

IMPACT REPORT

2024-2025



Protecting wild ocean places for us and future generations



Marine
Conservation
Institute

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Celebrating a Year of Ocean Protection



Dear Ocean Friends,

Sir David Attenborough's latest film, "Ocean with David Attenborough", opens with a moving reminder: "The most important place on Earth is not on land, but at sea." Our ocean is a vital source of food, oxygen, livelihoods, and joy throughout the world. And our greatest ally in combatting climate change. With only five years remaining to meet the goal of protecting 30% of the ocean, we must accelerate our efforts to heal and protect the waters we all rely on.

Your support of Marine Conservation Institute helps us advance this vital work. Together, we are advocating effective conservation, supporting outstanding marine protected areas (MPAs) worldwide, and driving toward the 30x30 goal: 30% of our ocean enjoying meaningful protection by 2030.

This year, our Blue Parks initiative honored four exceptional MPAs at the third UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France. These newest additions to the Blue Parks Network met stringent standards for meaningful ocean protection. We also recognized six enduring Blue Parks for maintaining their status for five years, including Cocos Islands National Park which upgraded to Platinum status. We enthusiastically welcomed two new Blue Sparks that are working toward the Blue Park Standard. From the Blue Sparks just beginning their journey, to the 34 recognized Blue Parks worldwide, each of these MPAs is proving in their own way that dedicated teams can effectively protect marine biodiversity, rebuild populations, restore vital habitats, and advance the Global Biodiversity Framework.

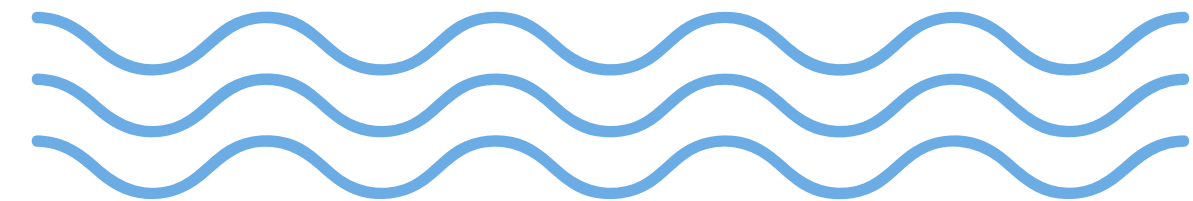
Effective conservation requires not just quantity but quality, and our Marine Protection Atlas (MPAtlas.org) supports that by compiling and sharing rigorous, high-quality data on MPA conditions and results. Researchers, conservationists, managers, and policymakers worldwide know MPAtlas as a leading source of reliable scientific data on MPAs and marine conservation. Our evidence-based assessment that only 3% of the world's oceans enjoy effective protection even features in Attenborough's film.

Coastal MPAs fall within a single country's jurisdiction, making them easier to establish and maintain. But we also need to safeguard the high seas—those waters beyond any nation's borders. Once ratified by at least 60 countries, the 2023 High Seas Treaty will protect biodiversity in these waters by establishing a new path for conservation in international waters. To date, over 50 countries have ratified the treaty, and we are working with our partners in the High Seas Alliance to lobby others to take this final, crucial step. We are also advancing new high-seas MPAs, like the Chilean proposal to protect the Salas y Gómez and Nazca Ridges in the South Pacific, and supporting campaigns to safeguard deep-sea habitats, such as the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition's efforts to halt deep-sea mining and a global call for seamount protection.

None of this work would be possible without your support. Together we can ensure a thriving ocean for future generations. Thank you for standing with us. We are proud to do this work and look forward to continuing our momentum.

For the ocean,

Dr. Lance Morgan, President



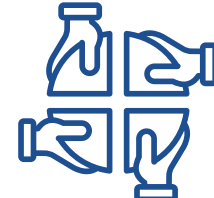
THE BLUE PARK STANDARD

At Marine Conservation Institute, we believe in the power of strong, effective MPAs for revitalizing ecosystems, adapting to climate change and mitigating its impacts, rebuilding depleted populations of critical marine species, sustaining local economies, and increasing food security.

That is why we created the Blue Park Standard: a scientist-reviewed benchmark for conservation effectiveness that evaluates MPAs for the following attributes:



Designed for biodiversity conservation



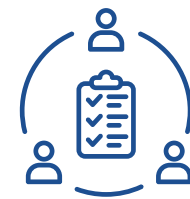
Equitable and long-lasting governance



Strong protection from harmful activities



Active management with an evidence-based approach



Respected and maintained with a compliance strategy

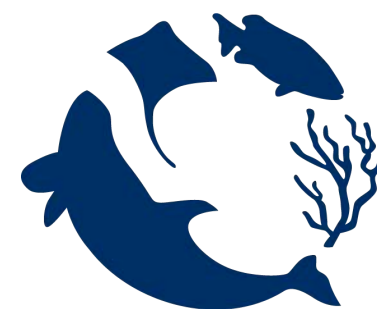


Capacity to implement management and compliance strategies

Every year, the UN Decade-endorsed Blue Park Awards recognize MPAs around the world that excel in these areas and model marine conservation done right.



2021-2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



BLUE PARKS™



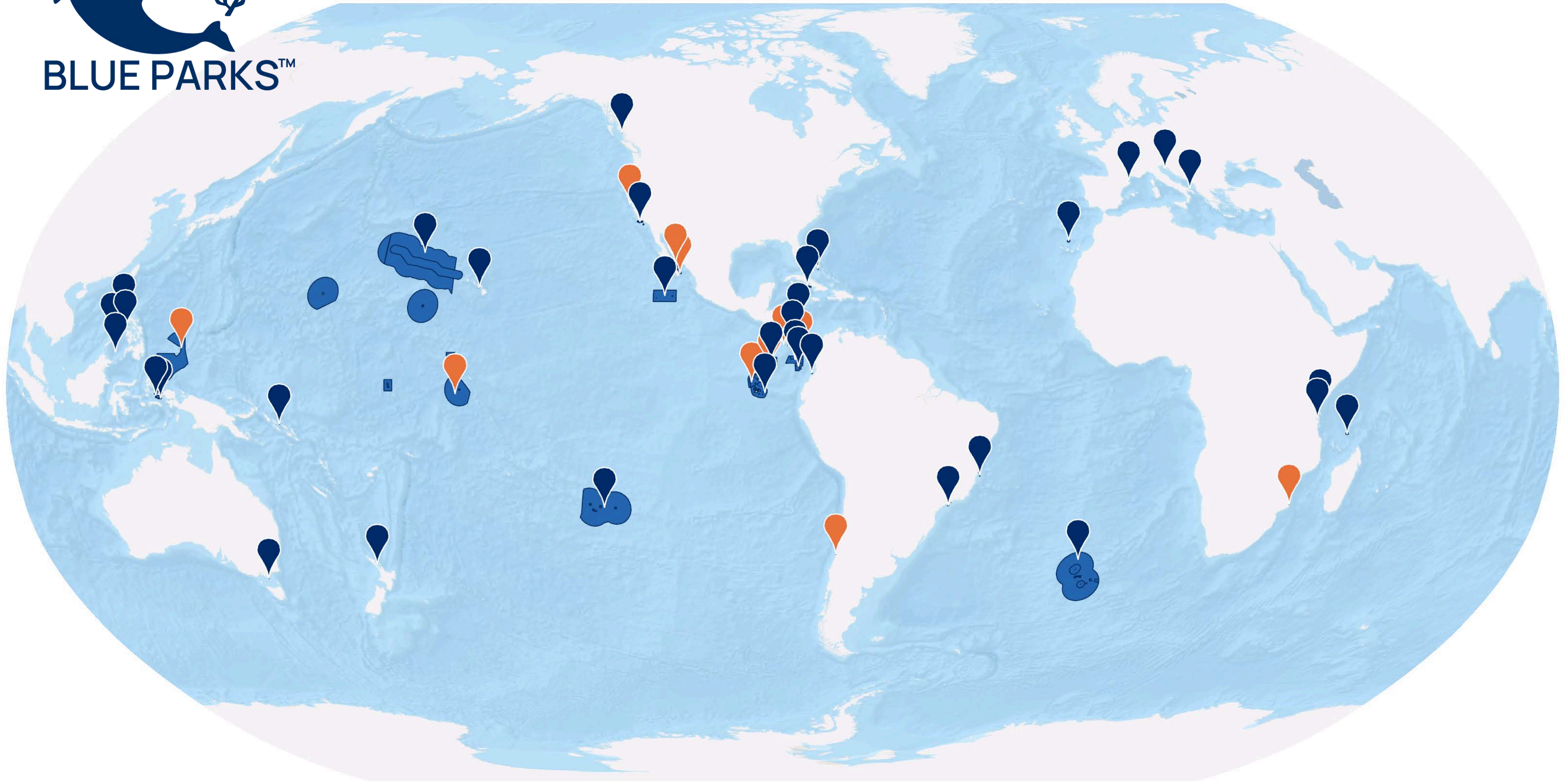


34
Blue Parks

11
Blue Sparks

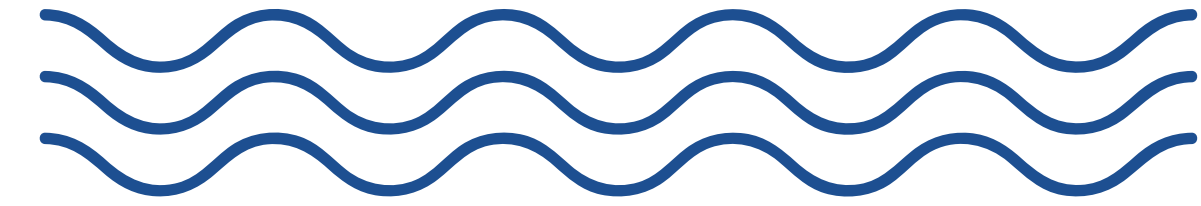
3.5 million km²+
protected

26
countries



 Blue Parks  Blue Sparks

A Growing Network of Blue Parks



On June 12, 2025, at the UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France, we announced the winners of the 2025 Blue Park Awards. These four exceptional MPAs, and the people behind them, are the newest additions to our Blue Parks Network.

