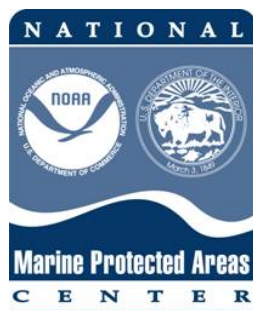


Building the National System of Marine Protected Areas

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National Marine Protected Areas Center

April 17, 2008



WWW.MPA.gov

Presentation Outline

- Background on MPAs
- Public involvement in development of Revised Draft Framework
- Summary of Revised Draft Framework
- Next Steps
- Questions?



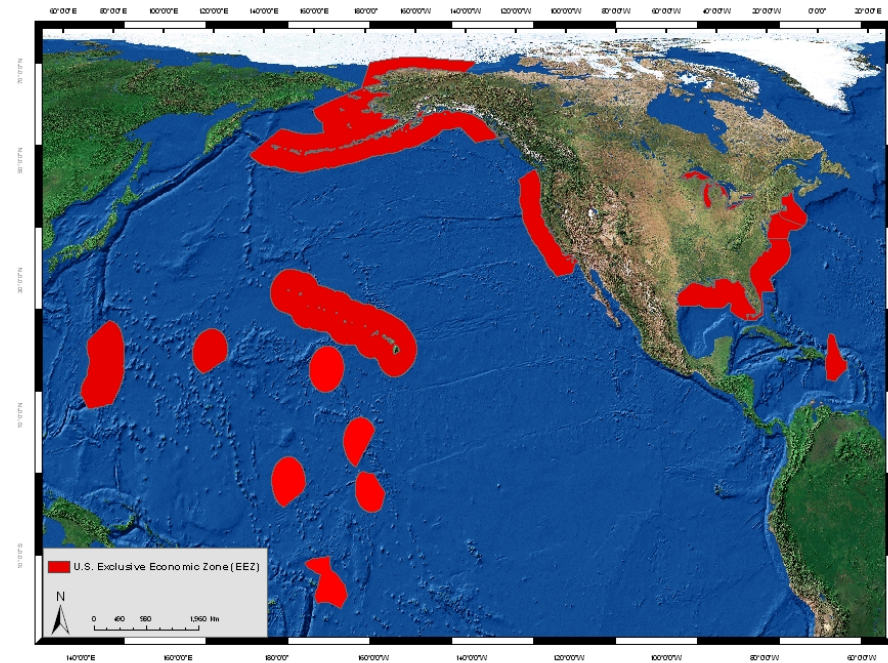
What is an MPA?

Marine Protected Area (MPA) – any area of the marine environment that has been reserved by Federal, state, territorial, tribal or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection to part or all of the natural and cultural resources therein (Executive Order 13158).

