



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Protected Areas Center (MPA Center) was established under Executive Order 13158 (May, 2000) to connect and strengthen the nation's diverse marine protected area programs and to create a National System of Marine Protected Areas. The national system enables MPA programs to increase their impact by working together strategically on shared conservation goals. The MPA Center serves as a resource to all federal, state, territorial and tribal programs responsible for the health of the nation's oceans. For more information: www.marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov