

NATIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS CENTER

www.mpa.gov

National MPA System Update

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National Ocean Service
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management



MPA Center FY2011 Priorities

- Strengthen capabilities of National MPA System members
- Define and implement System's Cultural Heritage component
- Integrate with agency initiatives on Coastal & Marine Spatial Planning and Climate Change
- Engaging Stakeholders and the Public

National System of MPAs

- 254 MPAs
- Federal MPA Programs in 28 states/territories
 - 13 National Marine Sanctuaries
 - 29 National Parks
 - 106 National Wildlife Refuges
- Federal/State Partnership
 - 5 National Estuarine Research Reserves
 - Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
- MPAs of 11 States/Territories (AS, CA, FL, HI, MD, MA, NJ, PR, USVI, VA, WA)



Pelican Island, NWR



Papahānaumokuākea MNM

2nd Round of Nominations

(June 2010)

- 32 sites nominated
 - National Parks
 - National Wildlife Refuges
 - Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
 - Washington State, US Virgin Islands
- 29 sites finally submitted and accepted



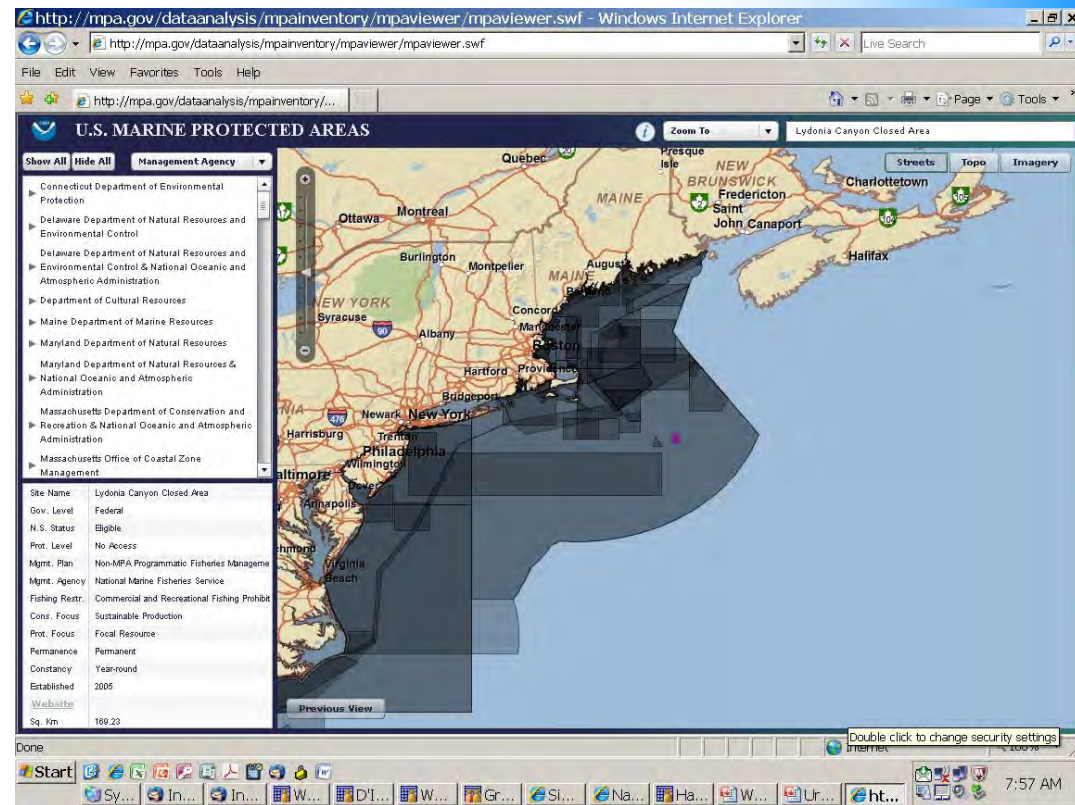
Public Comment on Nominations

- Term “MPA” continues to be controversial
- Continued concerns from recreational fishing community – fears of fishing restrictions
- Concern at one site from local commercial fishermen
- Need for additional government-to-government consultation with tribes
- Need for additional public outreach & site inreach