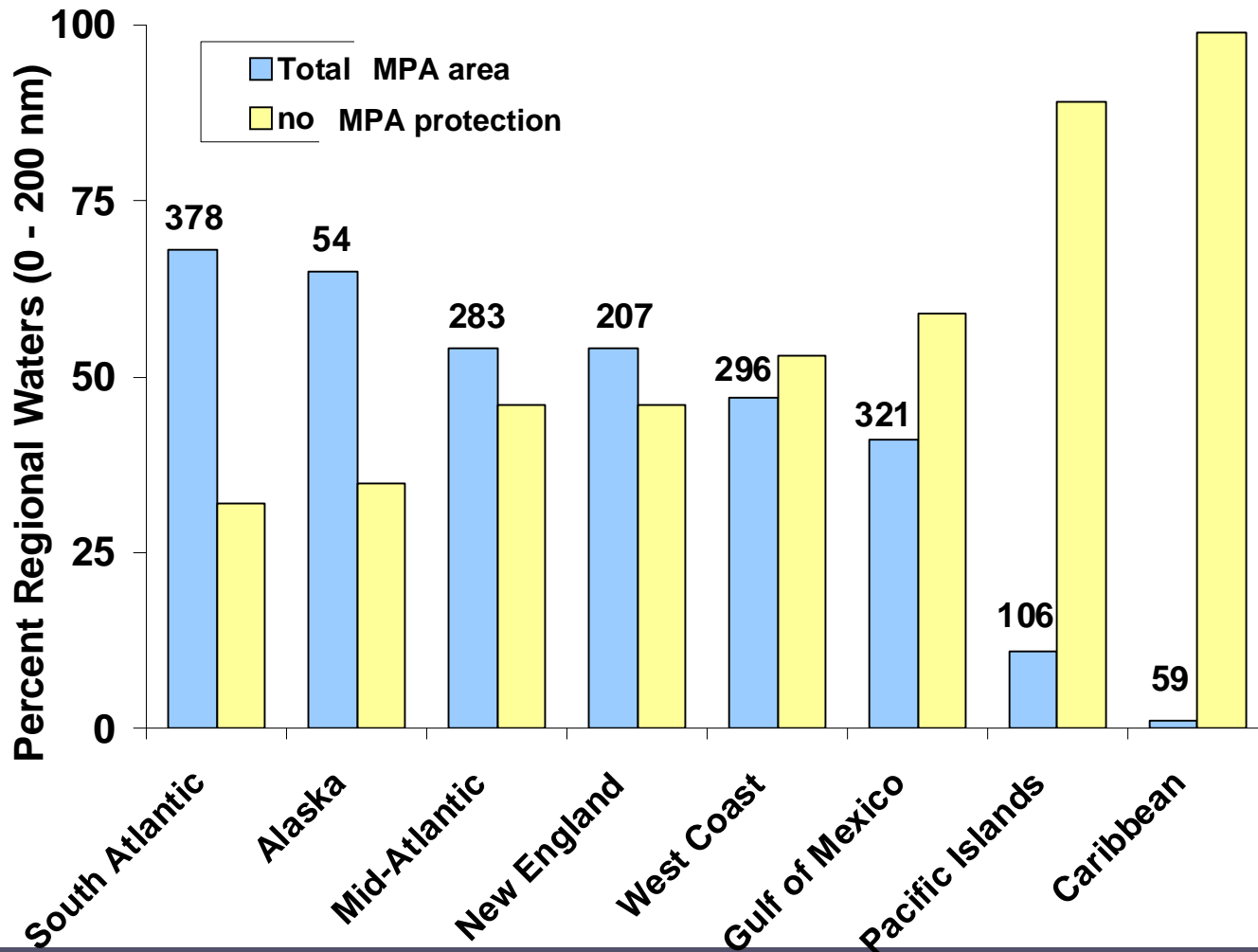


National Picture of MPAs

- ~ 1800 MPAs in U.S. waters
- Hundreds of federal, state and local MPA authorities
- About 1/3 of US EEZ in some form of MPA
- Majority allow multiple uses (>97% of MPA area)
- Few prohibit all extractive activities (<3% of MPA area); no take MPAs are typically very small
- Federal programs manage most area; states manage most sites

