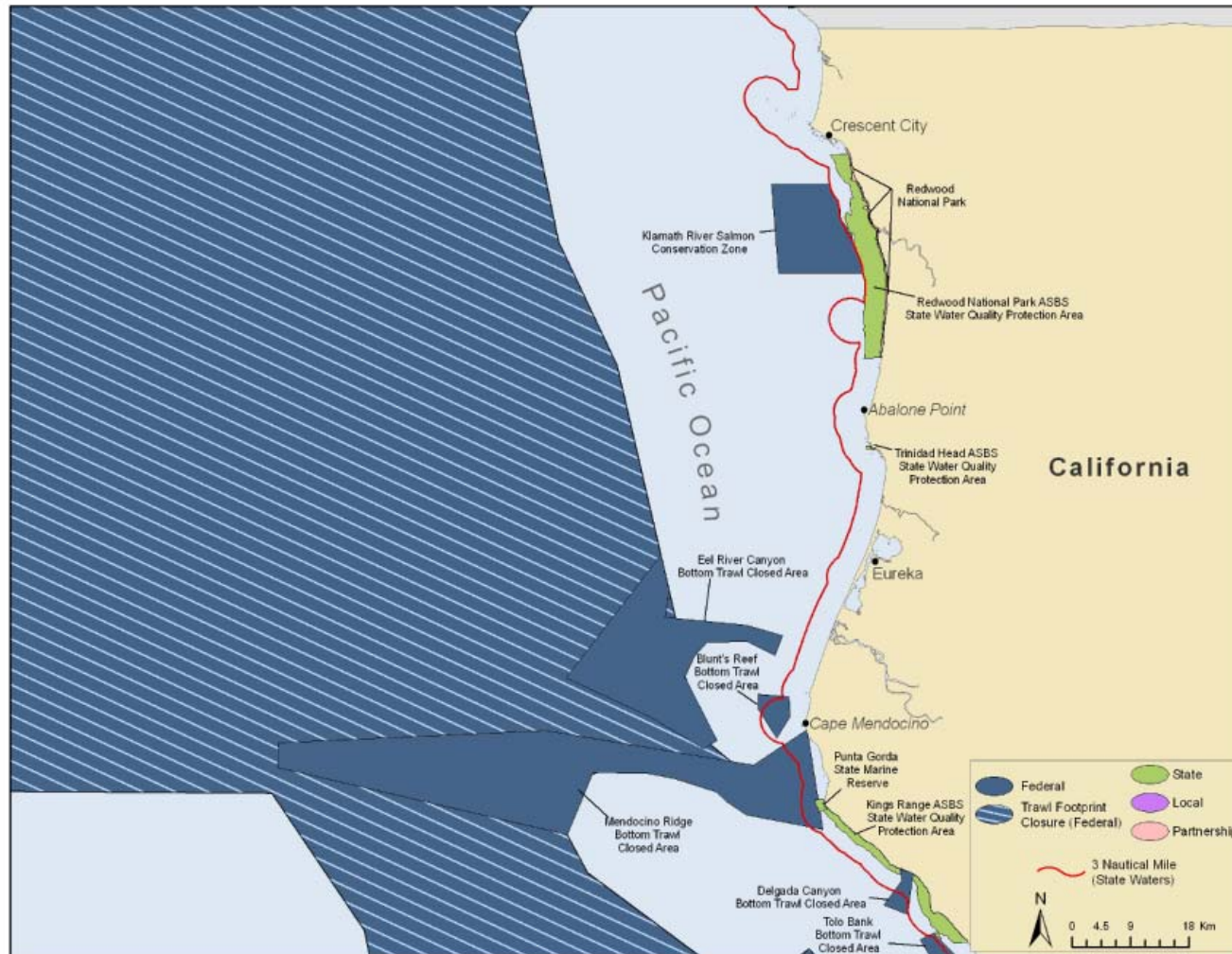
MMA in Washington: Offshore



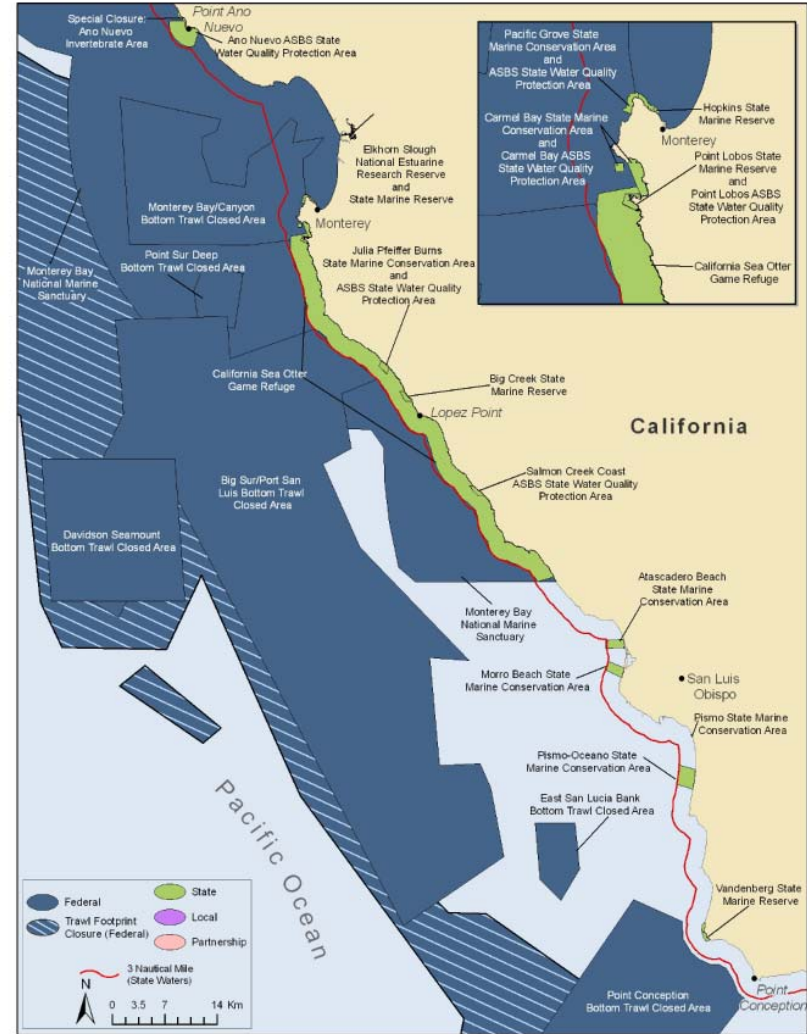
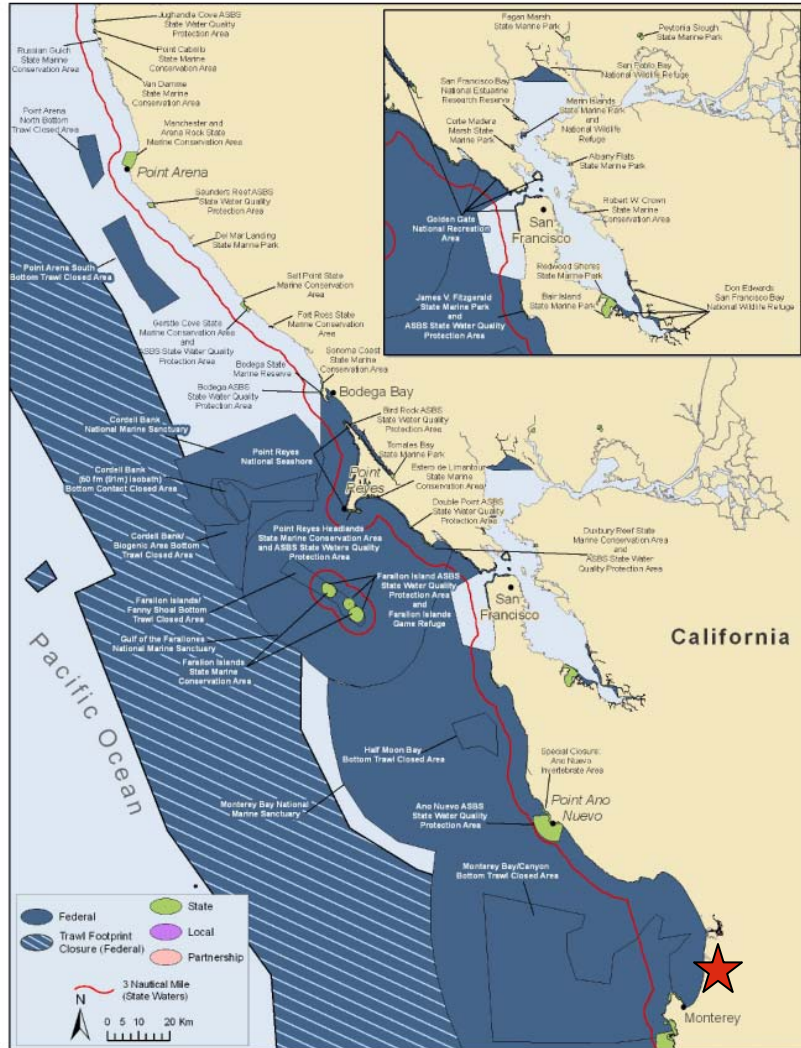