3rd Round of Nominations (Fall 2010)

- Four sites nominated by NMFS under Tilefish management plan
- Close coordination with Mid Atlantic Council
 - Norfolk Canyon
 - Lydonia Canyon
 - Oceanographer Canyon
 - Veach Canyon
- Timeline: Fall 2010



4th Round of Nominations

(Nov 19, 2010)



Working with National System Partners

- Held 2nd National System Partners Retreat – June 2010
- Focused on two priorities
 - MPA Effectiveness
 - Community-based MPAs & Stakeholder engagement
- Informational discussion on Coastal and marine spatial planning



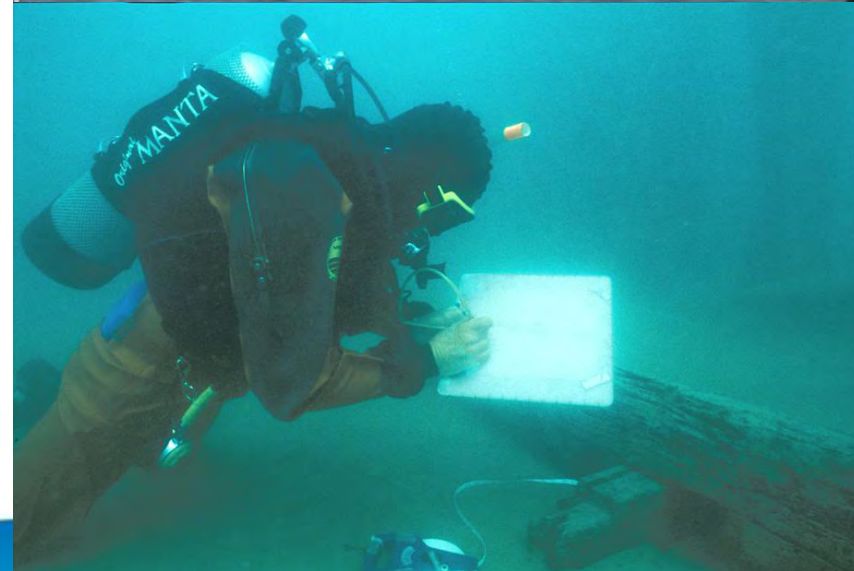
Coordinating IOOS & the National System

- Task Team established Spring 2010
- Task Team & Expert Workshop – Aug 2010



Cultural Heritage Resources

- Engagement with tribes & indigenous people
 - Information sharing on National System
 - Information gathering for Cultural Heritage Resources Workgroup



Training

- MPA Center has established training partnership with Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and Coral Program
- FY2010 Training:
 - Adapting to Climate Change for Coastal and MPA Managers (Feb 2010)
 - Developing MPA Networks (June 2010)
- Next steps
 - Capacity assessment for national system partners
 - Identifying priorities for additional training
 - Building on existing training efforts – enhancing coastal and marine components



