

# MPA CONNECTIONS

Newsletter of the National Marine Protected Areas Center

September/October 2004

The mission of the National Marine Protected Areas Center 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. *MPA Connections* was launched to meet continuing calls by agency and external stakeholders for information about MPA Center activities and to feature other actions that address Executive Order 13158 goals.

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## MPA Center Releases Report on Stakeholder Participation

Stakeholder involvement in marine protected area (MPA) development and management is a topic of growing interest. An important lesson learned from the design and implementation of MPAs around the world is that social factors are the primary determinants of the success of MPAs, making stakeholder involvement an essential ingredient. However, most agencies dealing with MPAs are just beginning to learn how to design and conduct effective MPA participatory processes.

Over the past 30 years, public participation not only has produced decisions that were responsive to community interests and values, but also has helped resolve user conflicts, build trust, and educate the public about the environment. While there is growing awareness of the need for

involvement, there is a lack of understanding of the implications of increased involvement, as well as of how to improve the process.

A report just published by the National Marine Protected Areas Center entitled, “Stakeholder Participation: A Synthesis of Current Literature,” extracts lessons from participatory processes across various fields, such as forestry, environmental justice, fisheries, and marine and coastal management, and within both the national and international communities. The report begins with a discussion of the benefits of and challenges to stakeholder involvement, followed by regulatory requirements for participation that often provide the backbone to participatory initiatives. Several aspects of participatory processes are then discussed, including process design, participatory mechanisms now being applied, and factors to consider before launching into a process. This leads to a discussion on evaluating participatory processes, highlighting the state of the research, as well as research gaps and limitations. The report concludes with a summary of trends seen throughout the literature.

At times, the report clearly focuses on the designation or development phase of the MPA process. However, it is important to note that stakeholder participation is key at all stages of the process, including implementation, ongoing management, and evaluation. The information provided in the report can help MPA managers determine what type of stakeholder participation process and participatory mechanisms may be most appropriate for their individual needs. A complete bibliography provides users with additional resources on the processes or approaches discussed within the report.

To obtain an electronic version of “Stakeholder Participation: A Synthesis of Current Literature,” go to [http://www2.mpa.gov/mpa/mpaservices/virtual\\_library/publications.lasso](http://www2.mpa.gov/mpa/mpaservices/virtual_library/publications.lasso).

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### **Clarifying Misconceptions about Marine Protected Areas: An Ongoing Series**

#### **Misconception:**

MPAs are only managed for a single purpose or goal.

#### **Reality:**

Many MPAs are managed to achieve several objectives, though they usually have a primary conservation goal that reflects their statutory mandates, implementing regulations, and management plans. The primary conservation goal of a site can be classified according to natural heritage, cultural heritage, or sustainable production.

The objectives relating to each goal generally try to achieve a combination of several outcomes. They may be set to sustain biodiversity, protect endangered species, preserve natural aesthetic values, enhance fisheries, add recreation and tourism opportunities, maintain cultural heritage, and advance educational and research opportunities. To accomplish these goals, managers often break MPAs into zones of varying protection levels. These zones may include areas set aside for scientific research, wildlife management, and tourism opportunities.

These highly specified zoning regulations have been fundamental in helping the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to preserve its rich biological communities for conservation, recreational, commercial, ecological, historical, research, educational, and aesthetic values. The sanctuary has zoned approximately 6 percent of its waters for fully-protected ecological reserves, sanctuary preservation areas, and special use areas. While restrictions vary from zone to zone, all three areas ensure the long-term survival of marine life by limiting some aspect of harvest. Broader, un-zoned portions of the sanctuary are equally regulated, as monitoring for water quality and habitat degradation remains critical to reef health.

National parks, national wildlife refuges, and state MPAs also apply these multifaceted management techniques. In zoning MPAs for multiple goals, managers have provided an overall level of protection to the MPA that exceeds that of its surrounding waters.

To learn more about MPA types and purposes and goals and objectives, go to [http://mpa.gov/what\\_is\\_an\\_mpa/sup\\_terminology.html](http://mpa.gov/what_is_an_mpa/sup_terminology.html).

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### **State Marine Managed Areas Summary Pages Posted on MPA Website**

The National Marine Protected Areas Center has added pages on marine managed area systems (MMA) and programs for 16 coastal and Great Lakes, territories, and commonwealths to its MPA Programs section.

