

National System of MPAs

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**Why a national
system of MPAs?**

Executive Order 13158

- Develop a scientifically based, comprehensive national system of MPAs representing diverse U.S. marine ecosystems, and the Nation's natural and cultural resources

Federal Register / Vol. 65, No. 105 / Wednesday, May 31, 2000 / Presidential Documents

34909

Presidential Documents

Executive Order 13158 of May 26, 2000

Marine Protected Areas

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and in furtherance of the purposes of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*), National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-ee), National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*), National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*), Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 *et seq.*), Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.*), Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1362 *et seq.*), Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*), National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (42 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*), and other pertinent statutes, it is ordered as follows:

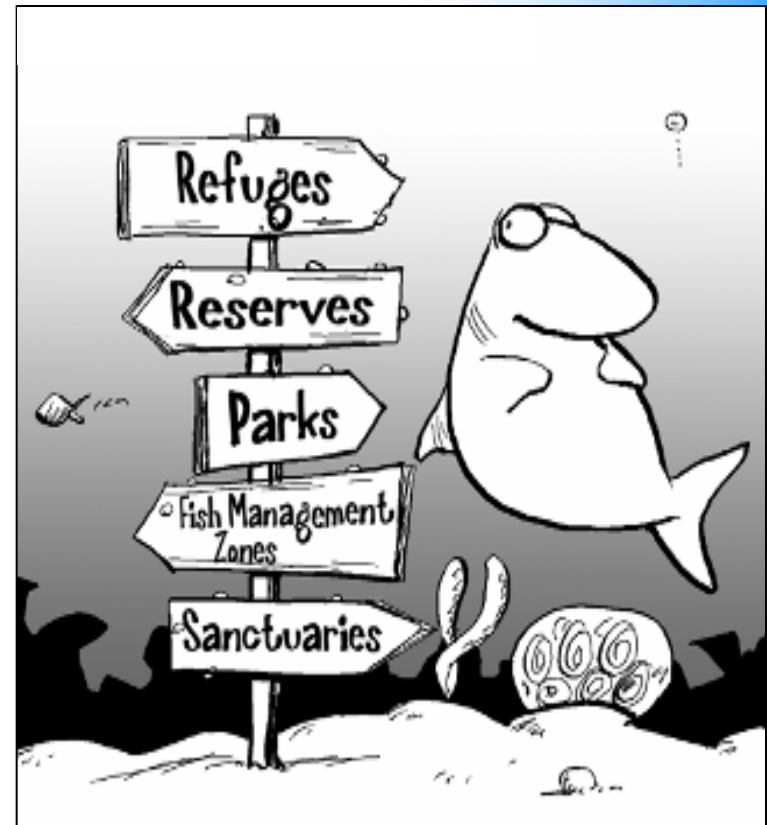
Section 1. Purpose. This Executive Order will help protect the significant natural and cultural resources within the marine environment for the benefit of present and future generations by strengthening and expanding the Nation's system of marine protected areas (MPAs). An expanded and strengthened comprehensive system of marine protected areas throughout the marine environment would enhance the conservation of our Nation's natural and cultural marine heritage and the ecologically and economically sustainable use of the marine environment for future generations. To this end, the purpose of this order is to, consistent with domestic and international law: (a) strengthen the management, protection, and conservation of existing marine protected areas and establish new or expanded MPAs; (b) develop a scientifically based, comprehensive national system of MPAs representing

Terminology

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.

SA FMC: Type II” MPAs —fishing for and/or possession of snapper grouper species is prohibited in the areas. But fishermen can still troll for pelagic species

Marine Reserve – “no take” area – one type of MPA where extractive uses are prohibited



MPA Inventory




★ ☆ National Marine Protected Areas Center: The Marine ...

MPA NOAA Search

About MPAs National System Data & Analysis Resources Science & Stewardship Advisory Committee

NATIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS CENTER

www.mpa.gov



Data & Analysis

- [MPA Inventory](#)
- [Ocean Uses Atlas](#)
- [De Facto MPAs](#)
- [Analysis of U.S. MPAs](#)
- [Maps](#)

