An global perspective on MPAs and update on WCPA – Marine activities, spring 2009

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New Caledonia marine World Heritage Site
IUCN vision and mission

- A just world that values and conserves nature.
- To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.
IUCN
International Union for Conservation of Nature

Governments
Institutions
NGOs

Species Survival Commission SSC
Commission on Environmental Law CEL
Commission on Education and Communication CEC
World Commission on Protected Areas WCPA
Commission on Environmental Economic and Social Policy
Commission on Ecosystem Management CEM
WCPA – Marine focus on:

- The challenges
- The programme
- The latest products
- The next steps

Courtesy USGS/NASA
An epaulette shark (*Hemiscyillum freycineti*), believed to be a new species. They spend most of their time on the sea floor looking for crustaceans and molluscs.
Ocean Acidification over time

Past (Pearson and Palmer, 2000) and predicted (Blackford et al. 2006) variability of marine pH.

Slide courtesy of Plymouth Marine Laboratory.
or........Plan B!
Signing of the political declaration at the close of the Summit
Global progress

Global progress

- WPC: 30% of world oceans by 2012
- WPC: 20% of world oceans by 2012
- CBD: 10% of EEZs by 2010

At current rate goals will not be met until: 2047, 2083, 2092

The WCPA Summit is not expected to resolve the issues relating to IUCN categories and MPAs...

...it should however, confirm what are the key issues and recommend ways forward to the forthcoming IUCN Categories Summit to be held in May 2007.
Towards Networks of Marine Protected Areas

The MPA Plan of Action for IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas
Some headlines

• Better data and maps
• Greater scale of protection
• Greater understanding of progress
• High Seas a priority
• Marine World Heritage a priority
• Global-regional-local networking a priority
• Capturing and sharing best practice a priority
• Visibility of current protection a priority
• Citizen engagement a priority – political commitment
• Web-based support
Focusing our actions

- Accelerating progress in achieving the Global MPA Agenda
- Encouraging, developing and sharing solutions for creating and managing MPAs and MPA networks
- Increasing visibility, understanding and awareness of MPAs and MPA networks
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Focus of the PPO Reviews

- What’s MPAs are there?
- What’s missing?
- What’s new?
- What are the challenges?
- What are the priorities?

First review will focus on the Mediterranean
High Seas Gems: Hidden Treasures of Our Blue Earth
The Bahrain Action Plan for Marine World Heritage

The workshop report arising from the joint global and regional meeting hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain, 14 – 26 February, 2009, and organized in partnership with UNESCO and IUCN WCPA – Marine.
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Changing perceptions

Changing the public’s perception:

- A blue ocean – invisible ‘life’
- Much of it is protected (30% - 40%!)
- Not sure where protection is (Barrier Reef)
- No idea of scale
Visibility on MPA progress
All MPAs designated by mid-2008

4400 MPAs, 2.35 million km$^2$, 0.65% of oceans

Communicating Oceans & MPAs

Google

Access to information
Better data
Better decision making
A public good
Lundy Marine Nature Reserve
England's first statutory Marine Nature Reserve

Photos
Videos
Stories

Sunset Cup Coral - Chris Wood

About this Marine Protected Area
Type: Marine Nature Reserve (MNR), Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Protection: Not yet shown
Established: 1988-11-20
Size: 38.89 sq km of sea, 33.83 sq km total area including land
Regions: North East Atlantic
Managing Organization:
http://www.nationalmarine讴9.org.uk/conservation/designated
areas/lpa/details/1.htm
MPA Website: http://www.lundynature.co.uk/

Why Marine Protected Areas? - Protect Your Ocean

Add photos or videos
Lundy Marine Nature Reserve

England’s first statutory Marine Nature Reserve

Photos  Videos  Stories

Sunset Cup Coral - Chris Wood

About this Marine Protected Area

Type: Marine Nature Reserve (MNR), Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Protection: Not yet known
Established: 1988-11-20
Size: 30.36 sq km of land, 23.13 sq km of total area including land

Managing Organization:
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/conservation/designated_areas/lipax/lipaxentry.htm

MPA Website: http://www.lundingland.co.uk/

Why Marine Protected Areas? - Protect Your Ocean
Dry Tortugas

Communities important fish increased inside this marine reserve, where they were protected from fishing.