MMAAs in Oregon



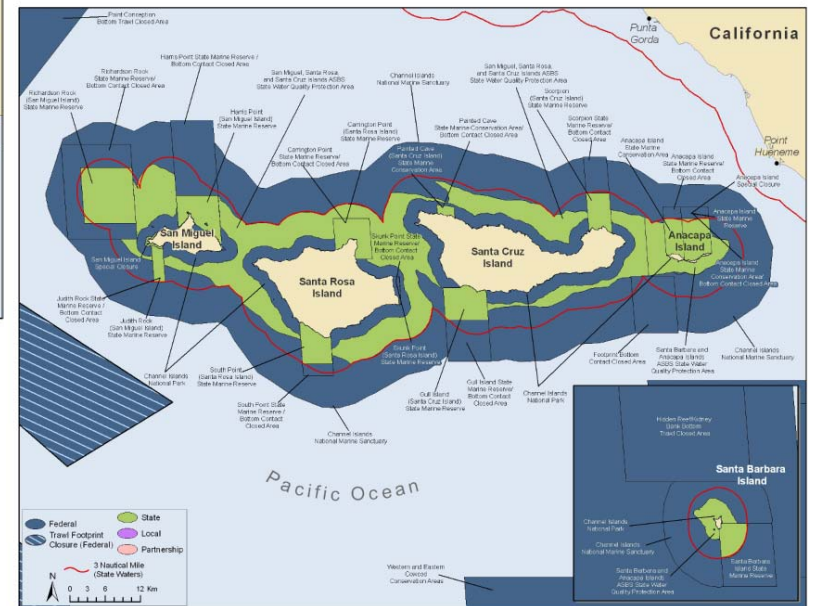
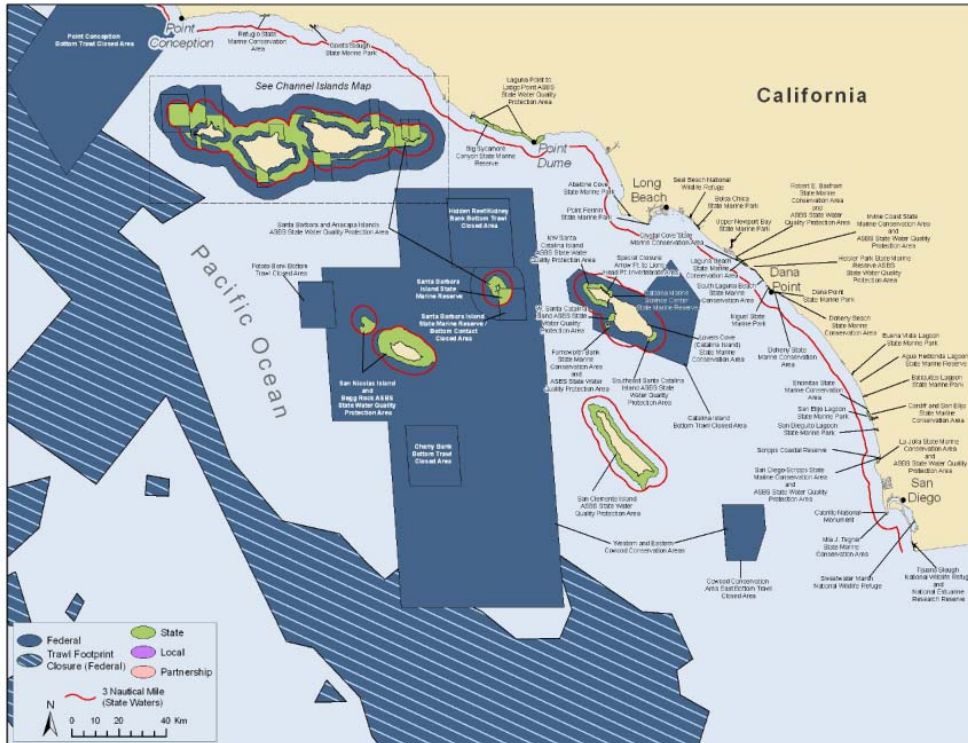
MMAs in Northern California



