

The Draft Framework for Developing the National System of MPAs



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How We Developed the Draft

Draft Framework based on partnerships, information collected, and input received over the past four (4) years.

- FAC recommendations are the foundation
- Ongoing federal agency review
- Draft State recommendations
- Initial Tribal consultations
- Interest group, general public, and other stakeholder meetings
- Prelim. analysis of the MMA Inventory



A Roadmap for National System Development

Principles for the National System Framework

- Adaptive and flexible
- Enhances existing efforts and improve future decisions through collaboration – a *'System of Systems and Sites'*
- Comprehensive and integrated
- Ecosystem and regional approaches, while maintaining a national outlook



What's in the Draft Framework?

(1 of 3)

Provides general guidance for developing the National System, including:

- Background, Rationale, and Benefits
- Themes
 - Natural heritage
 - Cultural heritage
 - Sustainable production
- Guiding Principles



What's in the Draft Framework?

(2 of 3)

Draft Framework also includes:

- National System Goals
 - *Goal 1. Advance comprehensive conservation and management of the Nation's marine natural and cultural heritage, and sustainable production marine resources through ecosystem-based MPA approaches.*
 - *Goal 2. Promote sound stewardship and improve the effectiveness of the National System.*
 - *Goal 3. Enhance effective coordination and integration among the National System and within the broader ecosystem management context.*
- National System Objectives
- MPA definition and criteria (*area, marine environment, reserved, lasting, and protection*)

What's in the Draft Framework?

(3 of 3)

Draft Framework also includes:

- Regional and national processes for:
 - Nominating and including existing MPAs
 - Enhancing coordination and stewardship
 - Identifying gaps and future conservation priorities
- Guidance on MPA EO Section 5 (*a.k.a. "avoid harm"*)
- Annual and Biennial Reporting
- Process for developing performance measures



National System Benefits to the U.S.

By providing a structure for coordinating and supporting U.S. MPA efforts, the National System:

- Recognizes and supports work of federal, state, and tribal governments and regional institutions
- Promotes government coordination for efficient use of resources
- Improves public access to information and participation
- Builds core component of ecosystem management



Steps for Public Release of the Draft Framework



- Review and approval from DOC/NOAA and DOI over next month
- Provide a 145-day public comment period (*addt'l stakeholder outreach pending resources*)
- Distribute via mpa.gov website, email lists, organizations, MPAFAC, etc.

Framework: Draft to Final

- Fall 2006, revise Framework and develop response to comments
- DOC/NOAA and DOI review and approval; final by mid- to late 2007
- Press release & conference, summary brochure, one-pagers, website section



Implementing the Final Framework

- Identify and nominate existing sites for national system (end of 2007)
- Scope out regional efforts with participating sites and other partners
- Identify shared stewardship priorities and build initiatives
- Collaboratively develop science, tools, & ID ecosystem-based gaps



Questions?

A National System of MPAs, collaboratively conserving the nation's...



*Natural
Heritage,*



*Sustainable Production,
and*



Cultural Heritage.