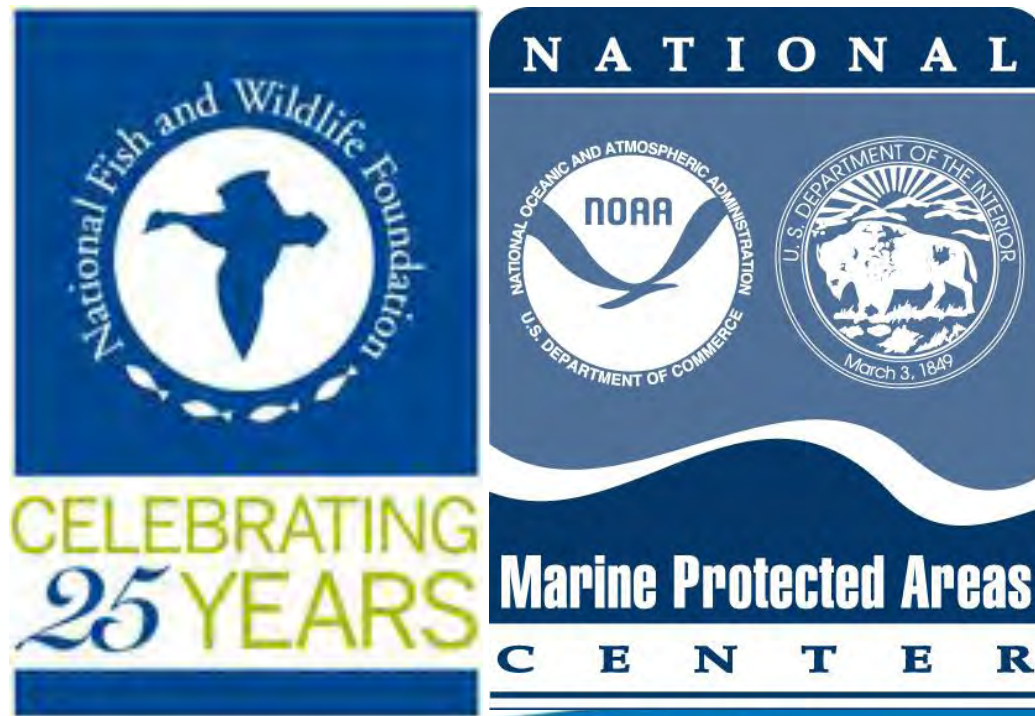
Communications

- Increased focus on multi-media (videos)
- Agency in-reach
- Making data accessible (web-based tools)
- National System Communications Plan
- Thematically-focused newsletter and webinar series



MPA Partnership Fund

- Awarded first 5 MPA partnership grants in FY10
- RFP for FY11 in Fall 2010
- Hope to continue/expand in FY12



MPA Fund – FY10

- Developing a Regional MPA Plan for the Southeast, Friends of Rookery Bay, Inc.
- Strengthening Marine Protections in Puako, Hawaii Island, The Nature Conservancy
- Application of LiDAR Data to Support MPA Management, Jacques Cousteau NERR
- MPA Management Plan Development: Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, MCBI
- California MPA Interpretive Panel Design and Installation, California Department of Parks & Recreation



Strengthening the MPA Inventory

SNAPSHOT OF UNITED STATES MPAS

www.mpa.gov

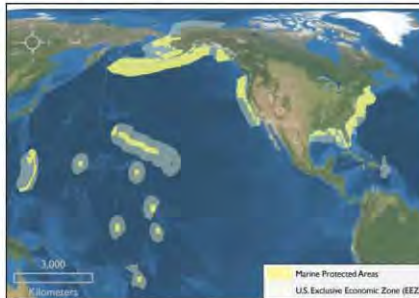
The information provided here is current as of March 2010, and is from the Marine Protected Areas Inventory (MPA Inventory) – a comprehensive geospatial database designed to catalog and classify marine protected areas within U.S. waters. The MPA Inventory was developed from information provided by state, territorial, tribal and federal MPA programs, and other publicly available data.

WHAT IS A MARINE PROTECTED AREA?

Executive Order 13158 (see below) defines an MPA as “any area of the marine environment that has been reserved by federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection for part or all of the natural and cultural resources therein.” Key terms within the definition -- area, marine, reserved, lasting, and protection -- are defined in the *Framework for the National System of Marine Protected Areas of the United States of America*.

PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER ON MPAS

In May 2000, Presidential Executive Order 13158 was signed to enhance the management, protection, and conservation of U.S. marine resources through more effective and collaborative uses of MPAs as an ecosystem management tool. It directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Department of the Interior to work with other federal agencies and states, territories, tribes, and the public to develop a scientifically-based, comprehensive national system of MPAs. The national system of MPAs aims to conserve the nation's natural and cultural marine heritage, and to sustain production of living marine resources. It provides a transparent process to enhance coordination among MPAs across all levels of government to achieve common conservation goals and objectives.



