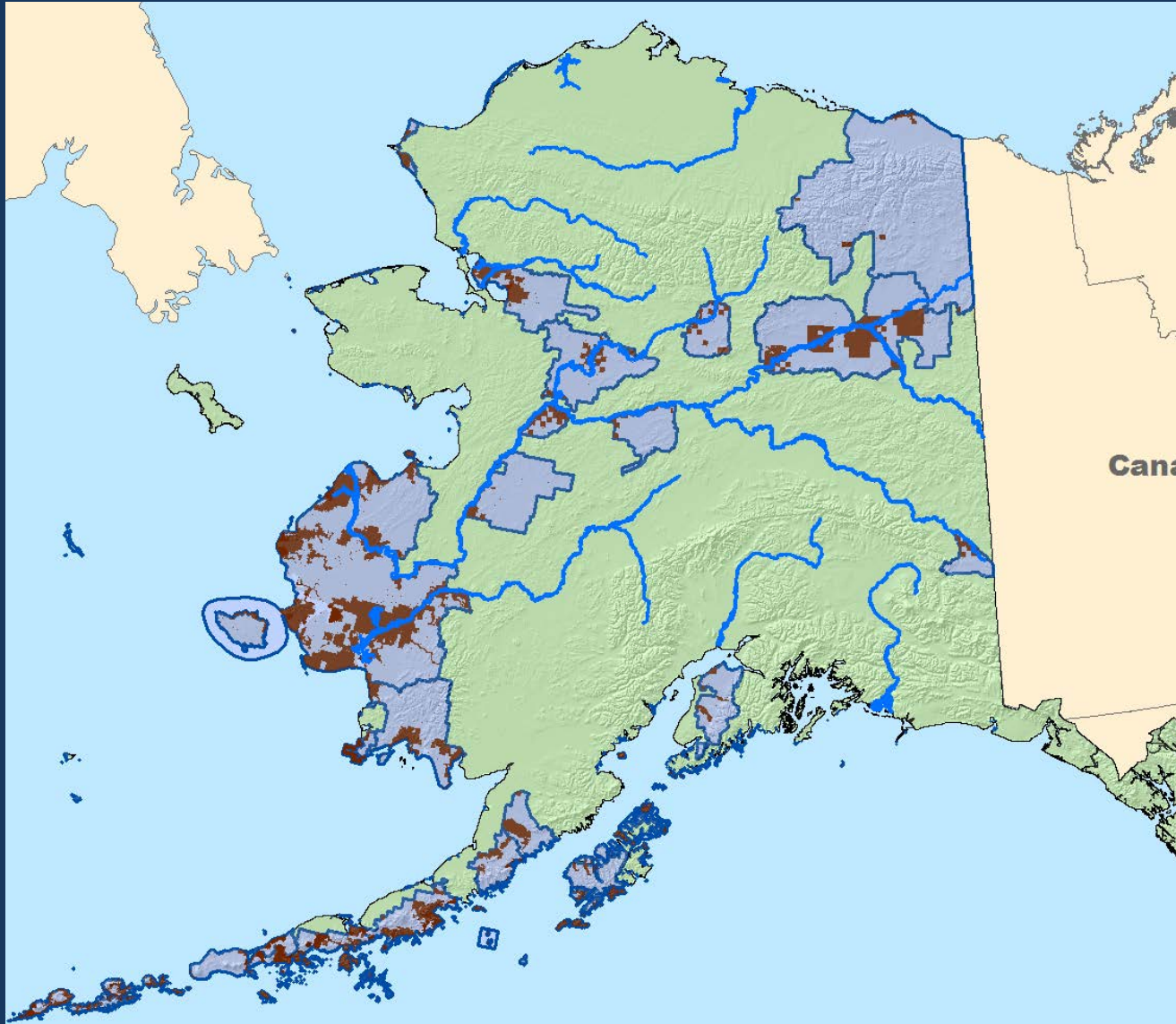


# Alaska National Wildlife Refuges & Marine Protected Areas

# Alaska NWRs

