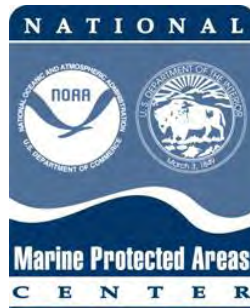


# External Review of MPA Center

Presentation to  
Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee

**November 19, 2008**



[WWW.MPA.gov](http://WWW.MPA.gov)

# Why an External Review?

- MPA Center was established in 2000 – has never had an independent external review
- OMB's Program Rating Assessment Tool (PART) calls for external review
- National system is moving into a new phase – opportunity to refocus program as needed
- Improve performance
- Increase visibility



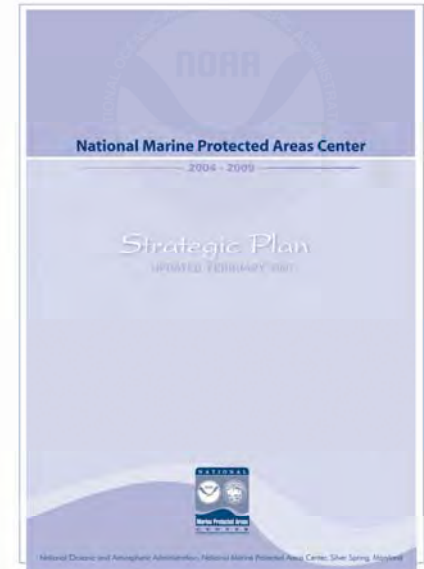
# Proposed Scope of External Review

- Evaluate the success of the MPA Center in meeting the purposes of Executive Order 13158
- Provide recommendations that the MPA Center can use to improve its work



# Key Questions

- How successfully has the program addressed the requirements of Executive Order 13158?
- Is the program focusing on the right suite of activities to advance the newly established national system of MPAs?
- How can the MPA Center most effectively build upon and strengthen its unique niche in supporting the use of MPAs as a conservation and management tool?
- Is the MPA Center providing effective leadership and building partnerships to advance an effective national system of MPAs?
- How can the MPA Center improve its impacts and performance in the future?



# Options

- Contract with external organization, e.g.
  - National Academy of Public Administration
  - National Research Council
- Create external panel
  - FAC involvement
- Criteria
  - Cost
  - Ability to complete review within timeframe
  - Professional expertise
  - Visibility

# Draft Timeline

- April 2009                      Availability of funds confirmed; initiate external review process
- July 2009                        Award contract or select panelists
- Summer 2009                  Prepare background material  
Gather stakeholder and public input
- Early Fall 2009                Draft report completed
- Late Fall 2009                 Final report completed