

# North American MPA Network (NAMPAN)



*Overview, status  
and moving forward*



# NAMPAN Early Years

## History:

La Paz, 1999: From beginning, a network of people, projects and places, not only of places

## Network Action Plan Framework (7 components):

- Valuing **economic benefits** of MPAs
- Defining **marine ecoregions** of North America
- Guidelines for **measuring MPA effectiveness**
- Integrated management planning
- Expanded applied **research** for MPAs
- Developing an **ocean ethic**
- Protection standards



# NAMPAN Early Years

## Initial Projects:

- = Marine ecoregions of North America [
- = North American Marine Species of Common Conservation Concern (MSCCC: 15 + 1)
- = Baja to Bering (B2B)
  - = B2B MPAs atlas [ [
  - = Priority Conservation Areas [ [



# NAMPAN Status

## Flash forward ... 2003/04:

- = Species of common conservation concern □  
North American Conservation Action Plans  
(NACAP) for priority species from Species of  
Common Conservation lists
- = NAMPAN Vision (Agardy/Wolfe)
- = ... brief detour into the Vision ...



# NAMPAN Vision

Two levels of organization ...

Nested, tri-national hierarchy of (1) **places** and (2) **institutions/people**

Places: Scales of organization ... Continental (*ecoregions*), regional (*priority conservation areas; representative areas*), species (*critical habitats*) and site (*most vital places*)

Institutions and People: People (*stakeholders and tasks*); institutional (*coordinative linkages*)



# NAMPAN Vision

Places: Scales of organization ... Continental (*representative areas*), regional (*priority conservation areas*), species (*critical habitats*) and site (*most vital places*)

Institutions and People: People (*stakeholders and tasks*); institutional (*coordinative linkages*)

Some unifying concepts:

Vision is NOT top-down direction to the three NAFTA countries from the CEC. Role of CEC is to catalyze discussion, tool making ... not to dictate where or precisely what MPAs should be



# NAMPAN Vision

## Some unifying concepts:

North American marine environments are ...

- highly diverse – at population, species and habitat levels
- highly degraded
- but highly valued

MPAs have been successful in settings around the world ... systematic approach needed in a continental MPAs vision that recognizes full suite of MPA mechanisms, legal and otherwise, and ...

Wide variety of stakeholder views, values and



# NAMPAN Vision

## Some unifying concepts:

Continental (ecoregions, protected through variety of mechanisms including MPAs) □

Regional (zoom in to priority conservation areas: PCAs are much larger than MPAs) □

Site level ... ecologically critical habitats that are noteworthy because of biodiversity, economic and social values, that provide vital ecosystem services for the larger scale ecoregions, and that may be under threat ... solutions could be individual MPAs, or core areas within MPAs, or as part of linked networks within ecoregions



# NAMPAN Status

Ensenada (February 2004): joint NACAPs and NAMPAN action planning meeting

- [ Focus to be on B2B region; Gray whale as icon species
- [ Marine NACAP species selected: humpback whale, leatherback turtle, pink-footed shearwater ... teams at work
- [ Recognized that beyond bioregional classification and PCAs work (which is at continental and regional scales), additional bi-national and tri-national coordination is most feasible in near term at species (critical habitat) and people (stakeholder interests/tasks) scales
- [ Draft NAMPAN work plan Framework: short list of



# NAMPAN Status

## Draft NAMPAN Framework: Six strategic themes

- 1. Engagement of indigenous people
- 2. Awareness building; stakeholder involvement; public participation; **ocean ethic**
- 3. Coping with common stresses to resources
- 4. **Research**, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on **effectiveness**
- 5. Training, capacity building and sharing of information
- 6. Innovative enabling approaches, creative financing; **economic benefits** of MPAs Focus to be on B2B region

And ... where feasible, exploit the linkages between Marine SCCC and MPA network planning and



# NAMPAN Status

San Francisco (March 2004): larger NAMPAN action planning meeting

- [ Three broad Framework thematic categories discussed:
  - [ Research, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on effectiveness
  - [ Training, educational awareness, capacity building and information sharing
  - [ Innovative enabling approaches, creative financing and economic benefits of MPAs
  
- [ Autumn 2004:
  - [ Tri-national steering group narrowed priorities to the three of this workshop



# NAMPAN Moving Forward

## Near term:

Develop nationally, bilaterally and tri-nationally useful tools in topics including:

- - assessment and case studies of MPA benefits
- - management effectiveness indicators (including for SCCC ... build from WCPA guidebook)
- - creative financing of MPAs.
- Confirm/reconfirm pilot sites



# NAMPAN Moving Forward

## Mid term:

Shared monitoring protocol based on agreed effectiveness indicators

Capacity building

Renewed staff exchanges

Thematic workshops?

- Collaborative natural and social science
- Best practices guidelines? (e.g., cruise ships, whale watching)
- Integration of MPAs into regional coastal and ocean planning, including land-sea interface and watershed level
- Working with communities (e.g., sectoral, indigenous)



# NAMPAN Moving Forward

## Long term:

Tri-national system of MPAs embracing all levels of the “places” hierarchy, including (but not exclusively) spaces critical to Marine SCCC ... and MPAs within all PCAs

Forum to leverage improved mgt. of connecting corridors\*, and adaptive mgmt. thereafter in response to monitoring agreed indicators; assessing threats

(\* linkages between spaces particularly critical to MSCCC; “corridor” includes space but also institutional, policy, and people



# NAMPAN Moving Forward

And woven through all of it:

A clearing house for information/lessons learned

An informal people network for sharing

*Bienvenida*

*Welcome*

*Bienvenue*



# NAMPAN Moving Forward

Three footnotes ...

Ambitious list of opportunities that will require partnership from many and perhaps funding

Ocean ethic =  
constituency building

WCPA Marine