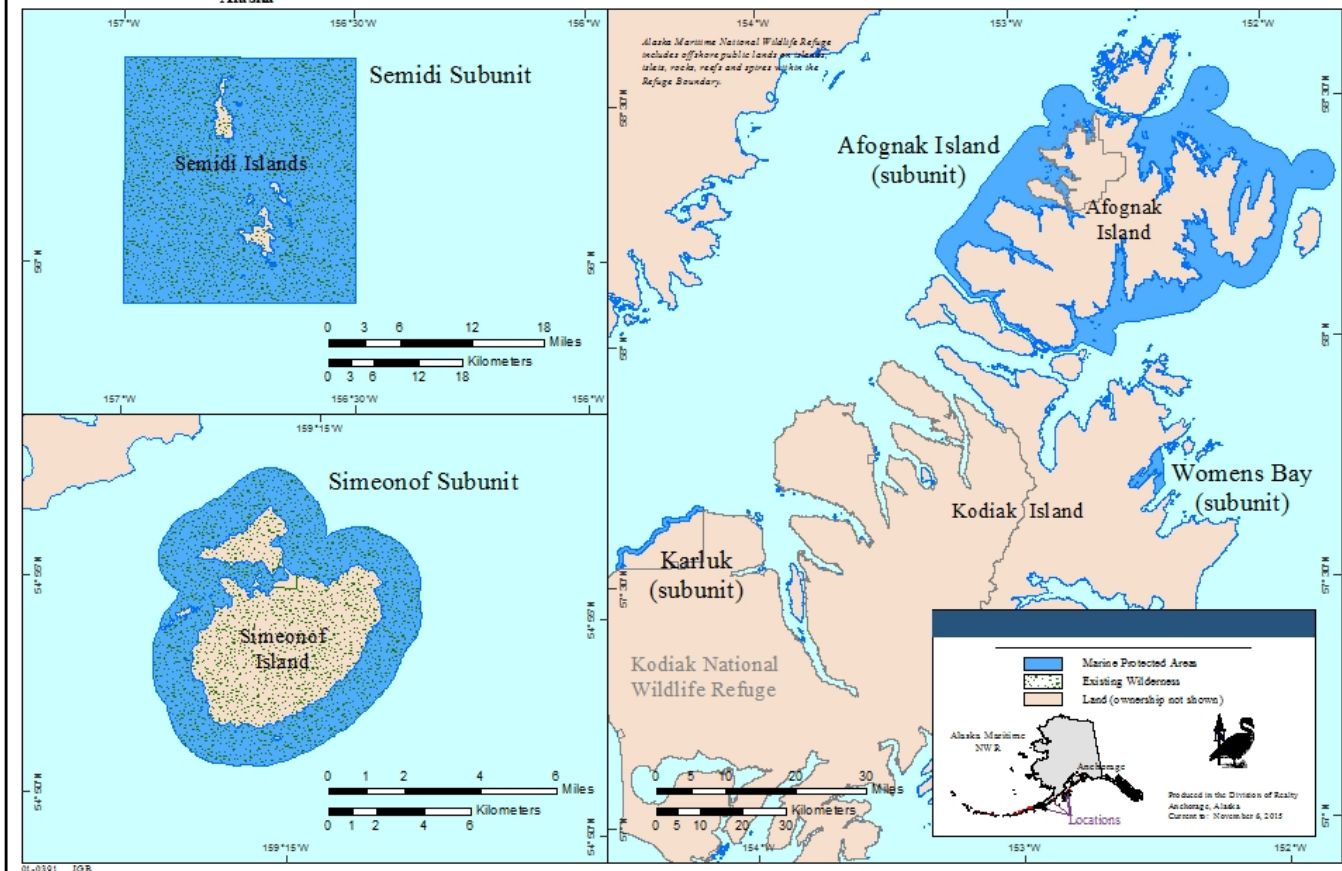




U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge  
Alaska