MMA in Central California

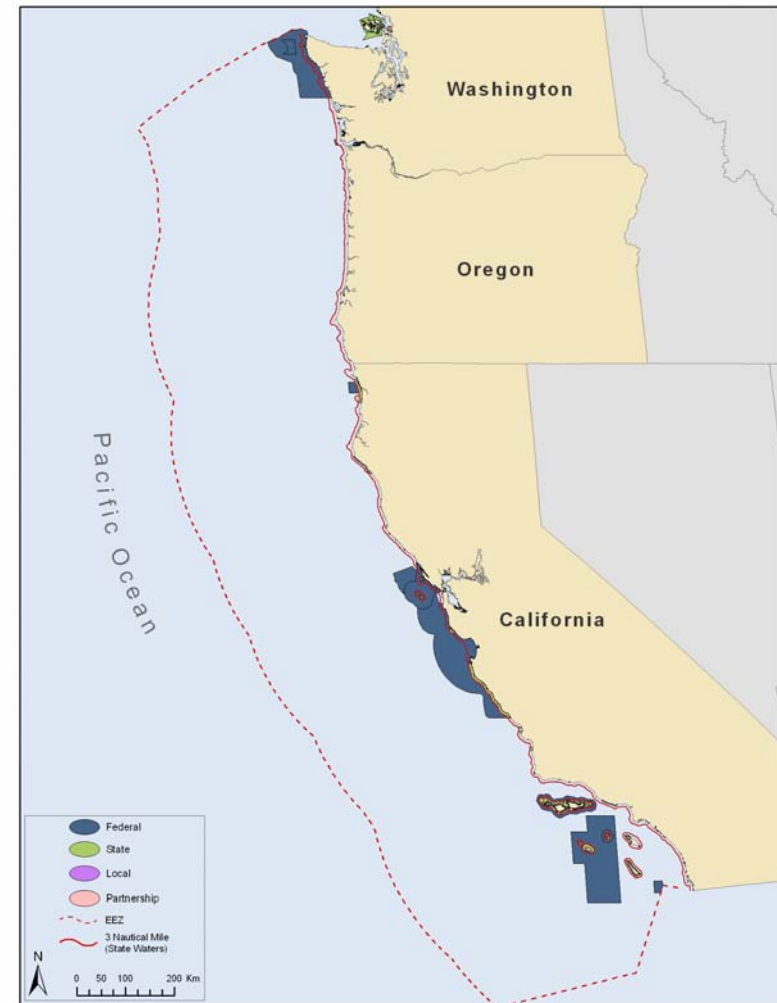


MMA in Southern California



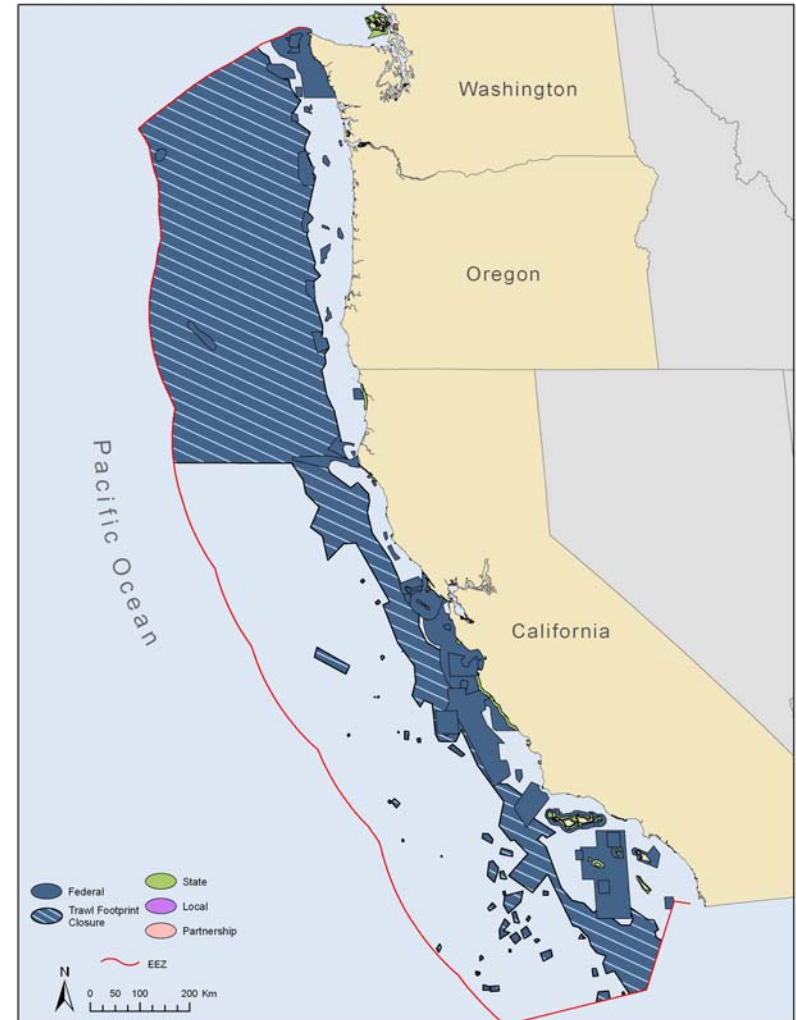
State of the West Coast MMAs: Pre-EFH

- 269 MMAs off West Coast
- Combination of federal, state, partnership and local sites
- Many MMAs span state and federal waters
- Recent addition of EFH Sites radically changes the landscape of spatial protection



