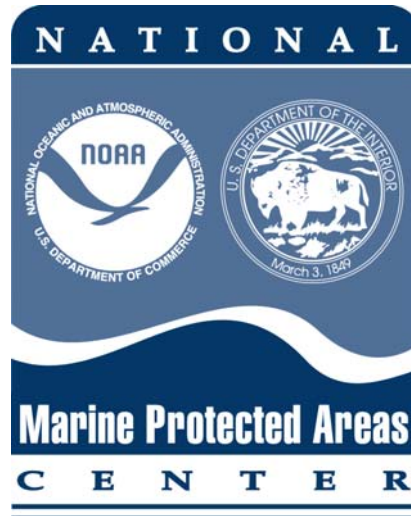


Summary of Federal Agency Workshop on the National System of MPAs



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Director

Meeting Goals

- Foster a greater understanding and support for the development of the national system of MPAs
- Obtain feedback from federal agencies and site managers on the goals, opportunities and barriers to the creation of a national system
- Gain support for coordinated federal outreach to field offices, states and other stakeholders

Participants

- 75 participants from 10 federal agencies
 - Leadership from Depts of Commerce and Interior
 - Site managers of Sanctuaries, National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges
 - Bonnie McCay, representing MPA FAC

Feedback

- Importance of a shared vision of a national system of MPAs
- Interest in dialogue with FAC on barriers and opportunities site managers see regarding national system
- Importance of linkages to broader ecosystem-based management
- Recommend revising classification system to recognize that many MPA sites have more than one conservation purpose

Feedback (cont)

- Recognize tension between improving existing sites and potentially adding new sites in view of limited resources
- Strong interest from sites and programs in improving effectiveness
- Need to emphasize value to sites and programs of increased coordination and networks
 - Efficiency
 - Sharing lessons learned
 - Benefits to the resource

Next Steps

- Complete and post meeting summary for mpa.gov
- Continue to work through Interagency MPA Working Group
- Involve federal agencies in coordinating state and public outreach
- Identify opportunity for exchange between MPA site managers and MPA FAC
- Incorporate specific feedback on MPA goals and processes into Framework document