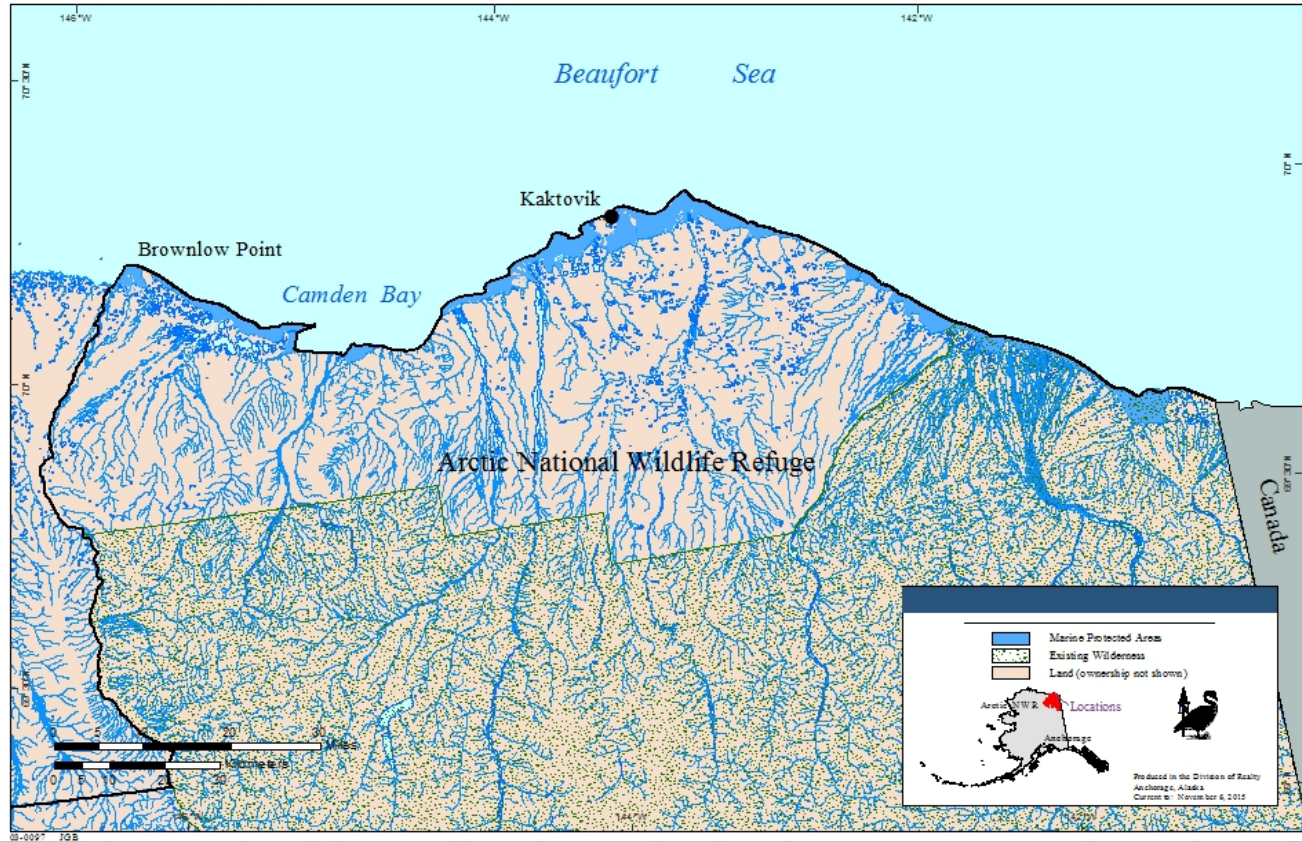
Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within Alaska Maritime NWR