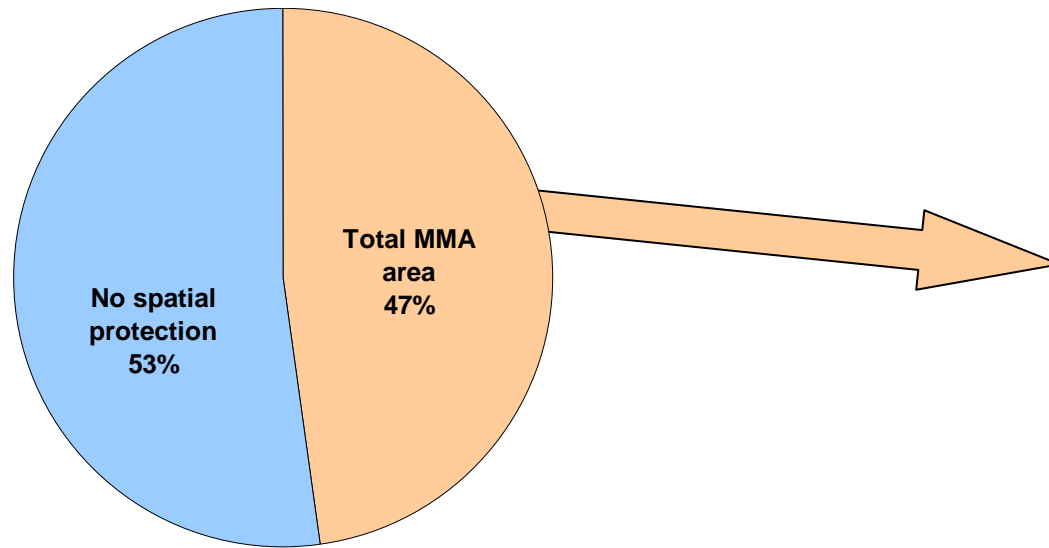
State of the West Coast MMAs: Post-EFH

- **269 MMAs off West Coast**
- **Combination of federal, state, partnership and local sites**
- **Many MMAs span state and federal waters**
- **Recent addition of EFH Sites radically changes the landscape of spatial protection**

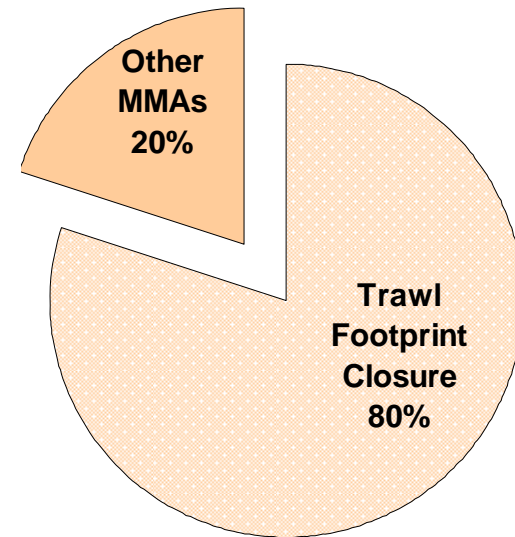


West Coast Waters Covered by MMAs

Total MMA area



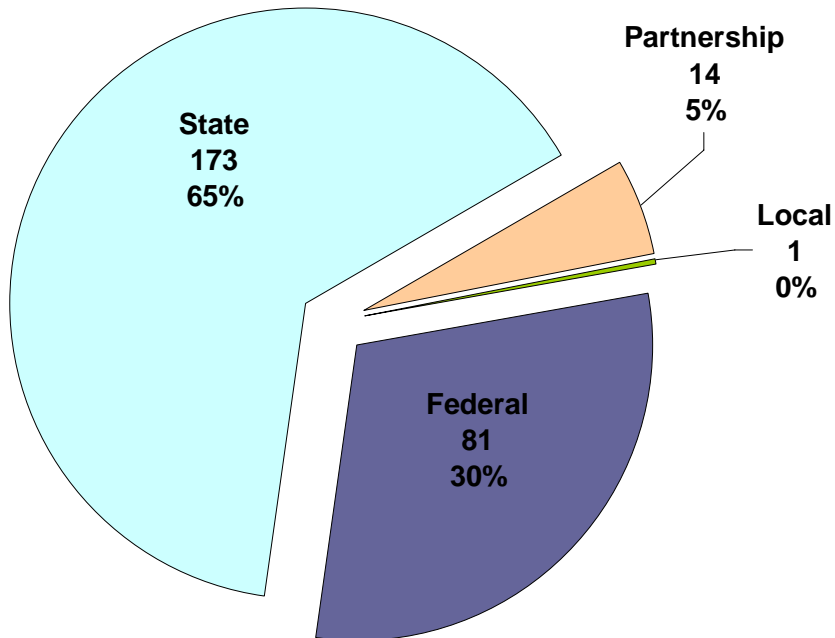
Contribution of EFH to MMAs



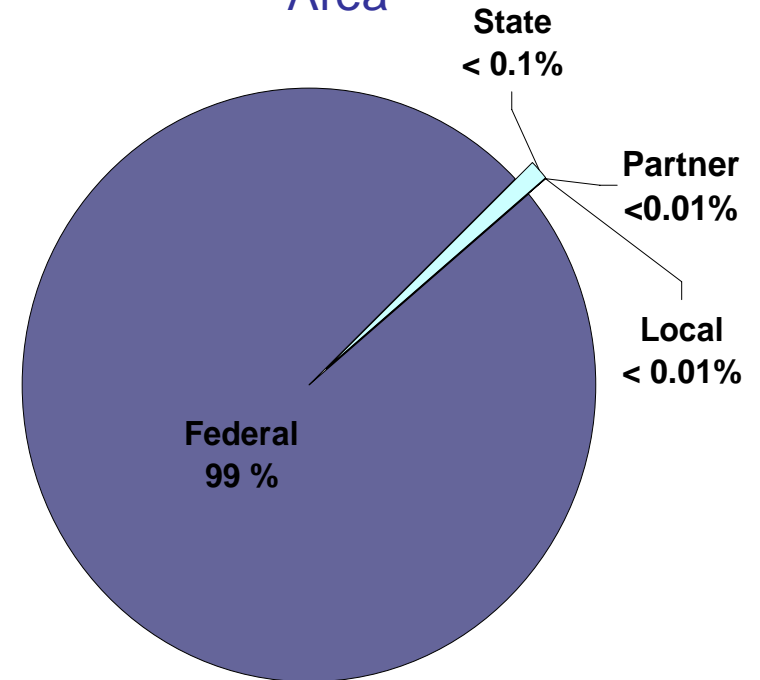
- 47% of west coast waters are covered by some sort of MMAs
- New EFH sites constitute 80% of MMA area on west coast

