

GEO OBJECT CLASSES

Object Class: **Marine Protected Area**

Acronym: **mpaare**

Code: 30501

Set Attribute_A: catiuc; typmpa; consty; DATEND; DATSTA; DRVAL1; DRVAL2;
confcs; levprt;; ecoscl; NOBJNM; OBJNAM; PEREND;
perman; PERSTA; RESTRN; STATUS

Set Attribute_B: INFORM; NINFOM; NTXTDS; SCAMAX; SCAMIN; TXTDSC;

Set Attribute_C: RECDAT; RECIND; SORDAT; SORIND;

Definition:

Marine Protected Area

IUCN * – “Any area of the intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which as been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment.”

* Source: IUCN – The World Conservation Union. 1998. Resolution 17.38 of the 17th General Assembly of the IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

USA** – “Any area of the marine environment that has been reserved by federal, state, territorial, tribal, or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection for part or all of the natural and cultural resources within therein.” (MPA Executive Order 13158)”

** Source: Marine Protected Areas of the United States www.mpa.gov/mpa_center/mpa_center.html, and Federal Register Vol. 70, No. 15, 25 Jan 2005 /NoticesReferences.

INT 1:

M-4:

Remarks:

Distinction: caution area; marine farm/culture; military practice area; restricted area

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **IUCN Protected Area Category**

Acronym: **catiuc**

Code: 30502

Attribute type: L

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Ia Strict Nature Reserve		
2	: Ib Wilderness Area		
3	: II National Park		
4	: III Natural Monument		
5	: IV Habitat/Species Management Area		
6	: V Protected Landscape/Seascape		
7	: VI Managed Resource Protected Area		

Definitions:*

Ia - Strict Nature Reserve - Area of land and/or sea possessing some outstanding or representative ecosystems, geological or physiological features and/or species, available primarily for scientific research and/or environmental monitoring.

Ib - Wilderness Area - Large area of unmodified or slightly modified land, and/or sea retaining its natural character and influence, without permanent or significant habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural condition.

II - National Park - Natural area of land and/or sea, designated to (a) protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations, (b) exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area and (c) provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible.

III - Natural Monument - Area containing one, or more, specific natural or natural/cultural feature which is of outstanding or unique value because of its inherent rarity, representative or aesthetic qualities or cultural significance.

IV - Habitat/Species Management Area - Area of land and/or sea subject to active intervention for management purposes so as to ensure the maintenance of habitats and/or to meet the requirements of specific species.

V - Protected Landscape/Seascape - Area of land, with coast and sea as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area.

VI - Managed Resource Protected Area - Area containing predominantly unmodified natural systems, managed to ensure long-term protection and maintenance of biological diversity, while providing at the same time a sustainable flow of natural products and services to meet community needs.

* Source: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources publication "Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories", IUCN, 1994.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Type of MPA**

Acronym: **typmpa**

Category of restricted area

Attribute type: L

CATREA

56

Code: 30518

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: National Seashore		
2	: National Park		
3	: Federal Fisheries Management Zone		
4	: National Marine Sanctuary		
5	: National Wildlife Refuge		
6	: Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve		
7	: Federal Fisheries Habitat Conservation Zone		
8	: Federal Marine Mammal Protected Area		
9	: Federal Threatened/Endangered Critical Habitat		
10	: Federal Threatened/Endangered Species Protected Area		
11	: State Park		
12	: County Park		
13	: Ecological Reserves		
14	: Sanctuary Preservation Area		
15	: Special-use Research Only Area		
16	: Wildlife Management Area		
17	: Existing Management Area		
n	: <i>(more to be added, as needed)</i>		

Definitions:

[Note: There are no specific definitions as to these types of areas. Nor is there any consistency or uniformity in terms similar types of areas having the same designation. In many cases, a designation of an area was based on regulatory or programmatic reasons rather than specific criteria.]