The Marine Protected Areas Inventory

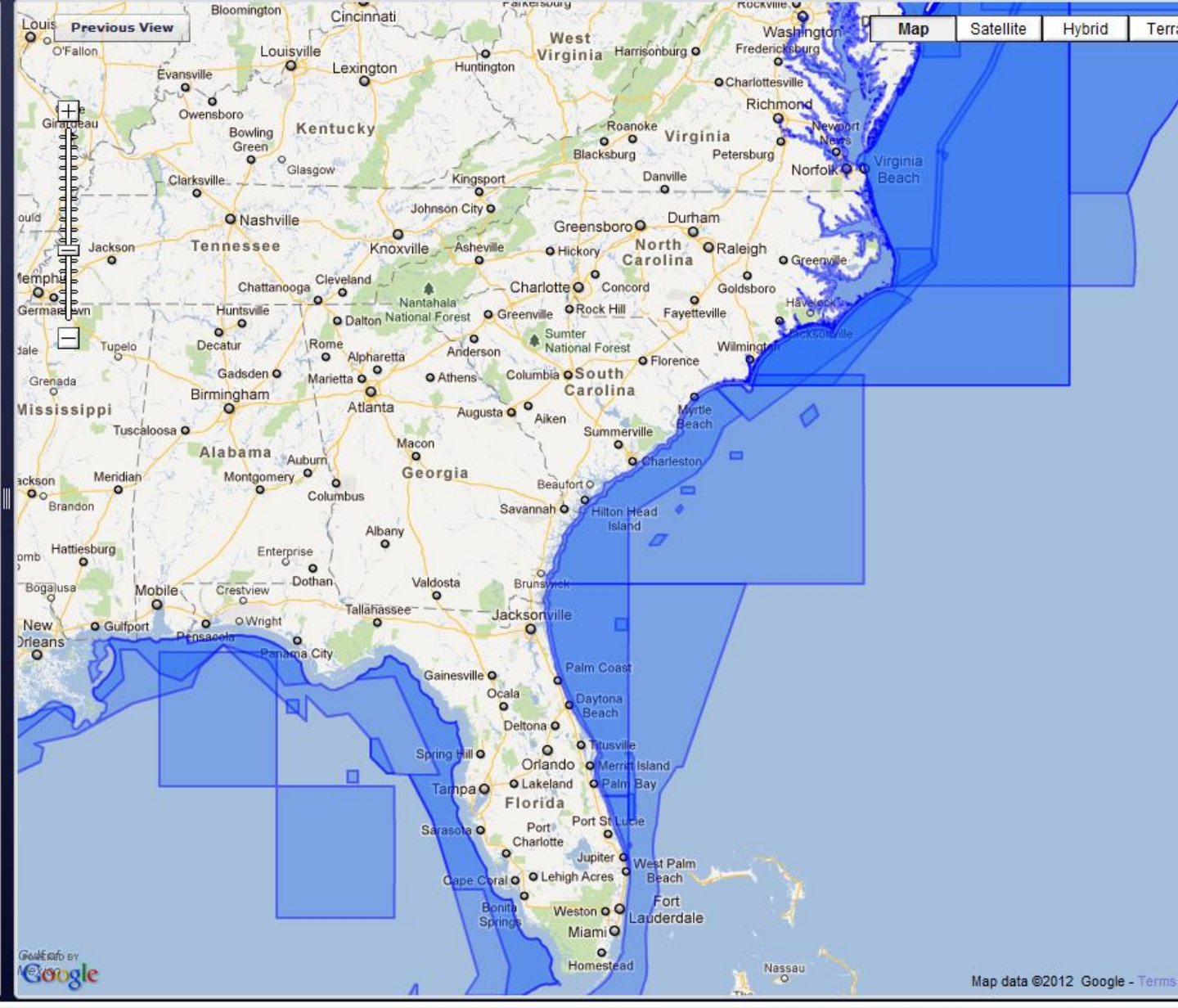
Home > [Data & Analysis](#) > MPA Inventory

The Marine Protected Areas Inventory (MPA Inventory) is a comprehensive geospatial database designed to catalog and classify marine protected areas within US waters. The Inventory contains information on over 1,600 sites and is the only such comprehensive dataset in the nation. The database has various applications for marine management and conservation, but its primary purpose is to maintain baseline information on MPAs to the assist in the development of the National System of MPAs, as defined in Executive Order 13158. This information should not be used for regulatory purposes; please consult the Federal Register for the official record. The MPA Inventory was developed with extensive input from state and federal MPA programs and drawn from other publically available data. The data and products

