

MBNMS MPA Planning Process Update

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MBNMS core values

- Science-based
- Public input and stakeholder involvement
- Collaborative: interagency, stakeholders, scientists
- Transparent management

A healthy Sanctuary ecosystem supports sustainable uses, economies and coastal communities

MBNMS MPA goals

- Protect unique and rare places within MBNMS in their natural state for future generations
- Protect areas within MBNMS where natural ecosystem components are maintained and/or restored
- Establish research areas within MBNMS that can be used to differentiate between natural variation versus human impacts to ecological processes and components

Recap of key steps along the way

- **2001:** Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Joint Management Review Process
- **2002 - 2007:** MPA Working Group convened
- **Feb-2008:** MBNMS announces decision “that there is a need for MPAs in the federal waters of the Sanctuary.”
- **April-2008:** MBNMS provides rationale for decision
 - Ecosystem-based management (EBM) approach
 - Precautionary approach

MBNMS's MPA Action Plan

Key Strategies

- 1) Develop partnerships with interagency partners to identify common goals within the geographic area of MBNMS
- 2) Ensure that the development of any additional MPAs are coordinated with other types of management measures
- 3) Develop interagency coordination mechanisms
- 4) Consider a range of options that allow for varying types of extractive and non-extractive uses within MPAs

PFMC Advice

- **July-2008:** PFMC provides feedback on MBNMS proposed process for moving forward with MPA planning process:
 - Mutual benefits from collaboration
 - Need to develop evaluation criteria and evaluate current management regime
 - Consider consolidation of spatial management measures

Other Partner Agency Advice

- Sanctuary Advisory Council & MPA subcommittee
- NMFS NWR
- NMFS SWR
- NMFS Science Centers
- PFMC staff
- CDFG
- NOAA's National MPA Center
- The Nature Conservancy

Complementary management programs

- MLPA MPAs
- Address fishing impacts to benthic habitat
- EFH - 5 year review
- PFMC's plans for an EFMP
- Economically and ecologically viable community-based fisheries.
- Community Fishing Association
- Sustainable fisheries certification program
- National System of MPAs

Integrated Ecosystem-Based Management

Comprehensive approach that considers multiple management objectives with partner agencies

Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA)

- A process to inform and achieve ecosystem goals
- A process to evaluate various management actions
- NOAA's 2009-2014 Strategic Plan for ecosystem approaches to management
- Identified by NOAA scientists as a critical tool for EBM

West Coast IEA

- May be suited to address several analytical needs to inform ecosystem-based management
 - Development and testing of indicators that reflect ecosystem attributes of interest: may inform the development of specific evaluation criteria for MPA goals, i.e. natural ecosystem components
 - Overall ecosystem assessment and evaluation: may prove useful in evaluating current ecosystem status and the effect of any proposed management measures on ecosystem status or other attributes of interest.

Ecosystem Goals Project

MBNMS focused on EBM goals articulated for MPAs

Including complementary partner tools and approaches to meet EBM goals

Engaging with partners to address EBM goals in a collaborative phased approach

MBNMS Ecosystem Goal Project

Resilient, healthy ecosystem in support of sustainable economies and communities

informs

Analytical Input

- IEA of CCLME
- NMPAC's workshop:
'Priority Conservation Areas'
- MBNMS workshop:
'Threats to Offshore'
- EFH 5 year review

advises

Stakeholder Input

- SAC
- Stakeholder workshops

implements

Implementation Pathways

- EFH amendment
- Ecosystem FMP
- ONMS regulation

MBNMS commitments

- MBNMS committed to working with SAC, NMFS and PFMC to ensure an effective and timely public process
- MBNMS committed to understanding the ecological and socioeconomic impacts on any proposed actions
- Any proposed action would be accompanied by full analysis, as required by NEPA and APA