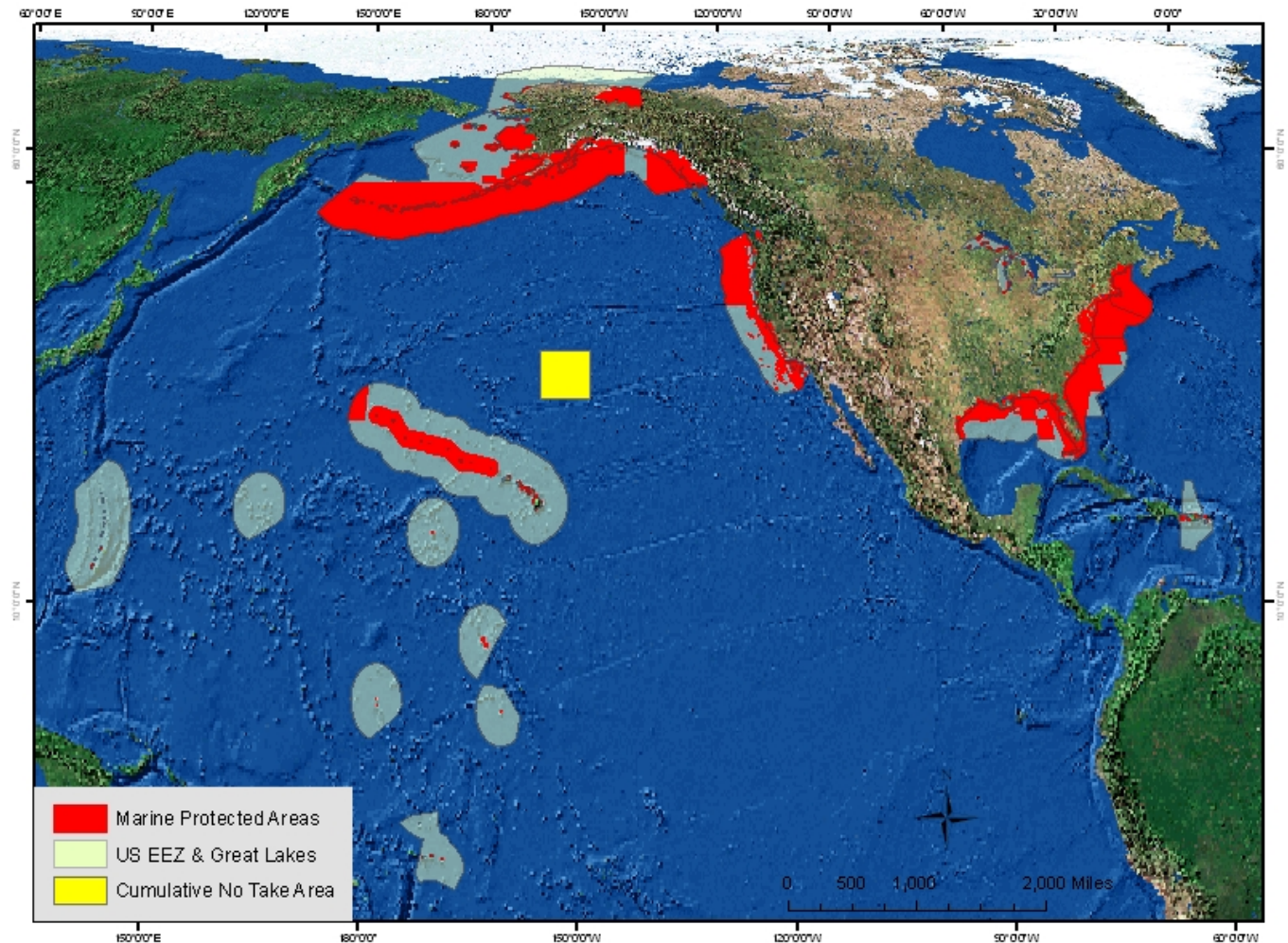


% MPA coverage by region (0 – 200 nm)



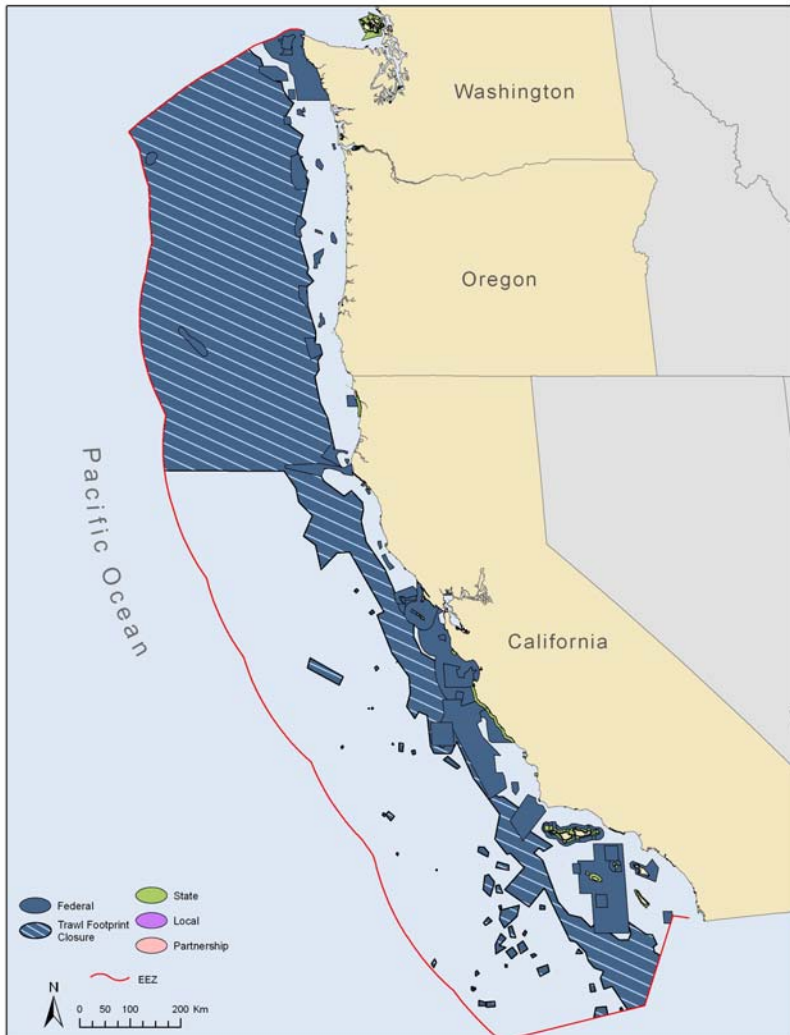
Extent of No Take Areas Nationally

- With new Marine National Monument = 3% no take
- In other regions > 1%



Note: Yellow No Take box does not represent a specific location, but rather shows the cumulative marine area that is designated as No Take throughout the US EEZ. This No Take values includes the entire area of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument which is currently phasing into this designation.