Done National Marine Protected Areas Center Internet 100% www.mpa.gov

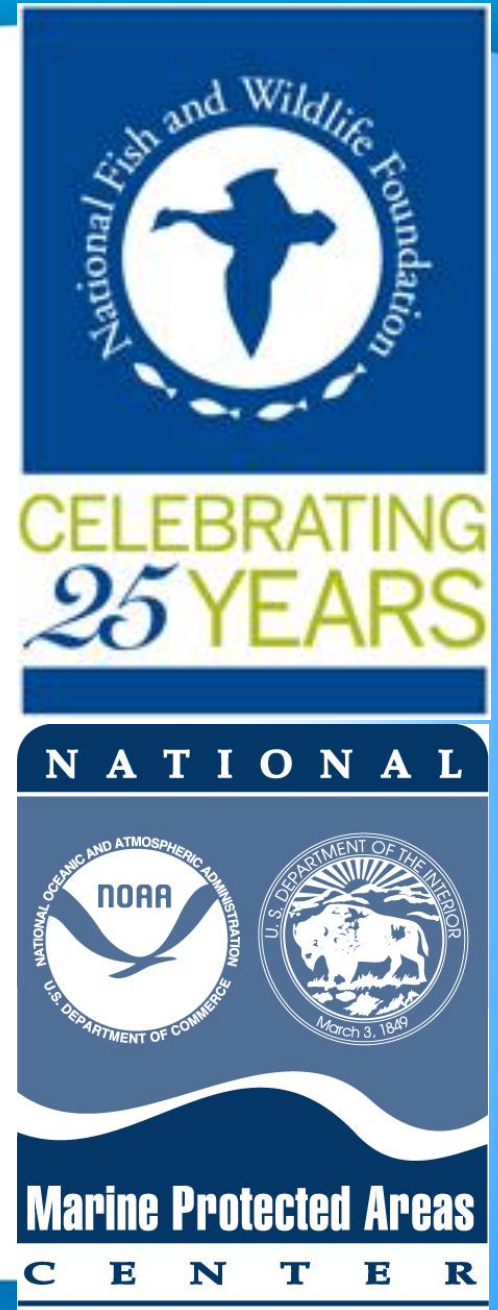
U.S. Marine Protected Areas

- Show All Hide All Management Agency
- 31 National Marine Fisheries Service
- Carl N. Shuster, Jr. Horseshoe Crab Reserve
 - Charleston Bump Closed Area
 - Charleston Deep Reef MPA
 - Closure of the Madison and Swanson Sites
 - Desoto Canyon Closed Area
 - East Florida Coast Closed Area
 - Edisto MPA
 - Experimental Oculina Research Reserve
 - Florida Middle Grounds Habitat Area of Particular Concern
 - Flynets Closure
 - Georgia MPA
 - Mid-Atlantic Coastal Waters Area
 - Mid-Atlantic Shark Area
 - ★ Norfolk Canyon Gear Restricted Area
 - North Florida MPA
 - Northeastern US Closure
 - Northern South Carolina MPA
 - Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern



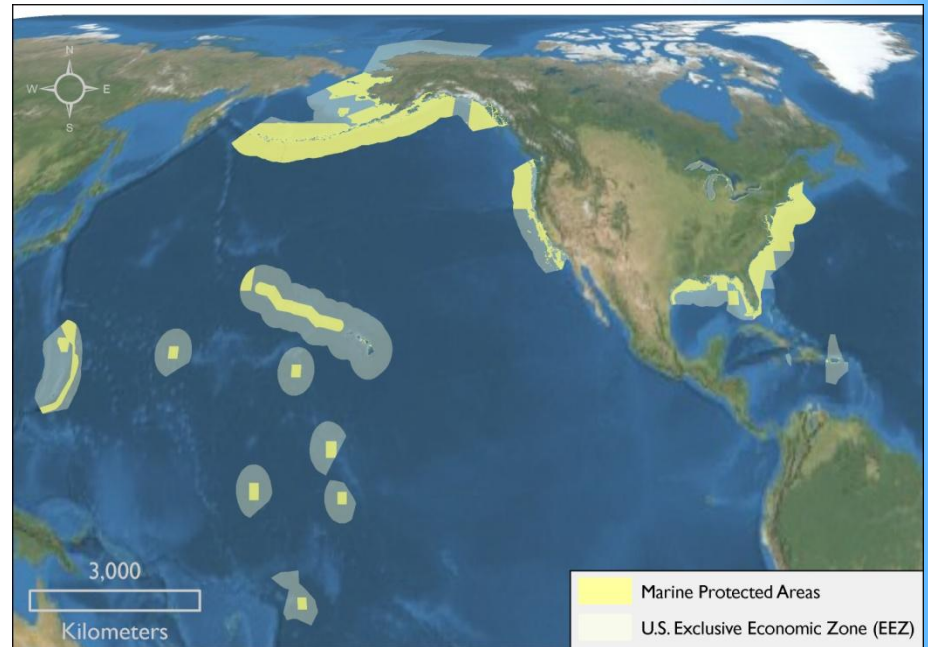
MPA Fund

- Partnership with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Tangible incentive for MPA national system partners
- Fosters collaboration among MPA programs
- Strengthens stewardship, planning and System membership
- Hope to continue & expand in FY11 and beyond
- Awarded 9 MPA partnership grants in FY10 & FY11