Working in concert with state partners, each state page includes an inventory of the relevant agencies that manage living and non-living coastal and ocean resources (including cultural) in the respective state. Legal citations, taken from analyzing states' administrative codes and statutes, accompany an inventory of the states' MMA systems. In addition, an MMA system unique to that state is showcased. The text provides federal, state, and local program managers and decision-makers with insight into how other state agencies address area-based management. Academics, students and legal scholars, stakeholders, the private sector and the public will find the information useful by providing difficult to obtain, and sometimes obscure, state information at the click of the mouse. Each page highlights the diversity of site types and legal complexities of area-based management found at the state level.

Currently, information for Alaska, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and Washington is posted. Additional state pages will be posted as soon as they are reviewed and approved by state officials.

The state pages are located at [http://mpa.gov/mpa\\_programs/state\\_programs.html](http://mpa.gov/mpa_programs/state_programs.html).

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### **Update on Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee**

The Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee, managed jointly by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of the Interior, met in Maui, Hawaii, from September 21-24, 2004.

Lauren Wenzel, the Designated Federal Official for the Committee, presented an update on MPA Center accomplishments in 2004 and plans for 2005, and the MPA Center Science Institute Director Charlie Wahle presented information about the status of the Center's work to develop the national system of MPAs. In addition, three separate panel presentations addressed:

- "Culture and the Sea," with Craig Severance, University of Hawaii; William Aila, Hawaiian Fisherman; and Ed Glazier, Impact Assessment, Inc.
- "Fishery Management Councils," (FMCs), with Roy Morioka, Western Pacific FMC; Stephanie Madsen, Pacific FMC; Dan Waldeck, Pacific FMC; and Eugenio Pineiro-Soler, Caribbean FMC.
- "Pacific Island MPA Management," with Apelu Aitaoto, American Samoa; Noah Idechong, Palau; Jim Coon, Trilogy Excursions; and Don Palawski, Refuge Manager, Pacific Remote Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The remaining four Fishery Management Councils will be invited to present at future Advisory Committee meetings.

Subcommittees made progress developing recommendations for consideration by the full Committee in February 2005, and plan to complete their recommendations by May 2005. Among the key issues discussed were the definition of cultural resources; incentives and governance for a national system of MPAs; and the importance of off-site influences such as land use. Public comment periods occurred on Tuesday, Sept. 21, and Thursday, Sept. 23.

The MPA Federal Advisory Committee is comprised of 30 members who represent a broad stakeholder community, including scientists, academia, commercial and recreational fishermen, other resource users, state and tribal resource managers, and environmentalists. It also includes 10 ex-officio representatives from federal agencies.

The presentations and agenda are available on [http://mpa.gov/fac/fac\\_meetings.html](http://mpa.gov/fac/fac_meetings.html). Minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be available on the <http://mpa.gov> website soon. The MPA Federal Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting in Washington, D.C from February 15-17, 2005.

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**MPA Volunteer Profile: Daisy Lee Bitter**  
**Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**

On one visit to the Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center at the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, you may pass by a laboratory filled with eighth-graders sitting amongst microscopes and drawing pads. The students listen attentively to a woman teaching them how to differentiate between marine larvae--microscopic creatures called crab zoea, barnacle cyprids, and sea cucumber auricularia. Later, while walking the beach, you may see the same lab instructor guiding a group of senior citizens along Homer Spit, pointing out the Pacific golden plovers, western sand pipers, common eiders, and sandhill cranes that inhabit the four-mile gravel burm. Finally, as you end the day of nature walks and photo opportunities, you may see the lab instructor/nature guide entering a room reserved for the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Council meeting.

While the extent of the lab instructor/nature guide's involvement with the reserve may lead you to believe she is a paid staff member, she is not. She is Daisy Lee Bitter, a volunteer at the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and a long-time Alaskan resident who has dedicated her life to educating others about the environment that surrounds them.

The Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, like all estuarine reserves, focuses on three main goals: performing long-term research, fostering life-long appreciation for coastal environments, and educating people about the research to encourage stewardship. To fulfill the education goal, the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve offers a multitude of classes to local schoolchildren, visitors, and Alaskan communities on such topics as marine invertebrates, plankton, and estuary ecology. These classes set the stage for Daisy Lee to inspire a sense of devotion for conserving our natural resources within each person she encounters at the reserve.

