Recommendations for State and Territorial Participation in the National MPA System

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Full State Participation

- Significant coastal and marine resources under state jurisdiction
- Potential impacts to states from MPAs in federal waters
- Most existing MPAs in state waters
State Input and Sources of Info

- Tony MacDonald remarks to FAC (February 2005)
- Three regional state workshops (2005)
- State white paper and CZ ’05 presentation (July 2005)
- Final state recommendations (April 2006)
- SAG comments to MPA Center on draft MPA system framework (July 2006?)
RECOMMENDATIONS
for State and Territorial Participation in
the National System of Marine Protected Areas

COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION
MARINE PROTECTED AREA STATE ADVISORY GROUP

A Report Submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s
National Marine Protected Area Center and the U.S. Department of the Interior
APRIL 21, 2006
Recommendation One:

Ensure that the MPA system is national, not federal
Recommendation Two:

Create a blueprint that clearly defines what the national MPA system will include, how the national system adds value to current state or regional efforts, and how states fit into that system.
Recommendation Three:

Develop a specific process for designating MPAs in federal waters through an administrative process or by enacting new federal legislation.
Recommendation Four.

Involve states as partners in the continued development of the national MPA system, and establish a process to ensure participation in all future MPAs that affect state waters and resources.
A Digression

• Seminal questions of federal and state interest in the EEZ
• Governance needs to catch up
• MPAs need to integrate with burgeoning regional ocean governance
• Avoid “stovepipes”
Recommendation Five:

Assist and support states to both enhance their participation and further the development of the national MPA system.
Recommendation Six:

Develop clear criteria and performance measures by which to evaluate the use and management goals of individual MPAs.
Recommendation Seven:

Provide effective outreach and education about MPAs to all stakeholders.
Summation

- States have been managing MPAs for decades
- Most MPAs in state waters
- Full state participation voluntary but critical
- National system should focus on filling gaps
- Jurisdictional questions --- MPAs in federal waters
- States will require funding and technical assistance
- Long-term performance measurement, education and outreach is essential
- Full coordination and cooperation among all levels of governance (including regionally) is vital
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