Extent of No Take Areas on the West Coast



Total area in some type of MPA



Cumulative area of no take MPAs

Why A National System of MPAs?

- Lack of integration
- Countless types, purposes, and terms
- Definition and criteria vary
- At least two hundred individual authorities
- No framework for planned, ecologically-based connectivity to conserve and restore resources
- No mechanism for comprehensive planning, coordination, and sharing of resources across programs & levels of government



The Driving Force: MPA Executive Order 13158

- **Signed by President William J. Clinton in May 2000**
- **Endorsed by President George W. Bush in July 2001**
 - **DOC/NOAA and Interior are co-Leads**

- **Develop and implement a scientifically based, comprehensive national system of MPAs representing diverse U.S. marine ecosystems, and the Nation's natural and cultural resources**
- **Improve MPA coordination, stewardship and effectiveness**

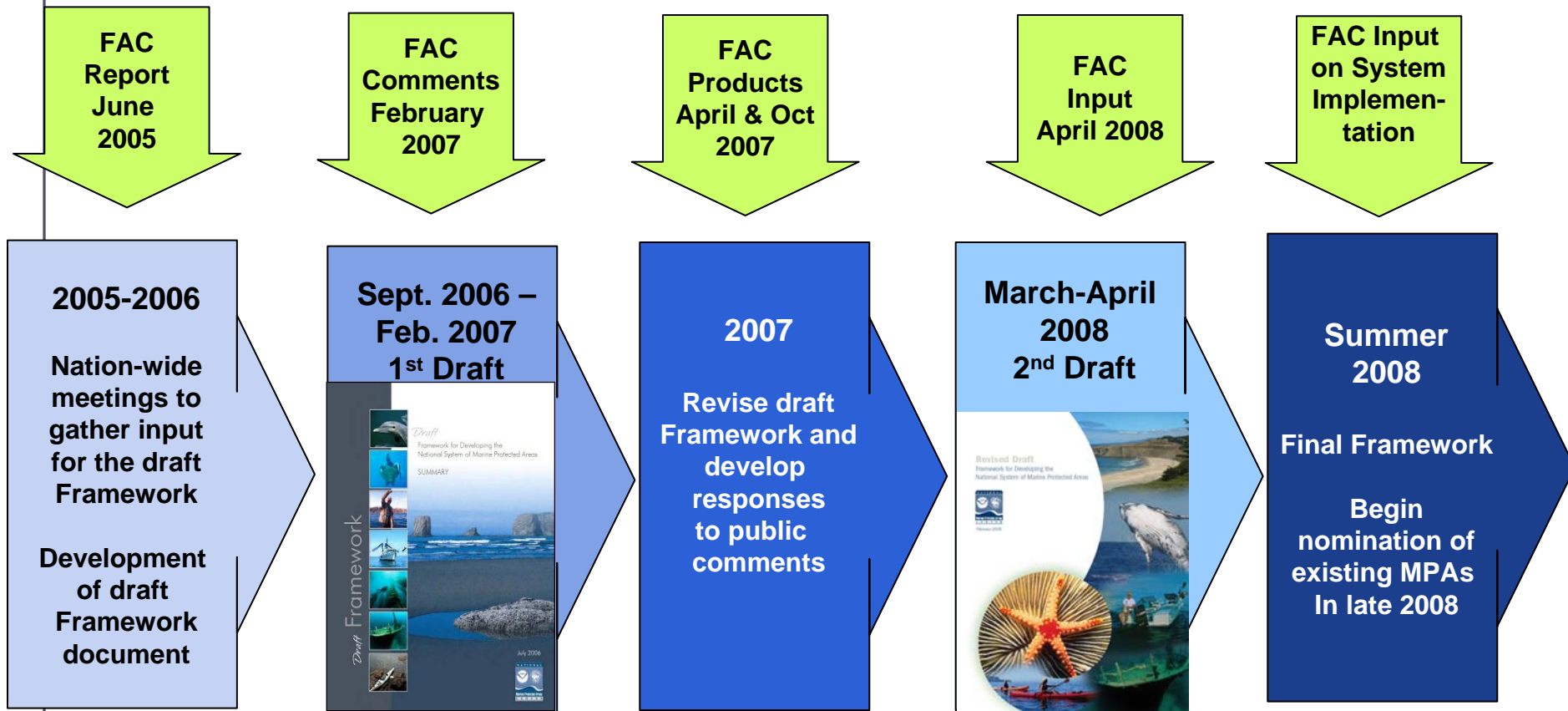


What will the National System do?