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge  
Alaska

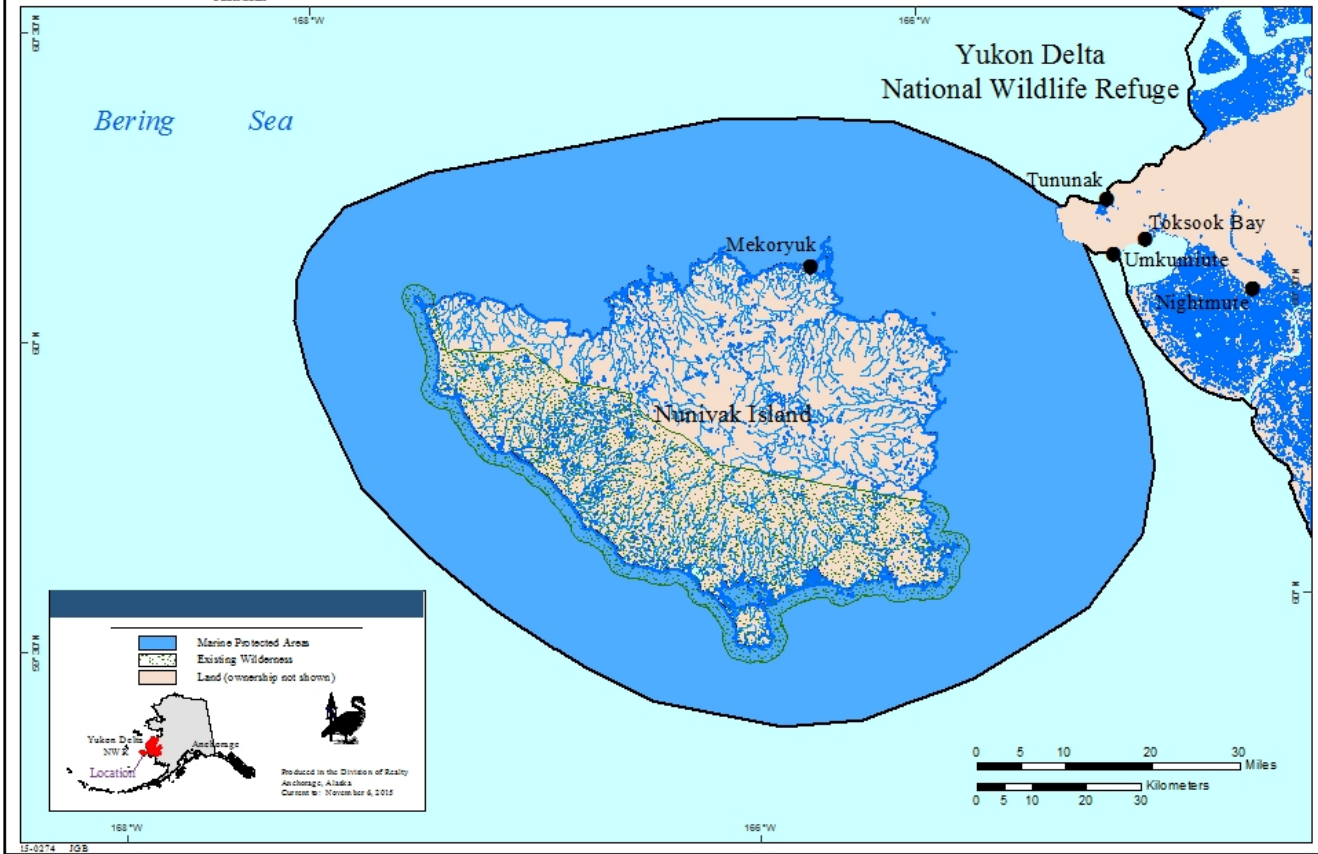
*Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within Arctic NWR*





U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
**Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge**  
Alaska

*Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within Yukon Delta NWR*



# 1997 Refuge Improvement Act

- This Act states that Refuges are to function as a system
- Reinforced the purpose of managing for biological integrity, biological diversity and environmental health
- Refuges developed the Biological Integrity, Diversity and Environmental Health policy

# ANILCA Purposes of Refuges

- **Conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity**
- **Fulfill international treaties**
- **Provide subsistence uses for local residents**
- **Maintain water quality and quantity**



# Alaska Maritime NWR

- (i) To conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity including, but not limited to marine mammals, marine birds and other migratory birds, the marine resources upon which they rely, bears, caribou and other mammals;
- (iv) to provide, in a manner consistent with the purposes set forth (i) and (ii), a program of national and international scientific research on marine resources; and





What are the primary management activities you are currently undertaking for marine resources in the MPAs you manage?

- Perform studies and surveys on a variety of marine species and environments.
- Polar Bears, Eiders, Shorebirds, Seabirds, Otters, Sheefish, Biophysical, Waterfowl
- These efforts vary depending on the Refuge and location

What are the major threats or vulnerabilities to your sites, and how are you currently addressing these threats?

- Climate change – erosion, food web, invasives, algal blooms
- Human activity – oil spills, ship groundings, visitation, mineral exploration, deep water ports, arctic fishing
- Pollution – marine debris, marine garbage pile

What are the major opportunities for enhancing marine resource management at existing sites?  
How could an MPA network approach assist your agency in meeting its conservation goals?

- Baseline surveys in coastal areas
- Fish surveys (ex: herring)
- Funding sources for MPAs
- Landscape planning for marine resources
- Better communication and coordination so not duplicating
- LCCs and Regional Advisory Committees (FSB) could be used as avenues for communicating to subsistence and other public