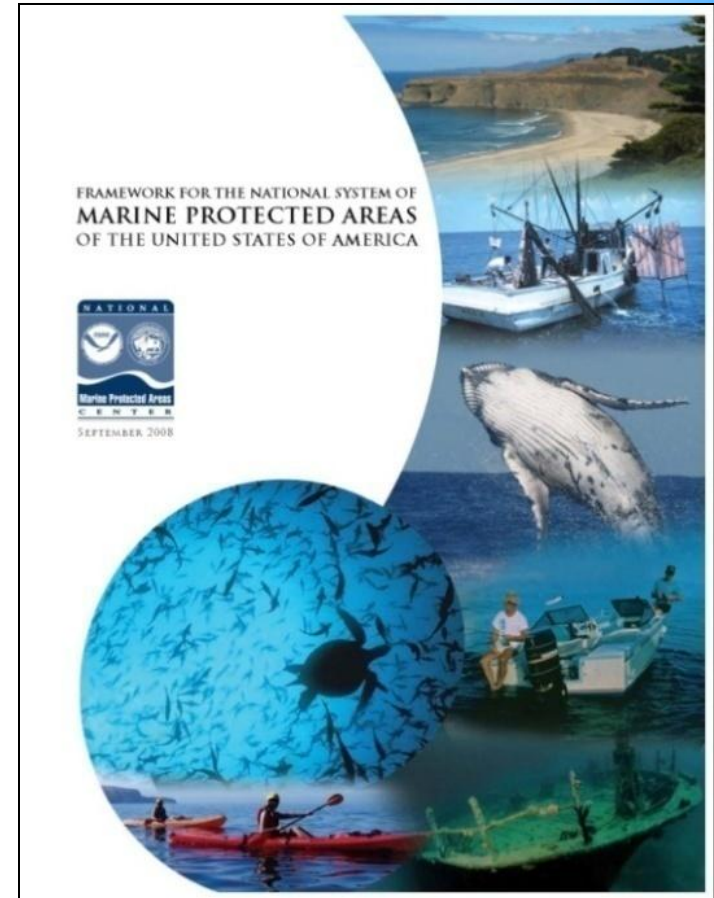
National Picture of MPAs

- Over 1,600 MPAs in U.S. waters
- About 40% of all U.S. waters are in some form of MPA , but...
- Nearly all (86%) of U.S. MPAs are multiple use
- "No take" MPAs occupy only about 3% of all U.S. waters
- State and territorial governments manage approximately 75% of the nation's MPAs, but most MPA area is managed by federal agencies



National System Framework

- Overall policy document for national system
- Goals and objectives
- Nomination process



National System Goals



Natural Heritage



Cultural Heritage



Sustainable Production

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 |

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

key biogenic habitats

areas of high species and/or habitat diversity

ecologically important geological features + enduring/recurring oceanographic features

critical habitat of threatened and endangered species

Near Term

unique or rare species, habitats and associated communities

key areas for migratory species

Mid Term

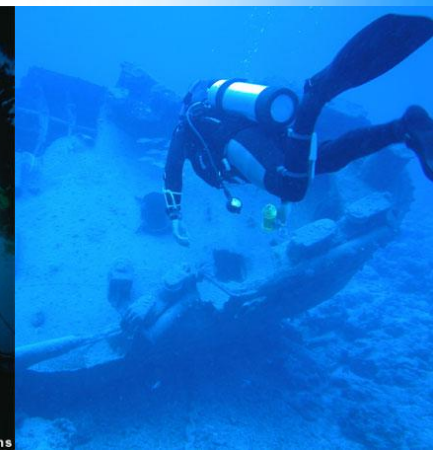
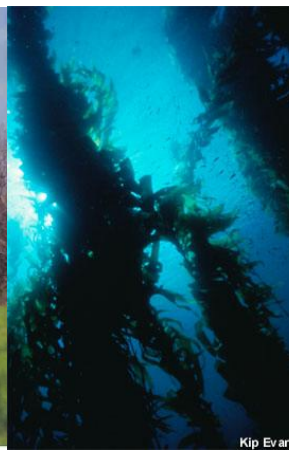
linked areas important to life histories

key areas that provide compatible opportunities for education and research

Long Term

Composition of National System

- Goal is for national system to be diverse in terms of:
 - Geographic region
 - Ecosystem type
 - Level of government
 - Conservation goals



