

Oregon MPA Planning: Findings & Feedback

Darci Connor
Marine Resource Management Student
OPAC Meeting (Tillamook, OR)
July 17, 2007



Presentation Overview

- Purpose and Methods
- Findings
- Opportunities
- Take Home Message

Purpose

For Oregon's MPA planning process, identify the social and economic issues, methods to address issues, and strategies to improve planning efforts.

Research Methods

1. Background
2. Interview OPAC and STAC
3. Engage process specialists
4. Develop a roadmap

Emerging Perspective

- Very different positions
- Common values, interests & vision
- Ocean health shared emphasis
- Clear commitment

Social Considerations

Current Status

- Social issues prime concern
- Limited data, some examples
- Shared concern: loss of livelihood, coastal identity and who gains & loses

Recommended Data: Impact Assessments

- Nearby coastal communities,
- Cultural identity,
- Fishermen (rec. and commercial), and
- Ocean users: other proposed projects and locations

Economic Considerations

Current Status

- Economic sustainability very important
- Both agency and coastal interests
- Existing data: community profiles and recent OCZMA report

Recommended Data: Economic Analysis

- Site specific
- Significance potential
- Where fishing occurs in nearshore
- Ecotourism? Fishing-related businesses?

Ecological Considerations

- What's going on in Oregon's ocean?
- Key habitat types
- Status of stocks and resources
- Pollution sites

Integrative Thinking...

1. Problem statement
2. Set Purpose and Goals
3. Ecological data to identify
4. Social & economic to assess and prioritize

How to do it

- Clearly define decision space
- Site-specific information
- Short and long-term
- Multiple sources, pull together
- Ground truth and quality control

Take Home Message

1. Right people, broad knowledge set
2. Process is critical
3. Define decision space!!!!
4. Collaborative learning
5. Identify existing info
6. Social and economic data is critical

For more information

Darci Connor

dconnor@coas.oregonstate.edu

503-440-4737