Cahuita National Park Costa Rica

Cahuita National Park, established in 1970, spans 224 km² of marine area on Costa Rica's southern Caribbean coast. Renowned for its coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass meadows, it supports tropical fish, sea turtles, and manatees. Co-managed by the local community of Cahuita and Costa Rica's National System of Conservation Areas, Cahuita balances biodiversity protection, sustainable tourism, and food security.



Credit: Cahuita National Park



Credit: Hans Hillewaert



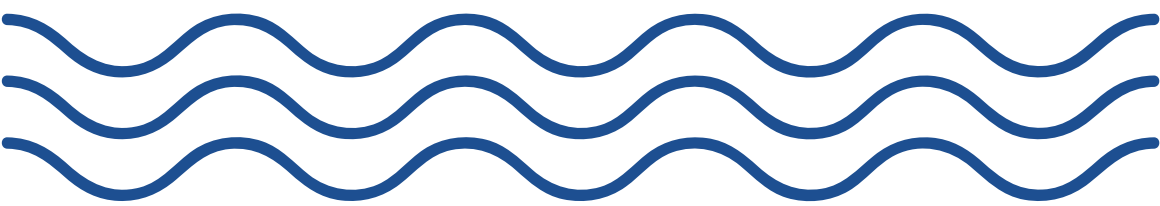
Credit: Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia



Credit: Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia

Gorgona National Natural Park Colombia

Covering 603 km² in the Eastern Tropical Pacific, Gorgona National Natural Park protects tropical coral reefs essential for species like humpback whales, dolphins, and sea turtles. The surrounding waters serve as breeding and calving grounds, supporting regional biodiversity. Managed by Colombia's National Natural Parks authority, the park fosters conservation, education, and research while preserving its ecological and cultural diversity.



