



Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee

May 13, 2010

Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and
NOAA Administrator
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Rm 5810
Washington, DC 20230

Mr. Thomas Strickland
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MIB-3156
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Under Secretary Lubchenco and Assistant Secretary Strickland:

As you are aware from our recent transmittal of recommendations, the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee (MPA FAC) was established by Executive Order 13158 in 2003 to advise the Department of Commerce (DOC) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) on the design and implementation of a National System of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Based on the MPA FAC's recent discussions about Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, we wanted to share our thoughts about how the work of the MPA FAC broadly overlaps with the objectives laid out in the *Interim Framework for Effective Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning*.

The National System of MPAs, and MPAs in general, will be an integral part of the Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP) initiative. Both are place-based approaches to ocean management, and include assessments of multiple ocean uses; science-based decision-making; interactive state, tribal, local governments and stakeholder engagement; and long-term evaluation and adaptive management.

The MPA FAC comprises 30 stakeholders who represent different geographic regions, including the Great Lakes, US Territories, and Pacific Islands. We represent a range of ocean interests, including resource management (state, territory and tribal), science (economics, anthropology and marine sciences), cultural heritage (archeological sites and sacred places), policy (environmental and social) and industries (commercial and recreational fishing, energy production, shipping and ports, and recreation and tourism).

CHAIR

Eugenio Piñero Soler
Caribbean Fishery Management Council

VICE CHAIR

Lori Arguelles
SeaWeb

MEMBERS

Charles Becker
Indiana University

David Benton
Benton & Associates

Anthony Chatwin
National Fish and Wildlife Association

Rick Gaffney
Pacific Boats and Yachts

Steve Gaines
University of California, Santa Barbara

Ellen Goethel
Ocean Educator, Commercial Fishing
Vessel Co-Owner

Dennis Heinemann
Ocean Conservancy

Mark Hixon
Oregon State University

George Lapointe
Maine Department of Marine Resources

Victor Mastone
MA. Board of Underwater
Archaeological Resources

Melissa Miller-Henson
California Resources Agency

Russell Moll
University of California, San Diego

Elliott Norse
Marine Conservation Biology Institute

John Ogden
University of South Florida

Terry O'Halloran
Change Strategies and Innovation

Alvin Osterback
Port of Dutch Harbor

Walter Pereyra
Atlantic Storm Management Group, Inc.

Robert Pomeroy
University of Connecticut at Avery Point

Gilbert Radonski
Fisheries Consultant

James Ray
Oceanic Environmental Solutions, LLC

Philip Renaud
Living Oceans Foundation

Jesús Ruiz
California Divers

Joe Schumacker
Quinault Department of Fisheries

Bruce Tackett
ExxonMobil Exploration Company

David Wallace
Wallace and Associates

Robert Wargo
AT&T

Robert Zales, II
Bob Zales Charters

DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICIAL

Lauren Wenzel
National Marine Protected Areas Center

National MPA Center
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3281
(301) 713-3100, ext. 136
Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov

www.mpa.gov



Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee

The Departments of the Interior and Commerce recently charged the MPA FAC to provide recommendations on three issues that directly link the National System of MPAs and CMSP efforts:

- the role the National System of MPAs plays within the broader CMSP initiative;
- steps needed to ensure that conservation is sufficiently addressed within regional coastal and marine spatial plans; and
- how DOC and DOI can build spatial data decision support tools and conservation planning processes to develop the National System of MPAs to inform CMSP.

As the Departments move to implement the President's National Ocean Policy and CMSP initiative, we recommend building upon these functional linkages and integrating the products and ongoing work of the MPA FAC. In the next few months, we will work to provide the Departments with recommendations on these issues and encourage you to share these with the Council on Environmental Quality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Piñeiro-Soler".

Eugenio Piñeiro-Soler
Chair

Attachment:
MPA FAC Charge