- Establish national goals and objectives
 - for natural heritage, cultural heritage and sustainable production
- Ensure a comparable set of information about MPAs across the nation
- Provide regional coordination of existing MPAs
 - Identifies common science and stewardship priorities
- Provide tools and technical assistance to enhance stewardship
- Conduct regional gap analyses to identify priority areas for new or enhanced MPAs
- Evaluate and adaptively manage



The National System Framework: Where are we now?





Draft Framework Comments



GREENPEACE

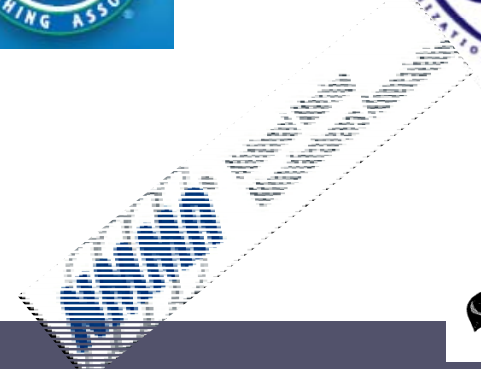
- Five month comment period ended *Feb. 28, 2007*
- Over 11,000 submissions, representing over 100 individual comments:

- *State and tribal governments*
- *Conservation and industry organizations*
- *Private individuals*
- *Commercial and rec fishers/industry*
- *FAC and members*
- *Fishery councils and commissions*
- *Academia*
- *Other*

- Addt'l advice from MPA FAC

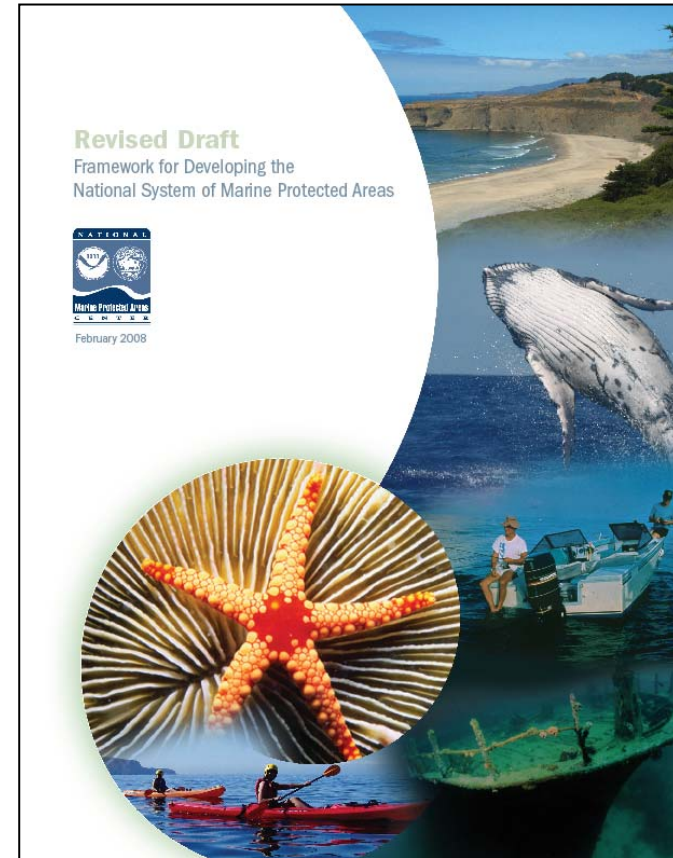


SHIMANO



Major Revisions in Revised Draft

1. Simplified document
2. Process for building the system over time
3. Additional MPA eligibility criteria
 - Priority conservation objectives
 - Management plan criteria
4. Clearer process for identifying conservation gaps
5. Process for implementing the system
 - New national system MPA categories for analysis and communication
 - National system planning and implementation principles
 - Clearer description of system benefits
 - Clearer process for developing regional science and technical support priorities



Priority Conservation Objectives: Natural Heritage Goal

Goal 1: Advance comprehensive conservation and management of the nation's significant natural heritage marine resources through ecosystem-based MPA approaches.

Priority Conservation Objectives for Goal 1

Conserve and manage key reproduction areas and nursery grounds	Near Term
Conserve key biogenic habitats	
Conserve and manage areas of high species and/or habitat diversity	
Conserve ecologically important geological features + enduring/recurring oceanographic features	
Conserve critical habitat of threatened and endangered species	
Conserve and manage unique or rare species, habitats and associated communities	Mid Term
Conserve and manage key areas for migratory species	
Conserve linked areas important to life histories	Long Term
Conserve key areas that provide compatible opportunities for education and research	

Priority Conservation Objectives: Cultural Heritage Goal

Goal 2: Advance comprehensive conservation and management of cultural resources that reflect the nation's maritime history and traditional cultural connections to the sea, as well as the uses and values they provide to this and future generations through ecosystem-based MPA approaches.