Press the button to see how this site changed.
Visit the Case Study for more information.

Why Marine Protected Areas? - Protect Your Ocean
Sanganeb Atoll

About this Marine Protected Area

**Type:** Marine National Park

**Protection:** Not yet known

**Established:** 1980-01-01

**Size:** 12.0 sq km of sea, 12.0 sq km total area including land

**Region:** Arabian Sea

**Managing Organization:** Not yet known

**MPA Website:** Not yet known

**Why Marine Protected Areas? - Protect Your Ocean**
www.protectplanetocean.org

A global web portal on MPAs to inform, educate and entertain

Technology Partners:

*solertium* ☀️
*smart software team* 🌍

Google™
Arabian Seas

Regional Coordinator:

Dr. Mohammed M. A. Korb
Coordinator of Biodiversity & MPA’s Programme

PERCO (The Regional Coordinating Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden)
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Regional Statistics
Area of Ocean in Region: 3,034,000 km²

Regional characteristics

Characteristics of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region:
The Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are globally renowned for their great diversity of marine and coastal environments, the number of unique species, and the importance of the marine resources to the continued social and economic development of the region. However, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden have experienced a pace of development in the coastal zone in the past four decades that is, perhaps, unmatched anywhere in the world. This has been followed by degradation of the marine and coastal environments in some places and a loss of its potential to sustain the livelihood of coastal populations...

Read More

Oceans, Seas, and Countries Within Region

Oceans and seas within region
Gulf of Suez, Gulf of Aqaba, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman, Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea

Countries within region
Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
Success stories and lessons learned from marine reserves

Protecting Ocean Health
Scientific evidence clearly shows that people are causing a decline in the ocean’s health. Marine reserves have proved to be an effective way to protect habitats and biodiversity in the ocean. While marine reserves are not a cure-all, they are important for sustaining ocean life and human well-being.

Case Studies of Marine Reserves
At least 15 nations—ranging from small islands to large countries—have established marine reserves in temperate and tropical regions. Scientific studies of at least 124 marine reserves in 29 nations have been published in peer-reviewed journals. Data from these studies allow reliable conclusions about the effectiveness of marine reserves and provide guidelines for reserve design. Although numerous marine reserves have been established, they cover less than 1% of the world’s oceans.

Case Studies
- Anacapa Island, California, USA
- Dry Tortugas, Florida, USA
- Gulf of Maine, New England, USA
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, Australia
- California, USA
- Apo and Sumilon Islands, Philippines
- Kieta Marine National Park, Kenya
- Leigh Marine Reserve, New Zealand
- Torre Guaceto Marine Reserve, Italy
- Jardines de la Reina, Cuba and Glover’s Reef, Belize
- Las Cruces, Chile
- Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, Bahamas
- Puerto Palancar, Gulf of California, Mexico

Marine Reserves Sustain Ocean Life
Inside marine reserves, the abundance, diversity, biomass, and size of fishes, invertebrates, and seaweeds usually increase dramatically. Species that are fished show the biggest changes, sometimes increasing 10 or 20 times in marine reserves. These outcomes are consistent across different habitats in tropical and temperate waters. Some species and habitats respond rapidly while others may take many years, even decades. The benefits can be wiped out in one to two years if the area is reopened to fishing.
REMOTE IMAGING
Belize Barrier Reef Reserve: Glovers Reef Atoll

--600 m offshore,
--20 m depth

Partnership:

NGS
UN Foundation
IUCN
Isla Marisol Resort

www.nationalgeographic.com/wildcam
WildCam and Crittercam......

- exciting Remote Imaging tools
- amazing and valuable NG imaging resources, along with partner assets

Bringing the oceans, MPAs, World Heritage to life for viewers the world over
Coming up!

- Carbon management in marine ecosystems
- Building the global network
- Protect My Ocean
- Ocean Voices
- High Seas
- Marine World Heritage
- TED ‘wish’
Sylvia’s ‘Wish’

"I wish you would use all means at your disposal -- films! expeditions! the web! more! -- to ignite public support for a global network of marine protected areas, hope spots large enough to save and restore the ocean, the blue heart of the planet."
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