Having spent the past 50 years leading Alaskan Native education programs, producing award-winning educational TV series, teaching college students how to pick the most delectable marine algae, and hosting a radio show on the natural and social history of Alaska, Daisy Lee's education experience spans well beyond the boundaries of the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Despite Daisy Lee's expansive resume as an educator, she says that the opportunity to continue learning feeds her motivation to return to the reserve. "The thing I enjoy the most about volunteering at Kachemak Bay is knowing that they need the help and that I have the background for it. The frosting on the cake is constantly learning while I'm there."

In the five years since the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve was designated, Daisy Lee has found herself entrenched in numerous programs. She started simply as a member of the Community Advisory Council, where she helped formulate plans for managing the reserve. Though she continues to sit on the Council, Daisy Lee has also expanded her advisory capacities to the Council's education subcommittee--a fitting seat, whether she pursued it or not. While Daisy Lee now cherishes her time as a member of this subcommittee, she originally hoped

to provide advice on the reserve's science program as a member of the research subcommittee. However, when time came to choose subcommittees, many of Daisy Lee's fellow Council members had wished the same as she had. Knowing her experience would greatly aid in cultivating a strong education program, Daisy Lee opted out of the more popular group to serve on the education subcommittee.

Through her devotion and energy, Daisy Lee has long exceeded the duties of a volunteer. Terry Thompson, the reserve's education coordinator, attributes the success of their education programs to volunteers like Daisy Lee. As a lab instructor, she's taught students, artists, and community members visiting from as far south as Kodiak to as far north as Fairbanks, a distance that spans almost 1,000 miles.

Daisy Lee considers her legislative awareness campaign with fellow committee member, Bob Hartley, as one of her most unique achievements to date. After discovering that few of the state's legislators had heard about the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Daisy Lee and Bob personally funded a trip to Juneau. There, they met with many of the highest-ranking state officials to foster support for one of Alaska's most productive, diverse, and intensively used estuaries.

No wonder Thompson calls Daisy Lee "a tireless volunteer" and "an institution in the state."

To learn more about the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, go to <http://nerrs.noaa.gov/KachemakBay>. To nominate a volunteer to profile, contact [Daphne.Pee@noaa.gov](mailto:Daphne.Pee@noaa.gov).

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### **Additions to the MPA Library**

In September, the MPA library added 33 items to its collections, including 25 books/reports/conference proceedings; five journal articles; one institution/organization; and two websites. Eighteen of the publication entries (i.e. books, reports, conference proceedings, or journal articles) are online in full-text. There are now 1,177 items in the MPA library.

Some recent additions to the library include:

- Proceedings of a symposium convened to focus on the means of achieving more sustainable development of coastal and marine tourism include an "Enhancing Marine Protected Areas" category of papers, as well as a paper on shipwreck management in a "Market Strategies for the Nature Based Tourism Business" category. "Proceedings of the 1999 International Symposium on Coastal and Marine Tourism: Balancing Tourism and Conservation (26-29 April, 1999, Vancouver, BC, Canada)" is available at: <http://nsgl.gso.uri.edu/washu/washuw99003/washuw99003index.html>.
- An update of a bibliography of shipwreck-related titles of print and online resources which have been cataloged in the NOAA Library Network is now online. Entries are

organized alphabetically by title and include call numbers and URLs if available. Each entry also includes a "Selected Internet Resources" section of online-only resources. For more information, visit <http://www.lib.noaa.gov/edocs/Shipwrecks1.pdf>.

- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO is supporting a web portal which provides a high-level directory for ocean data and information web sites. Links to MPA resources are currently available from the "Administration, Conservation and Policy" category. OceanPortal is available at: <http://ioc.unesco.org/oceanportal/index.php>.
- The proceedings of the joint George Wright Society Biennial Conference/National Park Service Cultural Resources 2003 conference focus on parks, protected areas, and cultural sites. Categories of papers include: Administrative and Intellectual Tools for Park Management; Basic Values and Purposes of Parks; Cultural and Natural Resources: Conflicts and Opportunities for Cooperation; Countering Invasives, Restoring Natives; Understanding, Managing and Protecting Opportunities for Visitor Experiences; Managing Cultural Resources and Heritage; Protecting Oceans and their Coasts; Racial and Ethnic Diversity: Acknowledging the Past, Planning for the Future; Wilderness and Wildness; Natural Resource Management; Museums and Collections; Technology for Resource Management; and Current Topics in Natural History Collecting and Collections. The proceedings, "Protecting our Diverse Heritage: The Role of Parks, Protected Areas, and Cultural sites," is available at: <http://www.georgewright.org/2003proc.html>.

