

# WHAT IS A MARINE PROTECTED AREA?



# WELL MANAGED MARINE PROTECTED AREAS SUPPORT FISHERIES

## MPAs IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OCEANS BY:



## MPA

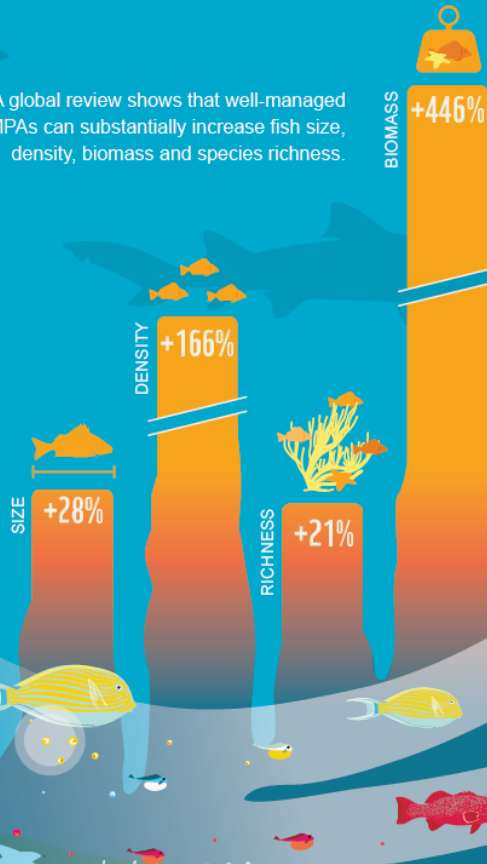
## KEY PRINCIPLES FOR MPAs TO WORK:

- Well Designed Networks of MPAs
- Enforced and Complied With
- Local Community Engagement
- Part of an Integrated Management Plan
- Sustainably Financed

## MPAs SUPPORT LIVELIHOODS

In Apo Islands, Philippines, fishers have doubled their catch rate 18 years after the MPA was created. As a result, they go out to sea less, saving on fuel and time.

A global review shows that well-managed MPAs can substantially increase fish size, density, biomass and species richness.



## MPAs CAN PUMP FISH INTO ADJACENT AREAS

As fish populations recover within MPAs, juveniles and adults can spill over across the boundaries and replenish fishing grounds.

### EXAMPLE: APO ISLAND PROTECTED AREA, PHILIPPINES

Surgeonfish and jackfish represent 40-75% of local fishery yields.

Since the MPA was established, their population has tripled...

...resulting in an increase in catch per unit effort of **+50%**

## MPAs CAN EXPORT LARVAE INTO ADJACENT AREAS

Larger fish inside MPAs produce disproportionately more eggs and larvae. Some larvae then drift to fished areas.

### EXAMPLE: GREAT BARRIER REEF PROTECTED AREA, AUSTRALIA

The coral trout and the stripey snapper are exploited locally.

**± 50%**

Local MPAs produce ± 50% of total juvenile recruitment in nearby fished areas.

SOURCES: Harrison et al., 2012; Lester et al., 2009; Russ et al., 2004

Design by: Catalyze

Globally, WWF works to support Marine Protected Areas and ensure they contribute to securing food and livelihoods for people while conserving critical habitat and species.

[www.panda.org/mpa](http://www.panda.org/mpa)



**124 MARINE  
PROTECTED  
AREAS**

**16% OF  
CALIFORNIA  
WATERS  
PROTECTED**





**North Coast**

**Marine Protected Areas**

Effective **December 19, 2012**

- State Marine Reserve  
no take allowed
- State Marine Conservation Area  
some limited take allowed
- State Marine Recreational Management Area  
some limited take allowed
- Special Closure  
no disturbance area





Trinidad

**Samoa**

**South Humboldt Bay**

Fureka

Humboldt  
County

**South Cape  
Mendocino**

101

**Mattole Canyon**

**Sea Lion Gulch**

**Big Flat**

Shelter Cove