West Coast MMAs: Level of Government

Number

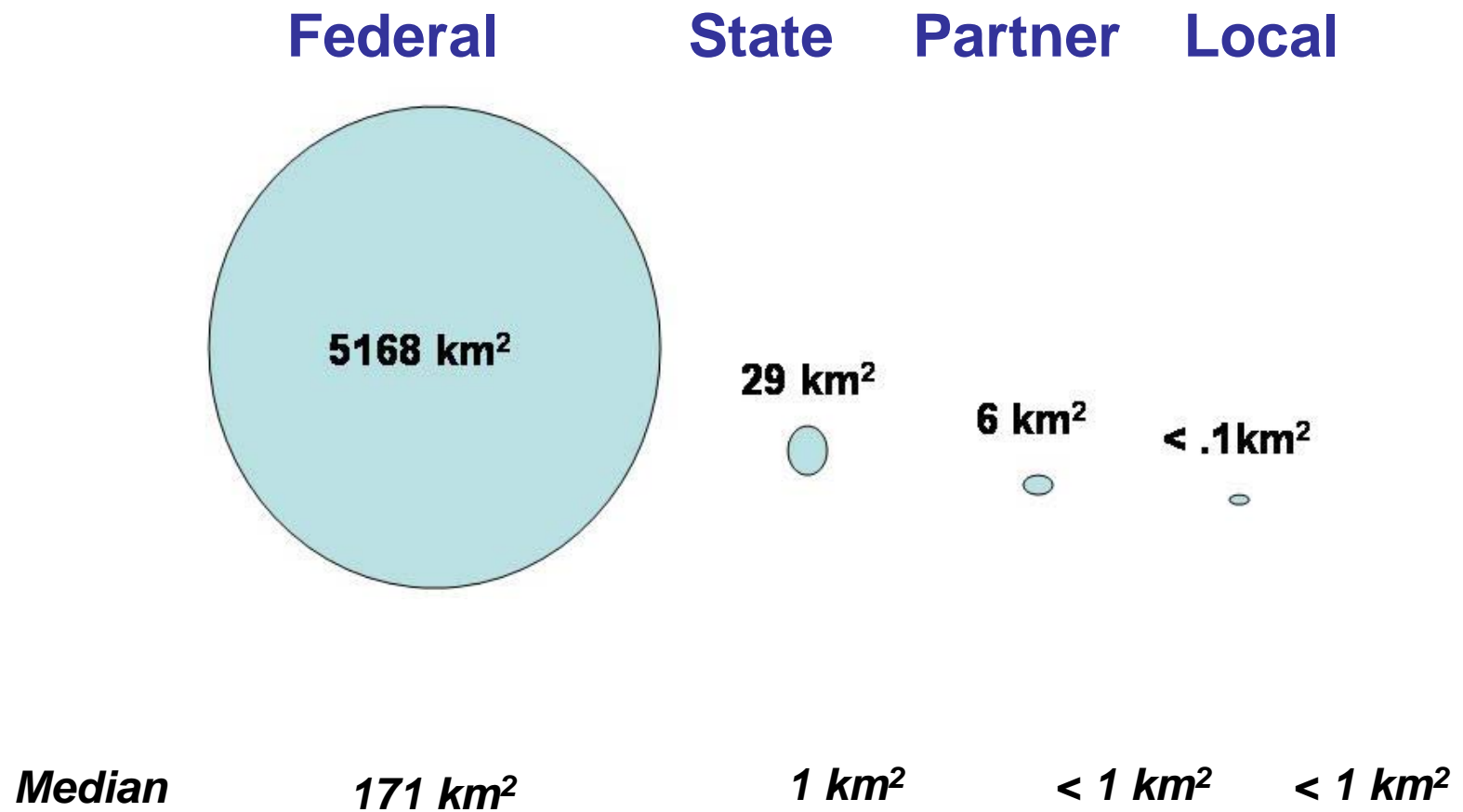


Area



- Twice as many state MMAs vs. federal MMAs
- But, federal MMAs cover vastly more area than state or other MMAs

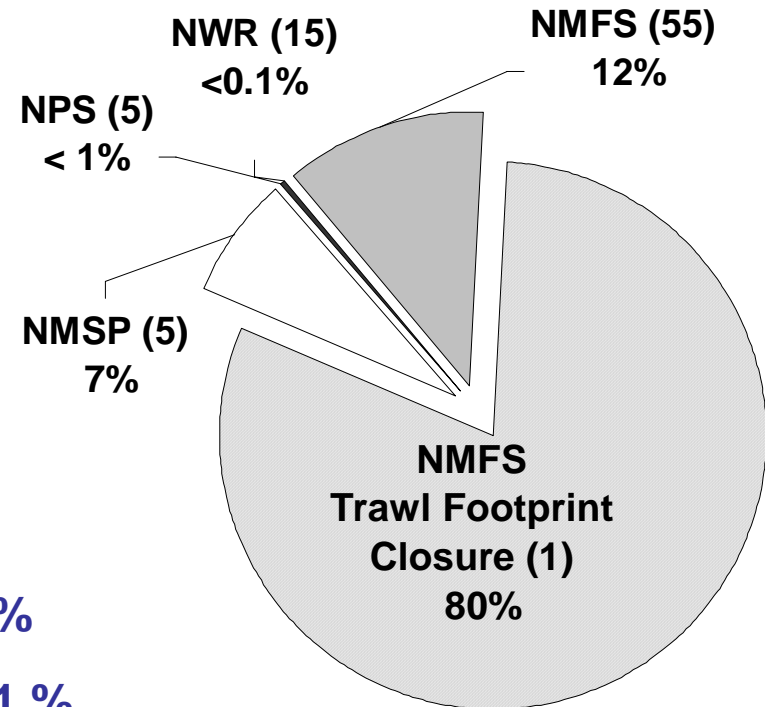
West Coast MMAs: Differences in MMA Size