Remarks:

These are programmatic designations rather than categories. As a regulatory designation, these are more descriptive title rather than a functional classification or a category.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Conservation Focus**

Acronym: **confcs**

Code: 30504

Attribute type: L

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Natural Heritage		
2	: Cultural Heritage		
3	: Sustainable Production		

Definitions: *

Natural Heritage – Areas (i.e. MPAs or zones) established and managed wholly or in part to sustain, conserve, restore and understand the protected area's natural biodiversity, populations, communities, habitats, and ecosystems; the ecological and physical processes upon which they depend; and, the ecological services, human uses and values they provide to this and future generations.

Examples: Natural Heritage MPAs include most national marine sanctuaries, national parks, national wildlife refuges, and many state MPAs.

Cultural Heritage – Areas (i.e. MPAs or zones) established and managed wholly or in part to protect and understand submerged cultural resources that reflect the nation's maritime history and traditional cultural connections to the sea.

Examples: Cultural Heritage MPAs include some national marine sanctuaries, national and state parks, and national historic monuments.

Sustainable Production – Areas (i.e. MPAs or zones) established and managed wholly or in part with the explicit purpose of supporting the continued extraction of renewable living resources (e.g. fish, shellfish, plants, birds or mammals) that live within the MPA, or that are exploited elsewhere but depend upon the protected area's habitat for essential aspects of their ecology or life history (e.g. feeding, spawning, mating or nursery grounds).

Examples: Sustainable Production MPAs include some national wildlife refuges and many federal and state fisheries areas, including those established to recover over-fished stocks, protect by-catch species, or protect essential fish habitats.

* Source: A Functional Classification System for Marine Protected Areas in the United States, National MPA Center, 24 July 2006.

Remarks:

An MPA's focus reflects its fundamental purposes and goals, and influences its design, location, size, scale, and management practices.

As This is a list attribute the values may be used in any combination.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Level of Protection**

Acronym: **levprt**

Code: 30511

Attribute type: E

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Uniform multiple use		
2	: Zoned multiple use		
3	: Zoned with no take areas		
4	: No take		
5	: No impact		
6	: No access		

Definitions:*

Uniform Multiple-Use – MPAs or zones that with a consistent level of protection and allowable activities, including certain extractive uses, across the entire protected area.

Examples: Uniform multiple-use MPAs are among the most common types in the U.S., and include many marine sanctuaries, national and state parks, and cultural resource MPAs.

Zoned Multiple-Use – MPAs that allow some extractive activities throughout the entire site, but that use marine zoning to allocate specific uses to compatible places or times in order to reduce user conflicts and adverse impacts.

Examples: Zoned multiple-use MPAs are increasingly common in U.S. waters, including some marine sanctuaries, national parks, national wildlife refuges, and state MPAs.

Zoned Multiple-Use With No-Take Area(s) – Multiple-use MPAs that contain at least one legally established management zone in which all resource extraction is prohibited.

Examples: Zoned no-take MPAs are emerging gradually in U.S. waters, primarily in some national marine sanctuaries and national parks.

No-Take – MPAs or zones that allow human access and even some potentially harmful uses, but that totally prohibit the extraction or significant destruction of natural or cultural resources.

Examples: No-take MPAs are relatively rare in the U.S., occurring mainly in state MPAs, in some federal areas closed for either fisheries management or the protection of endangered species, or as small special use (e.g. research) zones within larger multiple-use MPAs. Other commonly used terms to connote no-take MPAs include marine reserves or ecological reserve.

No Impact – MPAs or zones that allow human access, but that prohibit all activities that could harm the MPA's resources or disrupt the ecological or cultural services they provide.

Examples of activities typically prohibited in no impact MPAs include resource extraction of any kind (e.g. fishing, collecting, mining); discharge of pollutants; disposal or installation of materials; and alteration or disturbance of submerged cultural resources, biological assemblages, ecological interactions, physiochemical environmental features, protected habitats, or the natural processes that support them.

Examples: No impact MPAs are rare in U.S. waters, occurring mainly as small isolated MPAs or in small research only zones within larger multiple-use MPAs. Other commonly used terms include fully protected marine (or ecological) reserves.