To browse the MPA library collection, go to [http://www2.mpa.gov/mpa/mpaservices/virtual\\_library/virtual\\_library.lasso](http://www2.mpa.gov/mpa/mpaservices/virtual_library/virtual_library.lasso).

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### **Employment Opportunity**

NOAA's Coastal Services Center in Charleston, South Carolina is hiring an MPA Librarian on a contract. The MPA Librarian provides librarian and literature research support for a federal environmental agency's Landscape Characterization and Restoration (LCR) Program; assists in the development of a searchable MPA database and maintains a decision support tools; adds and annotates citations to the library database; develops new subject specific collections and bibliographies/collections for the library; adds and indexes news articles and other print materials into the library database and reproduces articles upon request; and maintains a database for tracking copyright permissions.

Requirements include a bachelor's degree in library science or a related discipline (or equivalent experience) and a minimum of 6 months library/literature research experience required. Knowledge of Procite software, Abode Acrobat, and proficiency with Microsoft Office Word and Excel software also required. Experience cataloging physical and digital documents using online OCLC and LC tools required. Knowledge of Endnote software desired. Familiarity with

the process for acquiring copyright permission on intellectual property desired. U.S. Lawful Permanent Residency or US Citizenship required.

For more information on how to apply, go to <http://careers.psgs.com/>.

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### **Events and Conferences**

#### **October**

12-15: Coastal States Organization Annual Meeting, Traverse City, Michigan;

<http://www.sso.org/cso/conferences01.htm>.

26-29: Gulf of Maine Summit, St. Andrews, New Brunswick;

<http://www.gulfofmainesummit.org/>

27-30: Seventh Maritime Heritage Conference, Norfolk, Virginia,

<http://www.nauticus.org/MHConference.html>.

#### **November**

6-10: North American Association of Environmental Educators annual conference, Biloxi, Mississippi; <http://www.naaee.org/>.

16-20: National Interpreters Workshop, Grand Rapids, Michigan:

<http://www.interpnet.com/niw2004/>.

17-25: 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, Thailand,

<http://www.iucn.org/themes/marine/>.

19-20: Eighth International Wildlife Law and Protection of the Marine Environment Conference, Tulane University School of Law, New Orleans, Louisiana;

<http://www.internationalwildlifelaw.org/8IWLC.pdf>.

#### **2005**

January 5-10: Society for Historical Archaeology/Conference on Underwater Archaeology, York, England; <http://www.sha.org/About/Conferences/mt2005.htm> (Jordan)

January 26-27: Federal Agency MPA Workshop (invitational), Washington, D.C.

February 2-3: MPA Center/Western States Workshop (invitational), California

February 15-17: MPA Federal Advisory Committee Meeting, Washington, D.C.;

[http://mpa.gov/fac/fac\\_meetings.html](http://mpa.gov/fac/fac_meetings.html)



March 7-9: NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, annual managers' meeting, Washington, D.C.

March 7-10: Coastal GeoTools '05, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. MPAs are a theme, and the call for papers will go out at the end of June. <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/geotools/>

March 14-18: The George Wright Society Biennial Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <http://www.georgewright.org/2005.html>.

March 24-26: 'Managing Our Nation's Fisheries II – Focus on the Future', co-sponsored by the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils, the three Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions, and NOAA Fisheries; [www.managingfisheries.org](http://www.managingfisheries.org)

April: MPA Center/Eastern States Workshop (invitational), St. Petersburg, Florida

May 17-19: MPA Federal Advisory Committee Meeting, New England; [http://mpa.gov/fac/fac\\_meetings.html](http://mpa.gov/fac/fac_meetings.html)

July 18-21: Coastal Zone '05, New Orleans, Louisiana, <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/>.

October 23-27: First International Marine Protected Areas Congress, Geelong, Australia, <http://www.impacongress.org/>

November 28-December 2: Third International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals, Miami, Florida; <http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/coral>.

**TO SUBSCRIBE: Send an email to [Dana.Topousis@noaa.gov](mailto:Dana.Topousis@noaa.gov)**