



National Marine Protected Areas Center Weekly Update May 10, 2010

MPA Center Creates Map of U.S. MPAs Within Proximity of Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill:

The map, available at www.mpa.gov, shows the boundaries of the 53 U.S. MPAs that could potentially be affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. It includes some sites that are primarily terrestrial but have a marine component. Data used for the map are taken from the MPA Inventory.

(Mimi.Diorio@noaa.gov)

Federal Advisory Committee

MPA Federal Advisory Committee Delivers Recommendations to NOAA and DOI: On May 3, the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee (MPA FAC) formally transmitted a set of recommendations to Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco, and Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Thomas Strickland. The recommendations were developed by the MPA FAC during their recent meeting from April 20-22 in Charleston, South Carolina. Recommendations focused on climate change in the ocean and how the national system can help foster resilience to climate change impacts. Specifically, they focus on: 1) designing MPA sites, MPA networks and the national system of MPAs to be ecologically resilient to the impacts of climate change; and 2) evaluating and adaptively managing MPA sites, MPA networks and the national system in response to climate change. The Committee also transmitted a set of recommendations on a “Vision for the Cultural Heritage Resources Goal of the National System of MPAs.” The vision represents the Committee’s conception of how the national system can benefit cultural heritage resources. A complete copy of the recommendations is available on www.mpa.gov. (Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov)

Cultural Heritage Resources

MPA Center Staff Attends Seminar on Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Properties: From May 6-7, Valerie Grussing, Cultural Resources Coordinator for the MPA Center, attended a seminar on Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) in Sacramento, CA. The National Preservation Institute seminar offered participants training in definitions and significance of TCPs, and methods of identifying and managing impacts on TCPs. As the MPA FAC Cultural Heritage Resources Working Group begins to develop goals and objectives related to the newly established vision for the cultural heritage track of the National MPA System, as well as to recommend technical changes to the *Framework for the National System of Marine Protected Areas* (including the criterion for cultural heritage MPAs), knowledge of federal guidelines and precedents regarding TCPs will be crucial. (Valerie.Grussing@noaa.gov)

Science and Stewardship

MPA Center Staff Attends 5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands:

On May 3, Katya Wowk, Policy Specialist at NOAA's MPA Center, presented at the *5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, and Improving Governance* on "Fostering Strategies for Biodiversity Conservation and Adaptation to Climate Change: The U.S. National System of MPAs." The conference convened on May 3-7, 2010 at UNESCO in Paris, and brought together over 800 experts representing 80 countries from all sectors of the global oceans community to address the major policy issues affecting the oceans at global, regional, national and sub-national levels, and to make progress in advancing the global oceans agenda. The event also celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Year of Biodiversity 2010. For more information, visit www.globaloceans.org. (Katya.Wowk@noaa.gov)

Library Links of the Week

A recent annual report summarizes the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) accomplishments from October 2008 through September 2009. It discusses the organization's work, impact, and partnerships with the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC), other agencies, academia, industry, and non-governmental entities, in integrating science into ocean and coastal management for the State. The report includes an overview of the OST's Marine Protected Areas Monitoring Enterprise project, which is leading the development of efficient and cost-effective monitoring for the statewide MPA network being implemented under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The California Ocean Science Trust is a nonprofit public benefit corporation which encourages coordinated approaches to translating ocean science to management and policy. "California Ocean Science Trust Annual Report, October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009" is available at:

http://www.calost.org/OST_Annual_Report_08-09.pdf

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The United Kingdom has released a strategy setting out its proposed vision and framework for MPAs in territorial waters adjacent to England and UK offshore waters over the next ten years. The strategy describes how existing obligations for MPAs under European directives, together with marine conservation zones under the Marine and Coastal Access Act and other designated sites, will provide an ecologically coherent network by 2012. It focuses on areas to conserve natural or living resources, and also outlines a range of Government policy objectives and scientific and socioeconomic factors to consider to generate support for the network. The strategy notes how this MPA policy fits within the Government's wider policy framework and objectives, including the U.K. Marine Policy Statement, relevant national policy statements to be designated under the Planning Act of 2009, and the Marine Action Plan. "The Government's Strategy for Contributing to the Delivery of a UK Network of Marine Protected Areas" is available at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/documents/mpa-strategy100330.pdf>

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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.

May 2010

10-14: Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management, Halifax, Nova Scotia (Uravitch, Gray)

12-16: North American Society for Oceanic History Annual Conference, Mystic Seaport, CT
(Grussing)

17-18: NAMPAN –CELC Marine Protected Area Workshop, Long Beach, CA (Uravitch, Schwenke,
Gray)

June 2010

13-16: The Coastal Society’s 22nd International Coastal Conference, Wilmington, NC (Grussing)

21-25: National MPA System Partners Annual Meeting and Training, Tiburon, CA (Wenzel)

July 2010

18-22: National Marine Educators Association Annual Conference, Gatlinburg, TN (Schwenke)

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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.