

NATIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS CENTER FY 2009 PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

www.mpa.gov

NOAA's National Marine Protected Areas Center (MPA Center) is charged with establishing an effective, comprehensive, national system of marine protected areas (Executive Order 13158 of May 26, 2000). It achieved a major milestone in November 2008 with the publication of the *Framework for the National System of Marine Protected Areas of the United States of America* (Framework).

The Framework provides policy guidance for the national system, aiming to leverage the capabilities of over 100 existing federal, state, territorial and tribal MPA programs that span the nation's coastal, marine and Great Lakes regions. In 2009, MPA programs at all levels of government are nominating sites to cooperatively address 22 priority conservation objectives aimed at improving the nation's natural and cultural marine resources.

The MPA Center works in partnership with the Department of the Interior and other federal, state, territorial, tribal and local agencies. Its FY2009 work is focused on initial implementation and continued development of the national system and strengthening the capabilities of existing MPA programs and their sites. A total of \$2,900,000 has been provided for the program for FY2009. Additional resources are being provided through partnership support. Planned actions include, but are not limited to:

NATIONAL SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION AND CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT



- Manage nomination process for existing MPAs to join the national system
- Provide outreach toolkits to participating national system sites and members
- Identify initial stewardship priorities of member sites
- Identify the contributions of existing MPAs to the 22 national priority objectives and incorporate this information into the MPA Inventory
- Initiate development of national system effectiveness indicators
- Plan for the establishment of the national system's National Management Committee

SCIENCE, ANALYSIS, AND STEWARDSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL SYSTEM

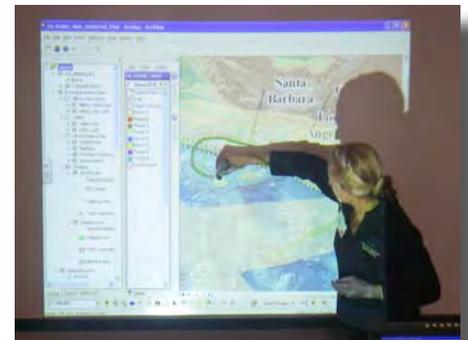
Gap Analysis - Natural/Sustainable Resources: Identify locations for potential new or strengthened MPAs

- National process design workshop
- Initiate the west coast (CA, OR, WA) gap analysis process

Cultural Heritage: Resume national partnership planning

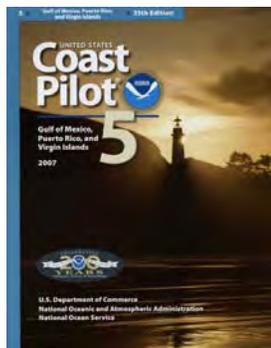
Ocean Uses Atlas

- Complete GIS mapping of 30 consumptive and non-consumptive ocean uses from the shoreline to the outer boundary of the EEZ for California
- Initiate the process in other states in cooperation with regional and national partners



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.





Navigating MPAs Partnership with NOAA Office of Coast Survey

- NOAA Coast Pilot Series (large ships) - update information from MPA Inventory
- Pocket Chart Pilot Project (small boaters) - add MPA information to Monterey Bay chart and evaluate with users
- Electronic Charts & MPAs - work with NOAA's Office of Coast Survey to develop international standards for MPAs on electronic navigational charts

Integration of the MPA System with the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

- Establish inter-agency committee on MPA and ocean observations integration

COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION

MPA Federal Advisory Committee

- Support development of Committee recommendations to the U.S. Departments of Commerce and the Interior and the selection of 14 replacement members

Federal Inter-Agency MPA Working Group

- Coordinate federal agency participation in the national system and compliance with E.O. 13158 requirements

www.MPA.gov Web Site

- Maintain timely content and make information more accessible to the public, including an expanded National MPA System section

MPA Connections

- Continue publication of quarterly newsletter

International Marine Conservation Conference/International MPA Congress 2

- Support conference and Congress preparation and implementation



INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES



North American MPA Network (NAMPAN)

- Add additional MPAs into the Baja to Bering MPA Condition Report progress
- Use the Atlantic ecosystem as a case study to incorporate climate change and network considerations into Priority Conservation Areas identification
- Establish Agreement to institutionalize NAMPAN

Support NOAA's High Seas Team

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