West Coast MMAs

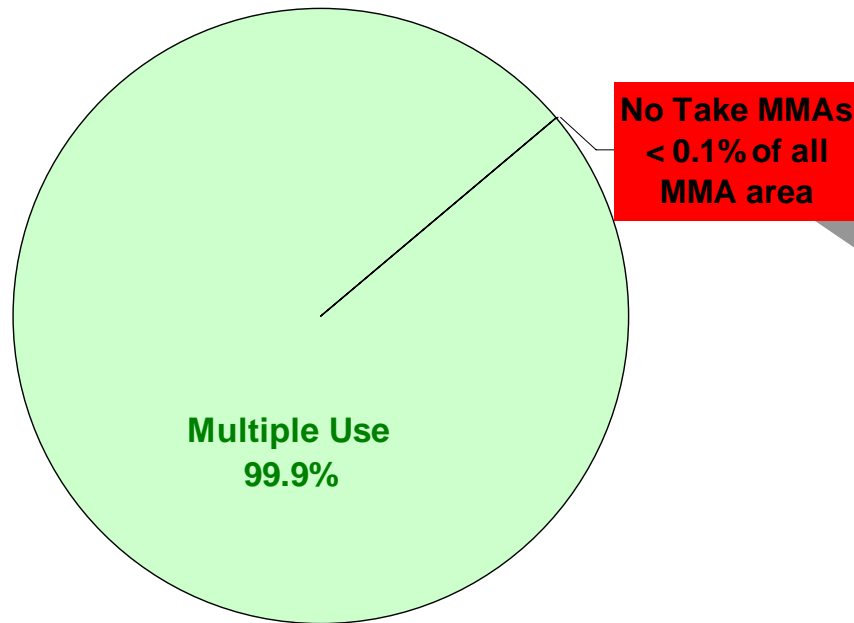
Federal agencies (by area)

- **Ntl. Marine Fisheries Service** 92 %
- **Ntl. Marine Sanctuary** 7%
- **Ntl. Park Service** < 1 %
- **Ntl. Wildlife Refuge** < 0.1 %
- **Ntl. Estuarine Research Reserve** < 0.001 %

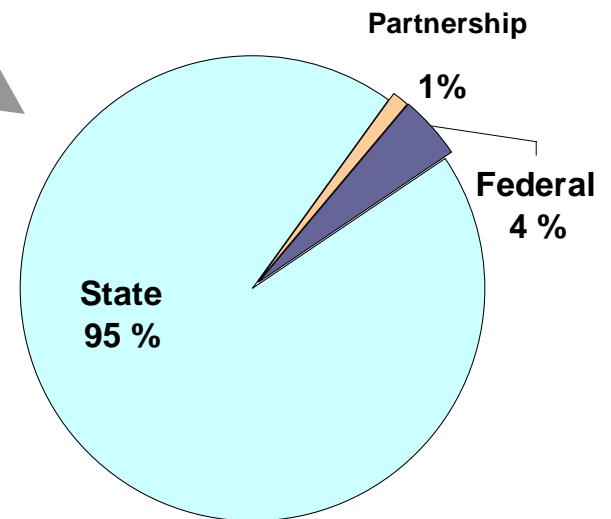


West Coast MMAs: Level of Protection (by area)

Multiple use vs. No-Take

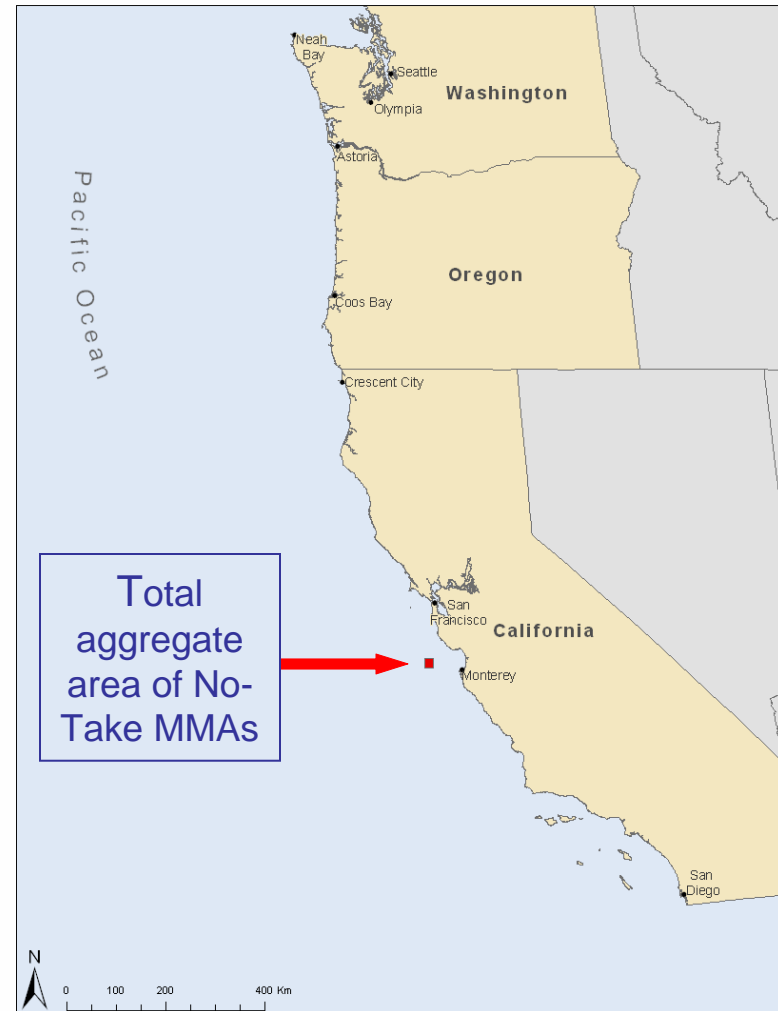
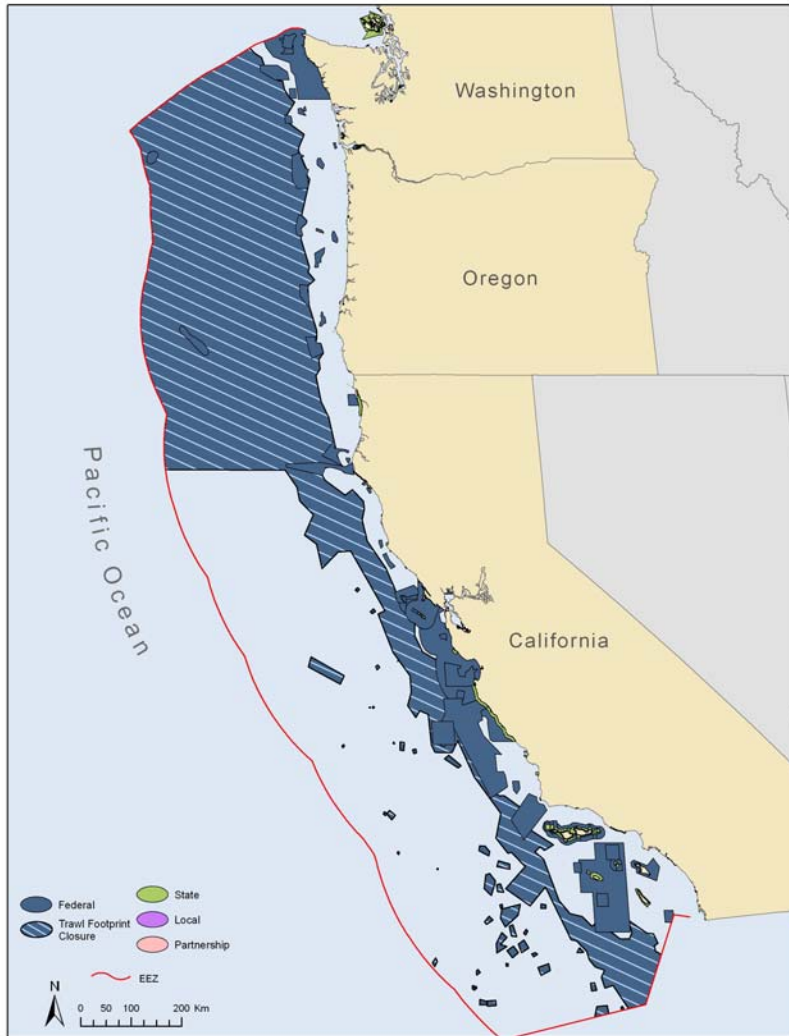