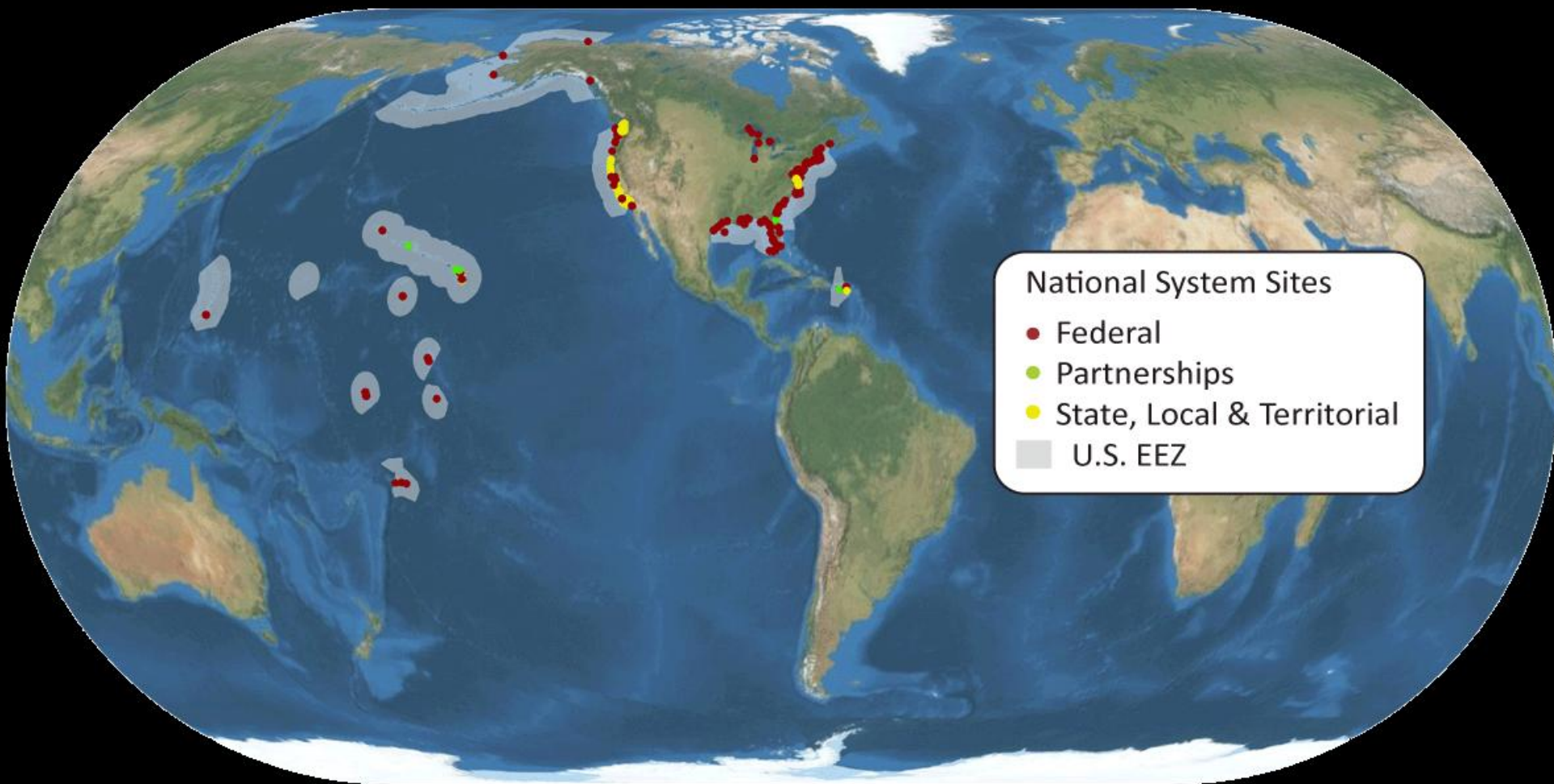
Current Status: National System of MPAs

- 355 MPAs
- Federal MPA Programs in 28 states/territories
- 11 state partners
- One Fishery Management Council / NMFS