No Access – MPAs or zones that restrict all human access to the area in order to prevent potential ecological disturbance, unless specifically permitted for designated special uses such as

research, monitoring or restoration.

Examples: No access MPAs are extremely rare in the U.S., occurring mainly as small research-only zones within larger multiple-use MPAs. Other commonly used terms for no access MPAs include wilderness areas or marine preserves.

[* Source: A Functional Classification System for Marine Protected Areas in the United States, National MPA Center, 24 July 2006]

Remarks:

MPAs can vary widely in the level and type of legal protections afforded to the site's natural and cultural resources and ecological processes. Any MPA, or management zone within a larger MPA, can be characterized by one of these six levels of protection, which will directly influence its effects on the environment and human uses.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Constancy of Protection**

Acronym: **consty**

Code: 30505

Attribute type: E

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Year-Round		
2	: Seasonal		
3	: Rotating		

Definitions:*

Year-Round – MPAs or zones that provide constant protection to the site throughout the year.
Examples: Year-round MPAs include all marine sanctuaries, national parks, refuges, monuments, and some fisheries sites.

Seasonal -- MPAs or zones that protect specific habitats and resources, but only during fixed seasons or periods when human uses may disrupt ecologically sensitive seasonal processes such as spawning, breeding or feeding aggregations.

Examples: Seasonal MPAs include some fisheries and endangered species closures around sensitive habitats.

Rotating -- MPAs that cycle serially and predictably among a set of fixed geographic areas in order to meet short-term conservation or management goals (e.g. local stock replenishment followed by renewed exploitation of recovered populations).

Examples: Rotating MPAs – still rare in the U.S. - include some dynamic fisheries closures created for the purpose of serially recovering a suite of localized population to harvestable levels.

[* Source: A Functional Classification System for Marine Protected Areas in the United States, National MPA Center, 24 July 2006.]

Remarks:

Not all MPAs provide year-round protection to the enclosed area.

Enumerated attribute: Pick only one value.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Ecological Scale of Protection**

Acronym: **ecoscl**

Code: **30509**

Attribute type: E

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Ecosystem	;	
2	: Focal resource		

Definitions:*

Ecosystem – MPAs or zones whose legal authorities and management measures are intended to protect all of the components and processes of the ecosystem within its boundaries.

Examples: Ecosystem scale MPAs include most marine sanctuaries, national parks and national monuments.

Focal Resource – MPAs or zones whose legal authorities and management measures specifically target a particular habitat, species complex, or single resource (either natural or cultural).

Examples: Focal resource MPAs include many fisheries and cultural resource sites, including some national wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries.

[* Source: A Functional Classification System for Marine Protected Areas in the United States, National MPA Center, 24 July 2006]

Remarks:

Indicates whether MPA protects whole ecosystems or specific focal resources or habitats within larger ecosystems.

Enumerated attribute: Pick only one value.

FEATURE OBJECT ATTRIBUTES

Attribute: **Permanence of Protection**

Acronym: **perman**

Code: 30514

Attribute type: E

Expected input:

ID	Meaning	INT 1	M-4
1	: Permanent		
2	: Conditional		
3	: Temporary		

Definitions: *

Permanent – MPAs whose legal authorities provide some level of protection to the site in perpetuity for future generations, unless reversed by future legislation or regulatory actions..

Examples: Permanent MPAs include most national marine sanctuaries and all national parks.

Conditional -- MPAs that have the potential, and often the expectation, to persist administratively over time, but whose legal authority has a finite duration and must be actively renewed or ratified based on periodic governmental reviews of performance

Examples: Conditional MPAs include some national marine sanctuaries with 'sunset clauses' applying to portions of the MPA in state waters.

Temporary -- MPAs that are designed to address relatively short-term conservation and/or management needs by protecting a specific habitat or species for a finite duration, with no expectation or specific mechanism for renewal.

Examples: Temporary MPAs include some fisheries closures focusing on rapidly recovering species (e.g. scallops).

[* Source: A Functional Classification System for Marine Protected Areas in the United States, National MPA Center, 24 July 2006.]

Remarks:

Only one attribute should be selected.