Priority Conservation Objectives for Goal 2

Conserve key cultural and historic resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	Near Term
Conserve key cultural historic resources determined eligible for the NRHP or listed on a State Register	
Conserve key cultural sites that are paramount to a culture's identity and/or survival	
Conserve key cultural and historic sites that may be threatened	Mid Term
Conserve key cultural and historic sites that can be utilized for heritage tourism	
Conserve key cultural and historic sites that are under-represented	Long Term

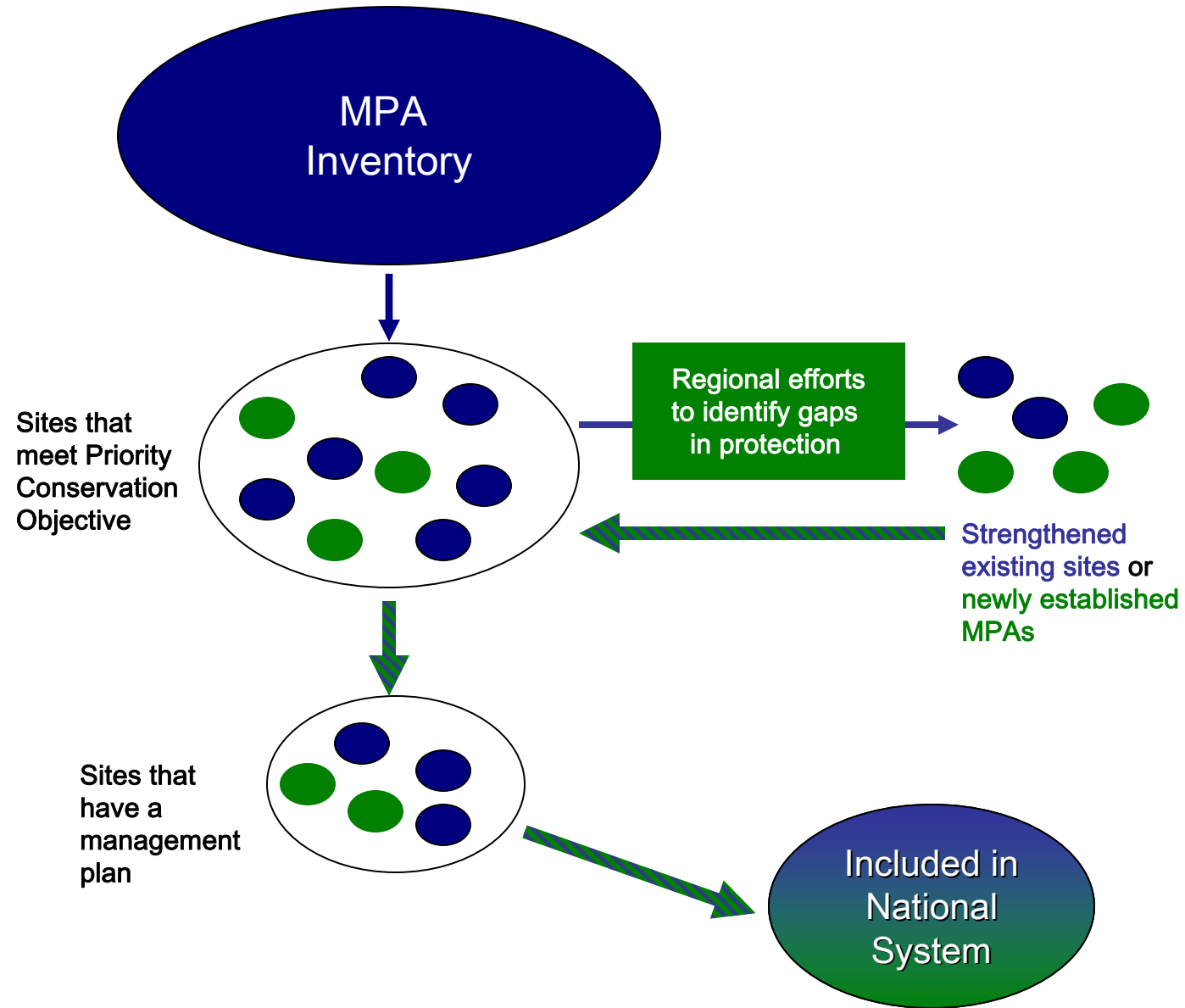
Priority Conservation Objectives: Sustainable Production Goal

Goal 3: Advance comprehensive conservation and management of the nation's renewable living resources and their habitats, including, but not limited to, spawning, mating, and nursery grounds, and areas established to minimize incidental by-catch of species, that are important to the nation's social, economic, and cultural well-being through ecosystem-based MPA approaches.