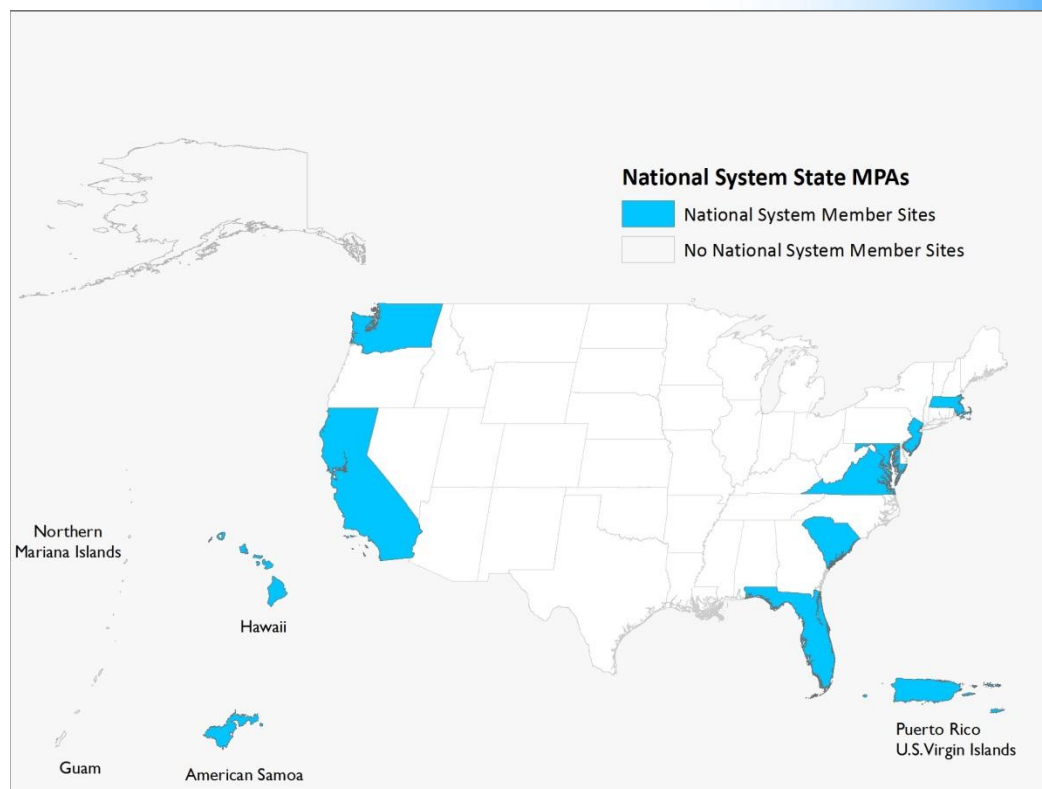
Pelican Island, NWR

National System Snapshot



Participating States/Territories

- American Samoa (11)
- California (95)
- Florida (2)
- Hawaii (9)
- Maryland (1)
- Massachusetts (41)
- New Jersey (1)
- Puerto Rico (6)
- South Carolina (2)
- US Virgin Islands (2)
- Virginia (7)
- Washington (23)





Recent National System Nominations:

- First submission of federal fisheries management sites (Mid Atlantic)
- Significant expansion of cultural heritage sites

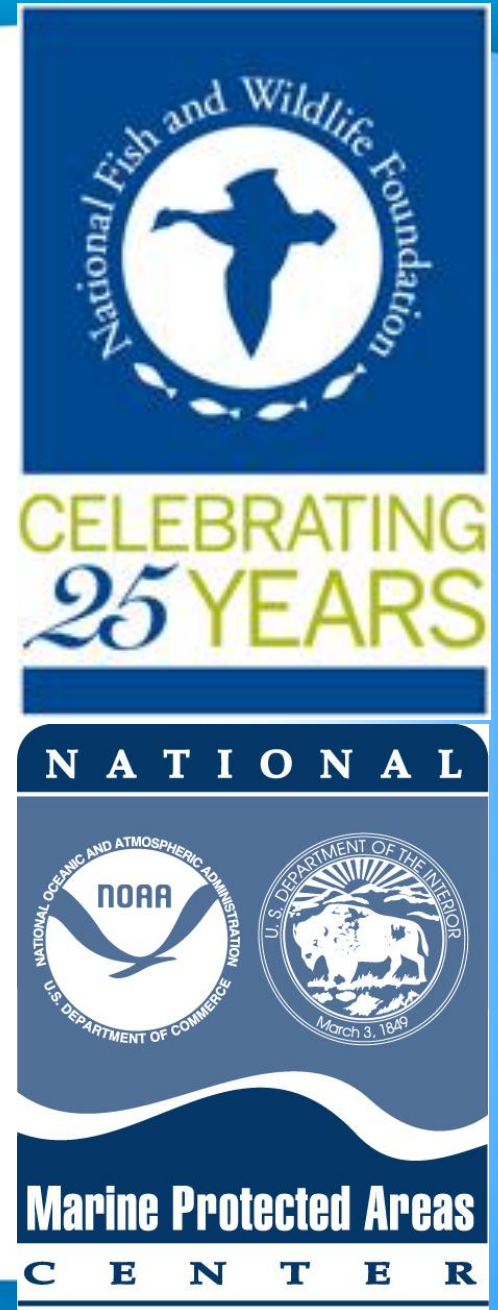
National System as an Institutional and Social Network