UNITED STATES MPAS AT A GLANCE:

- The U.S. currently has more than 1,600 MPAs
- About 40% of all U.S. waters are in some form of MPA
- Nearly all (86%) U.S. MPAs are multiple use
- “No take” MPAs occupy only about 1% of all U.S. waters
- Less than 3% of the area in MPAs in the U.S. is “no take”
- The majority of U.S. MPAs are located within the Virginian Atlantic marine ecoregion, which extends along Cape Hatteras northward to Cape Cod
- State and territorial governments manage approximately 75% of the nation's MPAs, but most MPA area is managed by federal agencies

NOAA's National Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Center's mission is to facilitate the effective use of science, technology, training, and information in the planning, management, and evaluation of the nation's system of marine protected areas. The MPA Center works in partnership with federal, state, tribal, and local governments and stakeholders to develop a science-based, comprehensive national system of MPAs. These collaborative efforts will lead to a more efficient, effective use of MPAs now and in the future to conserve and sustain the nation's vital marine resources.



Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOAA Ocean Service, 1305 East West Hwy. (N/OFRM), Silver Spring, MD 20910, U.S.A. April, 2010

THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MPAS: ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL SYSTEM SITES (JUNE 2010)

www.mpa.gov

The information provided here is for the 254 MPAs that are members of the national system of MPAs. Information is current as of June 2010. The national system will expand as federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local agencies nominate additional sites. Additional information on these sites can be found on the List of National System MPAs, available at www.mpa.gov.

THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

In 2009, the United States established the National System of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to support the effective stewardship, conservation, restoration, sustainable use, understanding and appreciation of the nation's marine resources. The national system, which currently includes 254 federal, state and territorial MPAs, will continue to expand over time.

The national system coordinates MPAs managed by diverse agencies across all levels of government to work toward national conservation objectives. The system benefits the nation's collective conservation efforts as well as participating MPAs, providing them with a means to address issues that extend beyond their boundaries.

The national system is described in detail in the Framework for the National System of Marine Protected Areas of the United States of America. Key benefits of the national system include:

- Enhancing MPA stewardship
- Building partnerships
- Building MPA capacity
- Increasing support for marine conservation
- More effective outreach on MPAs
- Promoting cultural heritage
- Protecting MPA resources



NATIONAL SYSTEM SITES AT A GLANCE:

- The national system contains 254 sites and covers an area of 175,000 square miles
- 4% of U.S. waters (0-200 nautical miles) is covered by the national system sites
- About 27% of the total area of all national system sites is considered “no-take” (where no extractive uses are allowed), due to the large, highly protected Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
- All 21 of the national system's priority conservation objectives are addressed by national system members
- Every major ecoregion in the U.S. is represented in the national system

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Refocusing the Gap Analysis

- Working within broader CMSP context to align ecological gap analysis with CMSP needs
- Developing Proof of Concept for spatial resource analysis:
 - Gather existing ecological resource information on spatial basis
 - Expand ecological and management resource information in MPA Inventory
 - Build analytical tool
- Major steps:
 - Mapping ecological resources
 - Linking those resources to the national system's priority conservation objectives
 - Assessing the spatial coverage of those resources inside and outside existing MPAs
- Focus on California

Defining “Avoid Harm”

- Executive Order calls for federal agencies to avoid harm to the resources protected by national system MPAs
- Framework says that this requirement will be defined and implemented by each federal agency
- NOAA has developed “avoid harm” policy; possible model for other agencies
 - NOAA role, definitions, operations, documentation
- Sent to federal agencies & Fishery Management Councils for review

International Linkages

- North American MPA Network
 - Scientific workshop – guidelines for identifying priority conservation areas in light of expected climate change impacts
 - Education partnership with Aquaria
- Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean (SPA-W, Cartagena Convention)
 - Simplified listing process approved
 - 1st sites to be listed in early 2011