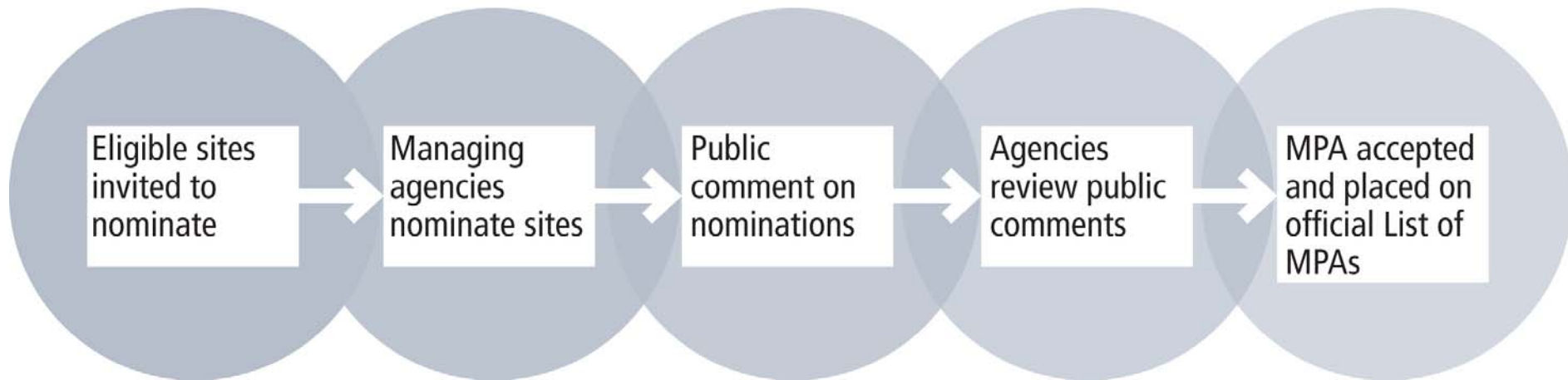
Priority Conservation Objectives for Goal 3

Conserve and manage key reproduction areas, including larval sources and nursery grounds	Near Term
Conserve key areas that sustain or restore high priority fishing grounds	
Conserve and manage key areas for maintaining natural age/sex structure of important harvestable species	Mid Term
Conserve key foraging grounds	
Conserve and manage key areas that mitigate the impacts of bycatch	
Conserve key areas that provide compatible opportunities for education and research	Long Term

