# Marine Protected Areas Center Update: Building Bridges

Lauren Wenzel, National Marine Protected Areas Center NATIONAL For MPA Federal Advisory Committee June 2-4, 2014

## Targeting Our Efforts: Building Effective MPA Networks

- Capacity building
- Communication and engagement
- Information & Tools
- Policy/Strategy
- Engaging Internationally

#### **Thematic Focus Areas**

- Recreational uses and MPAs
- MPAs role in climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Cultural resources and landscapes



#### **Capacity Building - National System**

- MPA Webinar Series
- Open Channels blog on emerging MPA issues
- Building MPA Peer to Peer Network
- Cultural Resources Toolkit (web-based)
- Community-based tools and information for MPAs





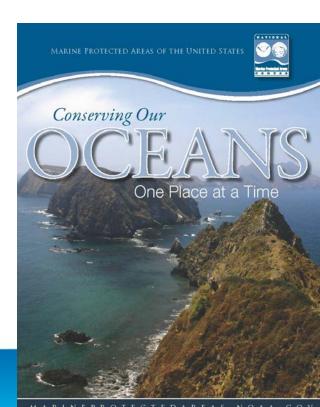
## Communications & Stakeholder Engagement

 Website continues to be a major resource for MPA issues (~350,000 hits/month)

Developing new e-newsletter for more frequent

contact with partners

Expanding social media



### **Federal Advisory Committee**

- Membership:
  - Currently recruiting for 10 new
     members June 16
  - 10 current members will be asked to extend terms to 2016
- Charge



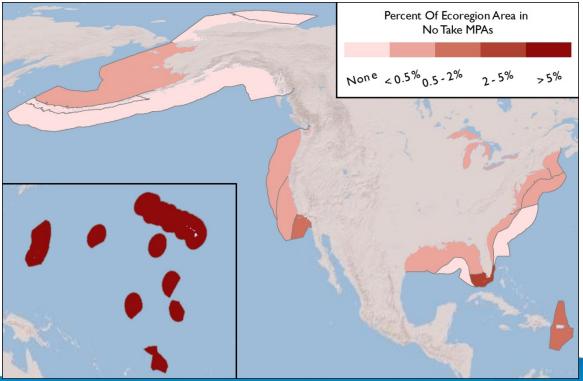


### Information, Tools & Analysis

- Analyzing representativeness of US MPAs
- Developed "Common Language of Ocean Uses"

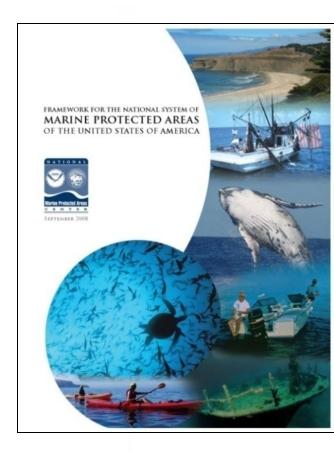
Developing detailed MPA managers survey on ocean

uses



### Policy/Strategy

- Updating National System Framework
- Developing priorities for climate change partnerships



### **Engaging Internationally**

- Co-leading marine theme for 2014 World Parks
   Congress
- Co-lead for blue carbon mapping and science project with Canada and Mexico (2013-2015)
- Listed 4 US sites under the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol for Wider Caribbean

