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## National Marine Protected Areas Center Weekly Update August 17, 2011

### Science and Stewardship

**MPA Center staff facilitates GIS mapping workshop on Maui:** The Marine Protected Areas Center's Mimi D'Iorio, Nick Hayden, and Jordan Gass participated in the Maui Coastal Use Mapping Project, Aug. 11-13<sup>th</sup> in Lahaina, Maui. The workshop applied the MPA Center's participatory GIS method for gathering ocean uses data to inform coastal and marine resource management. MPA Center staff assisted in the community mapping exercise by facilitating group discussions, managing the GIS mapping software and transferring expertise to on-island staff. This project is intended to capture baseline information on marine human uses and issues in the Honulua – Wahikuli region of Maui, leading to improved regional management decisions in an area that faces pressures from a growing variety of ocean uses, as well as coastal development and watershed impacts. ([Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov](mailto:Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov))

**MPA Center Staff Co-Chairs ICES-NAMPAN Study Group on Designing Marine Protected Area Networks in a Changing Climate:** Dr. Robert Brock of the MPA Center Co-Chaired a workshop of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) - North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NAMPAN) Study Group on Designing Marine Protected Area Networks in a Changing Climate (SGMPAN) in Woods Hole 9-11 August. The objective of the workshop was to develop a set of guidelines for MPA managers and planners to design, assess, and adaptively manage individual MPA's and MPA networks in an era of changing physical and biological conditions brought about by climate change. These guidelines were developed by select SGMPAN members from Canada, Mexico, and the United States to provide a common approach to MPA and MPA network planning and management. NAMPAN and ICES will work with scientists to review and apply the guidelines, providing input that will allow them to be tailored to specific geographic regions. ([Robert.Brock@noaa.gov](mailto:Robert.Brock@noaa.gov))

**MPA Center Assists in CMSP Training:** The MPA Center GIS manager, Mimi D'Iorio, participated in the Coastal and Marine Spatial training for Hawaii and Mariana communities held at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu from Aug 1-4th. The four day training was funded by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and offered through a partnership between the Council and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' International Program in association with the State of Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Attended by 120 island representatives, the training was an intensive, interactive participatory program where participants received hands-on experience in building a coastal/marine spatial framework to manage the coastal and marine environment. The curriculum also led participants through a process to understand past trends and future projections for use of the coastal environment that are important considerations when developing a coastal/ marine spatial plan. Mimi was

one of nine instructors who facilitated the training exercises and led the participants, including state and local resource managers, stakeholders, cultural practitioners and educators, through the planning process. While this training has been conducted in many other locations worldwide, it was the first of its kind to be offered in the U.S. ([Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov](mailto:Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov))

### **MPA Center Staff Participates in Washington Human Uses Mapping Workshop:**

Mimi D'Iorio, the MPA Center GIS manager, participated in a two day workshop from July 27-28. The first day of the meeting took place in Aberdeen in south Washington by the coast and day two of the meeting took place in Seattle. The workshop was designed to bring state and local managers, stakeholders and prominent ocean users together to discuss the states' progress toward a human uses data inventory, different methodologies for mapping human uses, and next steps for filling in identified data gaps to implement CMSP. ([Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov](mailto:Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov))

## **Events and Conferences**

The following is a listing of events and conferences that the MPA Center is organizing or that MPA Center staff members plan to attend.

### August 2011

17: Scientist Is In, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC (Brock)

### September 2011

4-8: American Fisheries Society Annual Conference, Seattle, WA (Brock, Wenzel)

### October 2011

19: Scientist Is In, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC (Grussing)

### November 2011

14-18: MPA Federal Advisory Committee Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Yeager, Wenzel)

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The mission of the National Marine Protected Areas Center 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's goals are to:

1. Build and maintain the National System of MPAs
2. Improve MPA Stewardship and Effectiveness
3. Coordinate International, National, and Regional MPA Activities

For more information, go to: [www.MPA.gov](http://www.MPA.gov).