Who Manages No-Take MMAs?



- Less than 0.1% of MMA area is No-Take
- States manage most no-take MMA area

West Coast MMAs: No-Take MMA Area



West Coast MMAs: Summary of Inventory Results

Results confirm some, and refute other, widely held perceptions about how MMAs are used regionally

- **Almost half of the West Coast waters in MMAs, but ...**
- **Overwhelmingly majority (99.9 %) are multiple use; < 0.01 no –take**
- **Federal MMAs are typically large and multiple use**
- **State MMAs are typically small**
- **No-take MMAs are primarily state sites and small**
- **Largest MMAs are Federal with dual conservation focus**
- **Most are permanent, year-round and ecosystem focused**

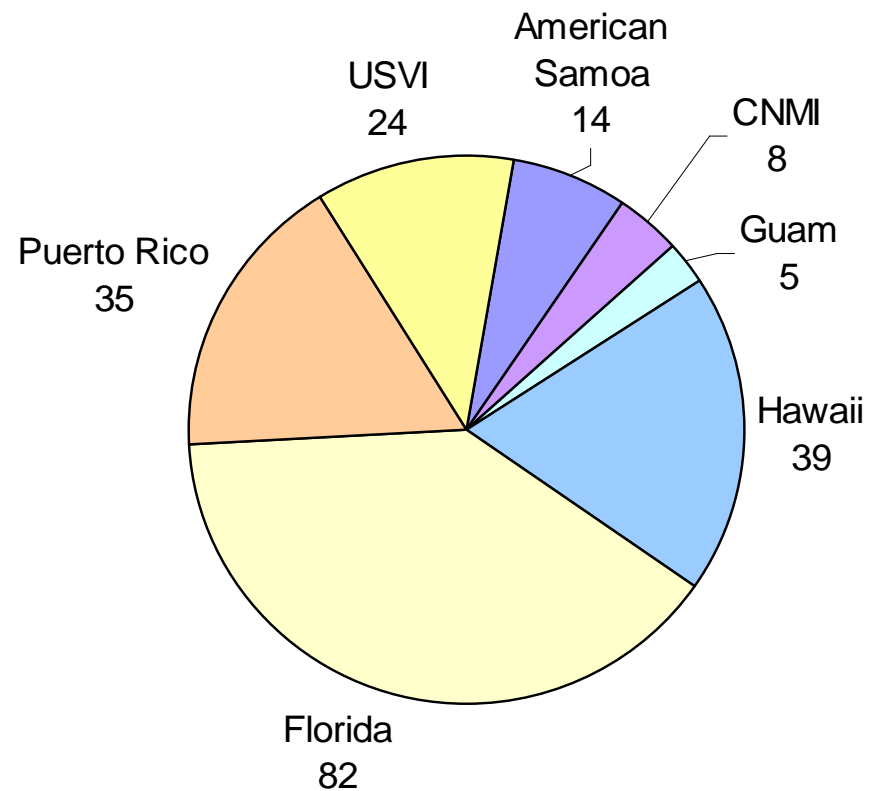
Coral Reef MMAs

Report on the Status of MPAs in Coral Reef

Ecosystems

Report includes 207 MPAs found in the 7 coral reef jurisdictions

Number of MPAs in Coral Reef Ecosystems by Jurisdiction
(n = 207)