Process for Building the System Over Time



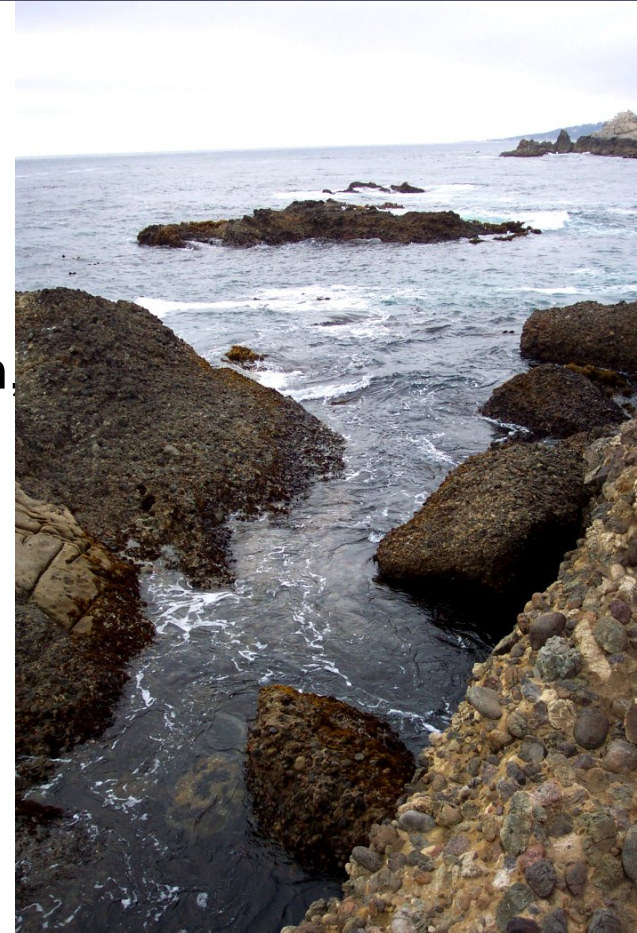
Nomination Process



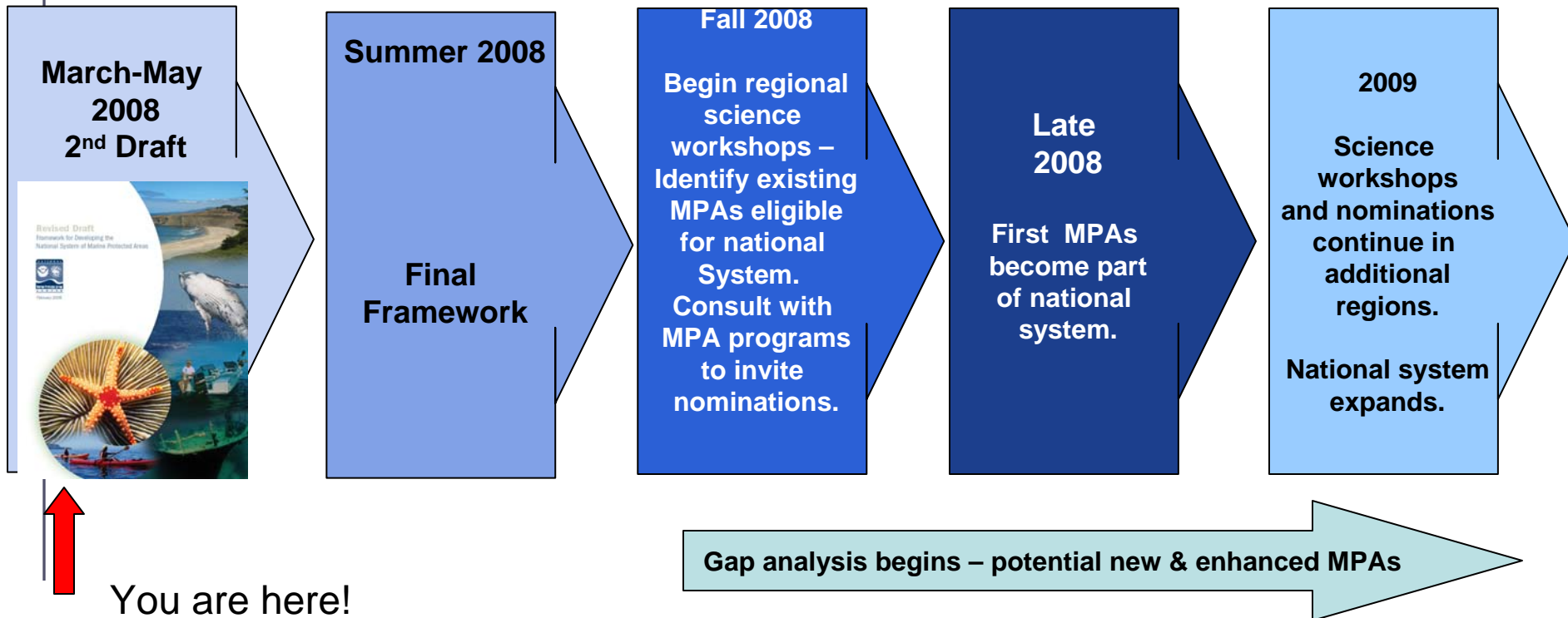
Implementing the National System

Enhancing national and regional coordination

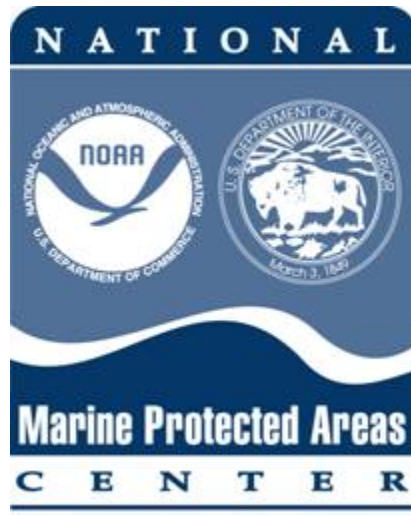
- Improving MPA stewardship and effectiveness
 - MPA Stewardship, Science and Effectiveness Strategies
- Regional MPA planning
 - Gap analysis, resource characterization, human use analysis
- National and international coordination
- Evaluating national system effectiveness
- Federal agency responsibilities to avoid harm



Timeline for Implementing the National System



Acknowledgements



Coming Attractions: Mapping Ocean Uses

Friday, April 25, 12:00-1:00

Dr. Charles Wahle



Questions?

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



Natural
Heritage,



Sustainable Production,
and



Cultural
Heritage.