

# Agenda

## Arctic Marine Protected Areas Working Group

University of Alaska, Anchorage  
Room – Gorsuch Commons 107

**November 9-10, 2015**

### Meeting Objectives

1. Develop draft recommendations for consideration by the MPA Federal Advisory Committee (which in turn advises NOAA and the Department of the Interior) including guidelines and principles for U.S. actions to strengthen and connect MPAs and MPA programs in the U.S. Arctic and internationally.
2. Provide stakeholder input that will help inform U.S. leadership on MPA issues during its chairmanship of the Arctic Council.
3. Provide an opportunity for public input on issues discussed by the Working Group.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 8:30 Welcome / Introductions – Stephanie Madsen and Lauren Wenzel, Co-Chairs  
*Introduce yourself, your organization and the perspective you bring to this group.*
- 8:50 Icebreaker – Creating an US Arctic Ocean Timeline  
*Using poster paper, each working group member will add key milestones in that have been important in the health of the US Arctic marine environment (including Beaufort, Chukchi and Bering Seas) – these can be major changes, accomplishments, threats, etc.*

### Background

- 9:10 Purpose and Role of Arctic MPA Working Group/Discussion – Lauren Wenzel, NOAA Marine Protected Areas Center
- *Defining MPAs and MPA Network*
  - *Links to Arctic Council Initiative*
  - *Role of Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee*
  - *Expected Working Group Product*

### Setting the Context

- 9:30 The Current Picture of MPAs in the U.S. Arctic – Mimi D’lorio, NOAA Marine Protected Areas Center and David Witherell, North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
*Review and discuss MPA definition; Arctic boundary; federal and state jurisdictions; map of current MPAs in Alaska.*
- 10:00 Existing Uses and a Changing Arctic (30 min)  
*Summarize discussion from October 19 Working Group webinar about major uses, and discuss major questions, gaps and considerations in understanding the current context of ocean uses. Major uses include: subsistence, shipping, oil and gas, fishing, recreation and tourism.*
- 10:30 Break (15 min)

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- 10:45 Perspectives from MPA/Spatial Management Agencies  
*Current management of marine protected areas and other area-based management (10 minutes each)*
- *National Wildlife Refuges – Ryan Mollnow*
  - *National Parks – Tahzay Jones*
  - *NOAA Fisheries – Candace Nachman*
  - *North Pacific Fishery Management Council – David Witherell*
  - *State of Alaska – Chris Siddon*
  - *Bureau of Ocean Energy Management – Cathy Coon*
  - *National Marine Sanctuaries (Nomination process) – Lauren Wenzel*
- 11:55 Lunch (Provided for Working Group Members)
- 12:45 Agencies Contributing to an MPA Network (10 minutes each)
- *Landscape Conservation Cooperatives – David Payer*
  - *Coast Guard – Chris Barrows*
  - *Arctic Research Commission and North Pacific Research Board Arctic Program – Cheryl Rosa*
- 1:15 Vulnerabilities and Potential Threats – Roundtable Discussion
- *What are the major vulnerabilities to habitats, species and communities?*

### Discussion

- 1:45 Discussion: Role of MPAs and MPA Networks in Arctic Marine Resource Protection  
*What are the needs and opportunities to strengthen the role of MPAs in conserving Arctic marine resources in US waters?*
- *What resource management issues can MPAs help address?*
  - *What gaps in protection can current or future MPAs help address? (e.g. spatial, operational, etc)*
  - *What opportunities are there to strengthen the current management of MPAs in Alaska to benefit resource management through a network approach?*
  - *How can we strengthen collaboration and connectivity among MPAs in Alaska?*
- 2:45 Break (15 min)
- 3:00 Discussion: Role of MPAs and MPA Networks in Arctic Marine Resource Protection
- 4:00 Public Comment
- 4:45 Wrap up from Day 1
- 5:00 Adjourn
- 6:00 Reception at Alaska Pacific University

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### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

8:30 Recap from Day 1; Overview of Day 2

### Writing Session – Summarizing Ideas

8:45 Writing Session – capturing key ideas for recommendations from Day 1 Discussions  
*Break into small teams to capture ideas from Day 1 into rough draft working group recommendations. Each team will work on key points for the four questions discussed earlier.*

9:30 Review and Discussion of Writing Team drafts from Day 1 Discussions

10:30 Break

### Small Group Discussions and Gallery Walk

*Workshop participants will break into small groups to discuss the following questions and brainstorm ideas on flip charts. Each of the three breakout sessions will be 40 minutes, followed by a 20 minute “gallery walk” so participants can review and comment on ideas from the other breakout groups.*

10:45 Small Group Discussions: Working within the context of other ocean uses  
*Discuss how the US can best work to strengthen and connect MPAs in the Arctic while recognizing the importance of subsistence and other uses?*

11:45 Lunch (Provided for Working Group members)

12:45 Small Group Discussions: Engaging Communities and other Stakeholders  
*Discuss how US agencies can best work to engage local communities and other stakeholders in a dialogue about the goals for conserving Arctic marine resources and the role of MPAs in achieving these goals?*

12:45 Small Group Discussions: Priorities for international collaboration  
*Discuss what are the highest priorities for international collaboration in the Arctic related to MPAs and MPA networks? Discuss collaboration at different spatial scales; potential focal species or habitats; priority activities.*

2:45 Break

3:00 Identifying Common Themes/Major Points

3:15 Public Comment

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### Writing Session – Summarizing Ideas

- 3:45 Writing Session – capturing key ideas for recommendations from Day 2 Discussions  
*Break into small teams to capture ideas from Day 1 into rough draft working group recommendations.*
- 4:30 Report on Writing Team drafts from Day 2 Discussions

### Wrapping Up

- 4:45 Process Going Forward – Next Steps
- 5:00 Adjourn