- Capacity building
 - Training
 - Technical assistance
- Science and analysis
- Stakeholder engagement
- Sharing lessons learned
- Potential efficiencies through coordinated science, stewardship and outreach
- Evaluation



MPA Fund

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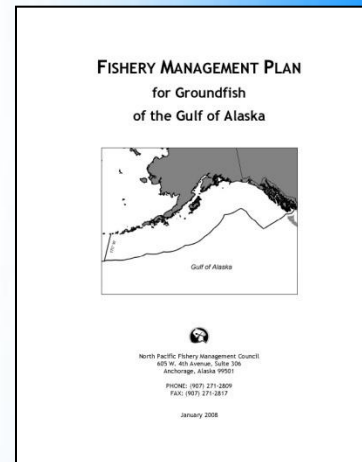
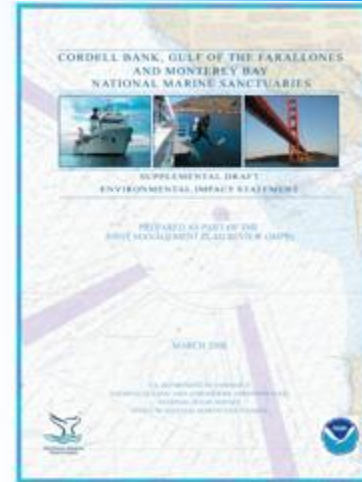


Benefit To Councils

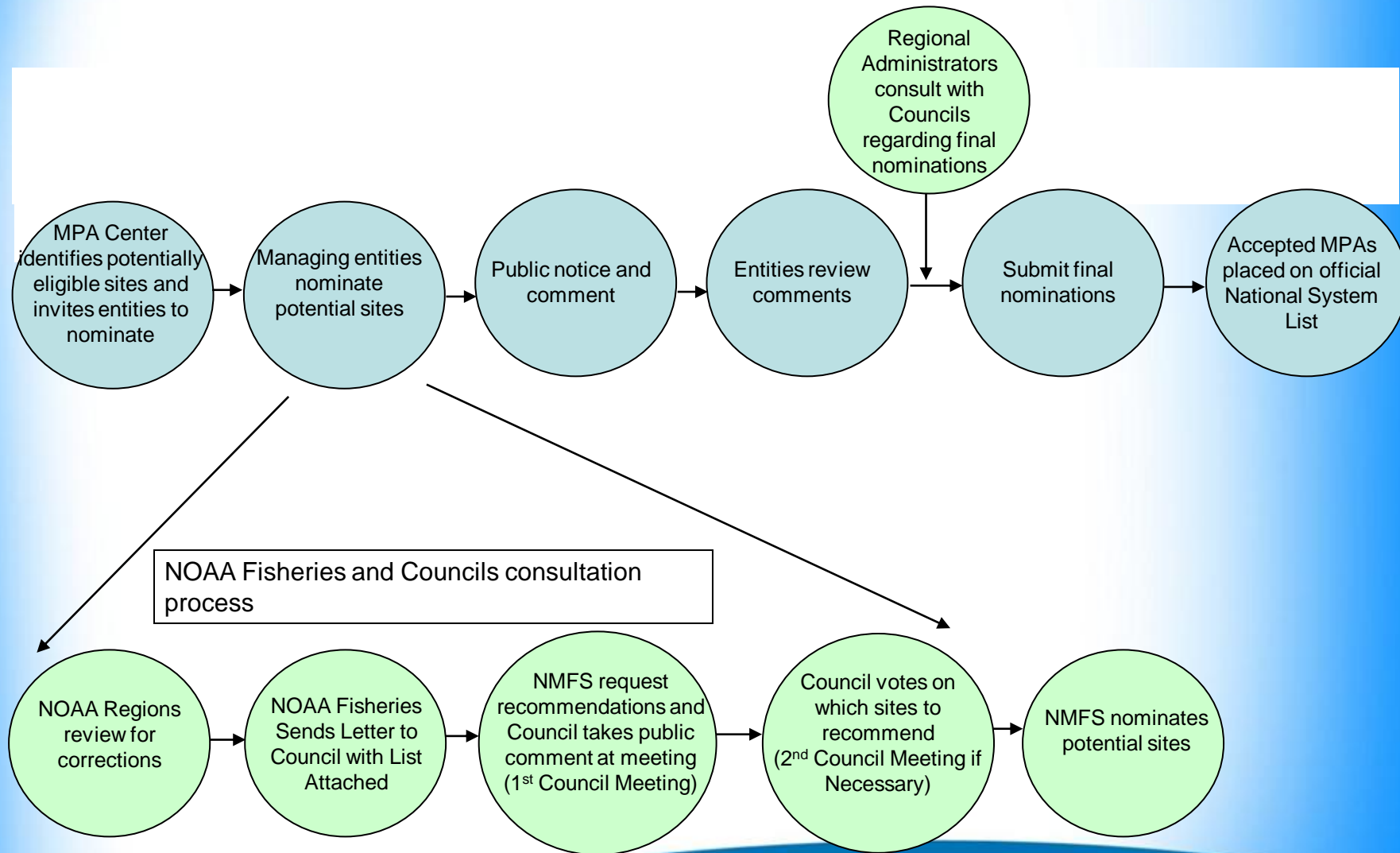
- Recognizes contribution of Councils to marine conservation
- Potential leadership role for Councils in “sustainable production” goal of National System
- Provides Councils with the opportunity to help shape National MPA System partnership and regional ocean planning initiatives
- Links to international MPA programs
- Provides information on MPA management and planning at regional scale
- Enhances connectivity