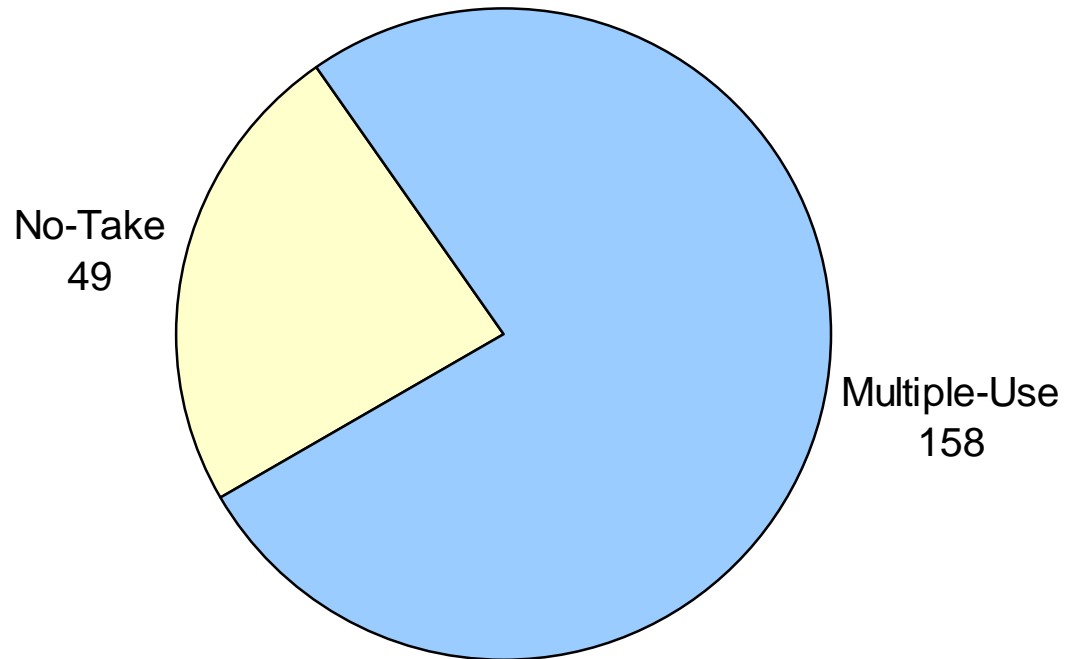


Report on the Status of MPAs in Coral Reef

Ecosystems

29% of sites offer no-take protection (49 sites)

Level of Marine Resource Protection (n = 207)

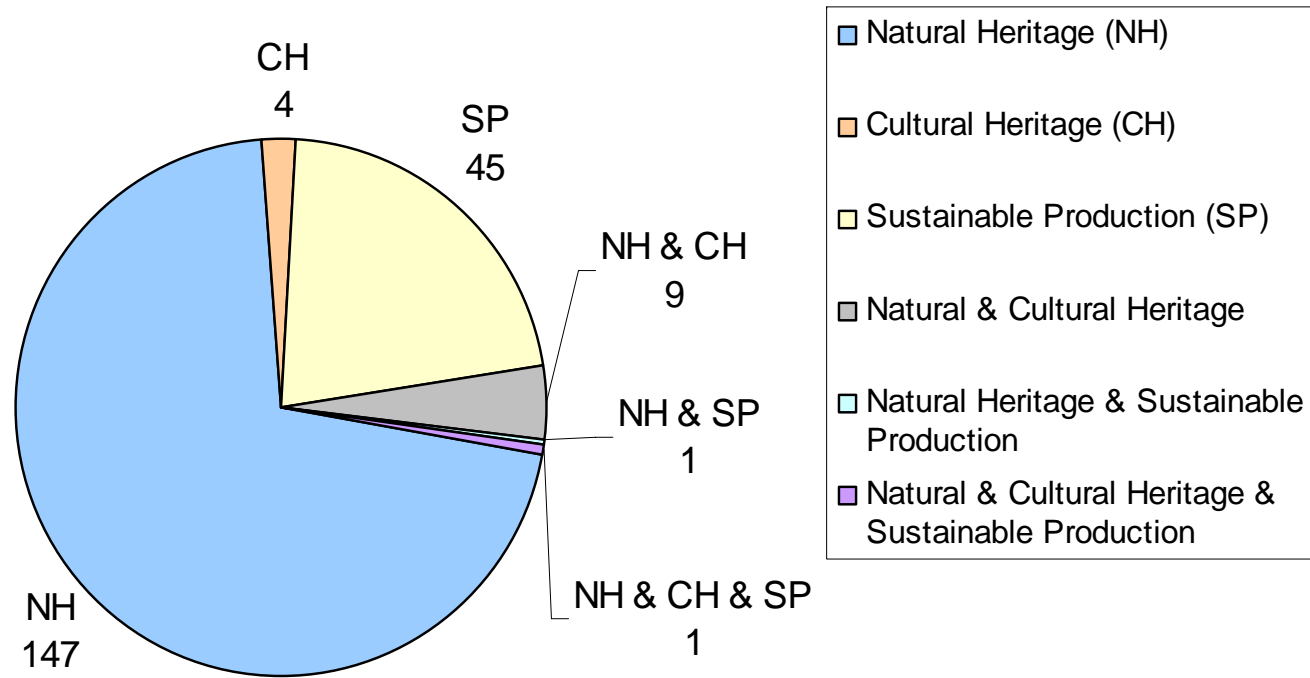


Report on the Status of MPAs in Coral Reef Ecosystems

Ecosystems

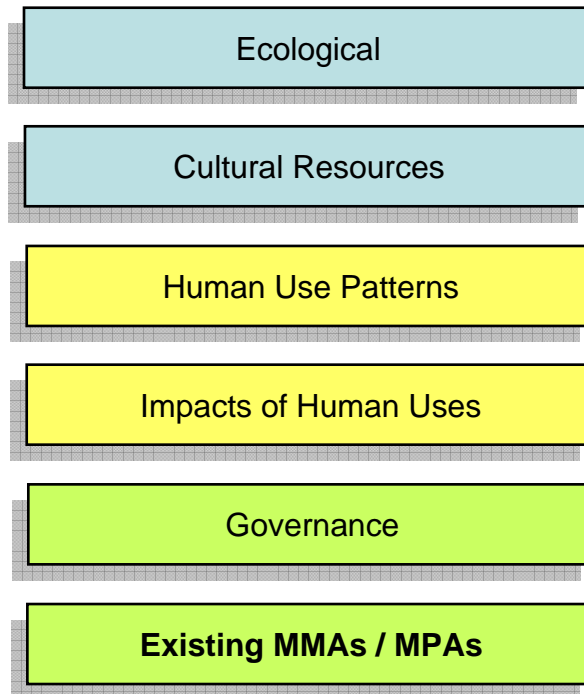
Majority (71%) of sites have a natural heritage conservation focus

Number of Coral Reef MPAs by Conservation Focus
(n = 207)



The Bigger Picture: MMAs, Ecosystems and Ocean Governance

Characterizations



Applications

Current MPAs – monitoring adaptive management

New MPAs - siting and design

Traditional fisheries management

Area-based fisheries management (e.g. EFH)

Ecosystem approaches to management

Ocean zoning and governance

Coastal Zone Management

Emergency planning and response

Ocean industries

Military operations