Criteria for Entry to the National System

- Meets the definition of an MPA
 - Key terms: area, marine, reserved, lasting, protection
- Has a management plan
 - Includes site specific information; can be part of a broader fisheries management plan
 - Must include goals and objectives; call for monitoring and evaluation
- Contributes to a priority conservation objective of the nation system
- Additional criteria for cultural resources



Nomination Process: Coordination with Councils





BACKUP SLIDES

Benefits of a National System of MPAs

- To Participating MPA Programs
 - Enhancing stewardship through regional coordination
 - Building partnerships
 - Building public & international awareness and support
 - Formal mechanism for addressing large scale issues
- To the Nation:
 - Protecting representative ecosystems and resources
 - Enhancing connectivity
 - Identifying conservation gaps
- To ocean and coastal stakeholders:
 - Transparent process for MPA planning
 - Better planning for diverse ocean uses
 - Better information on MPA resources, uses and fishing opportunities



Detailed Definition of MPA

- **Area:** Legally defined geographic boundaries, may be of any size except that site must be a subset of the U.S. federal, state, local or tribal marine environment in which it is located.
- **Marine environment:** Ocean, coastal or estuarine waters, including intertidal areas (between mean low water and mean high water). Includes areas up to 0.5 ppt. Includes Great Lakes and estuarine-like sites in 8-digit watersheds adjacent to Great Lakes.
- **Reserved:** established by and currently subject to federal, state, local or tribal law or regulation.
- **Lasting:** Established with the intent to provide permanent protection. For sustainable production sites, of a duration to achieve the mandated long term sustainable production objectives of the site.
- **Protection:** Existing laws or regulations that afford the site with increased protection for the conservation of part or all of the natural or submerged cultural resources.

Removing MPAs from the List

- Sites may be removed by the managing entity for reasons including:
 - MPA ceases to exist
 - MPA no longer meets national system eligibility criteria
 - Managing entity requests removal

“Avoid Harm”

- Executive Order 13158, Section 5:
 - *“Each Federal agency whose actions affect the natural or cultural resources that are protected by a [national system] MPA shall identify such actions. To the extent permitted by law and to the maximum extent practicable, each Federal agency, in taking such actions, shall avoid harm to the natural and cultural resources.”*

Avoid Harm – What Does it Mean?

- Each federal agency is responsible for its own implementation of its responsibilities under Section 5
- Compliance is linked to the purpose of the MPA as designated, not to all resources within the defined area
- MPA Center will maintain national system List

NOAA Fisheries Sites