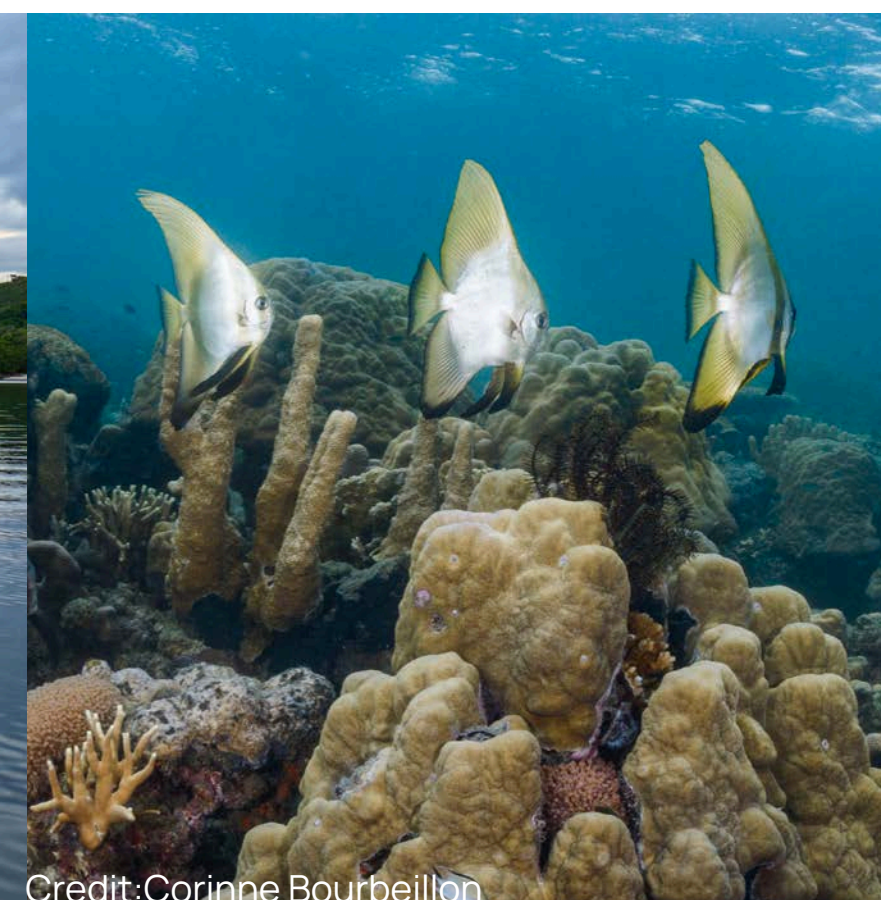
“Our Blue Park Award fits in perfectly with our commitment, and we’ll never give up on the ocean. With our Blue Park Award and our community, we want to be the first NGO to reach the 30×30 target in our bay in the Philippines.”
- **Frederic Tardieu, President and Founder of the Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation**

Shark Fin Bay MPA Network The Philippines

Situated in northern Palawan, this network of five MPAs safeguards tropical coral reefs, seagrass meadows, and mangrove forests that host blacktip reef sharks, hawksbill turtles, green turtles, and the endangered napoleon wrasse. Managed by the local communities and Sulubaaï Environmental Foundation, Shark Fin Bay MPA Network highlights how community-driven conservation restores ecosystems critical for biodiversity and local livelihoods.



Credit: Sulubaaï Foundation



Credit: Corinne Bourbeillon



Credit: Ross Kamimoto



Credit: KIRC

Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Hawai'i, USA

Kaho'olawe Island Reserve encompasses the entire island and its surrounding waters, preserving coral reefs, algal beds, and sandy beaches critical to Hawaii's marine biodiversity. Endemic species thrive here, supported by restoration efforts led by the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. Blending traditional Hawaiian practices with modern conservation, the reserve restores ecosystems while honoring its deep cultural significance.


Enduring Blue Parks

Receiving a Blue Park Award does not mean that the work is done. Once a Blue Park joins the network, we stay engaged with managers, local communities, and governments to help these exceptional MPAs uphold and improve their high standard of marine conservation.

This year at the Blue Park Awards, we recognized **Cocos Island National Park** in Costa Rica for upgrading its Blue Park Award from gold to platinum. We congratulate the managers of Cocos Island for their tireless commitment to protecting this biodiversity hotspot.

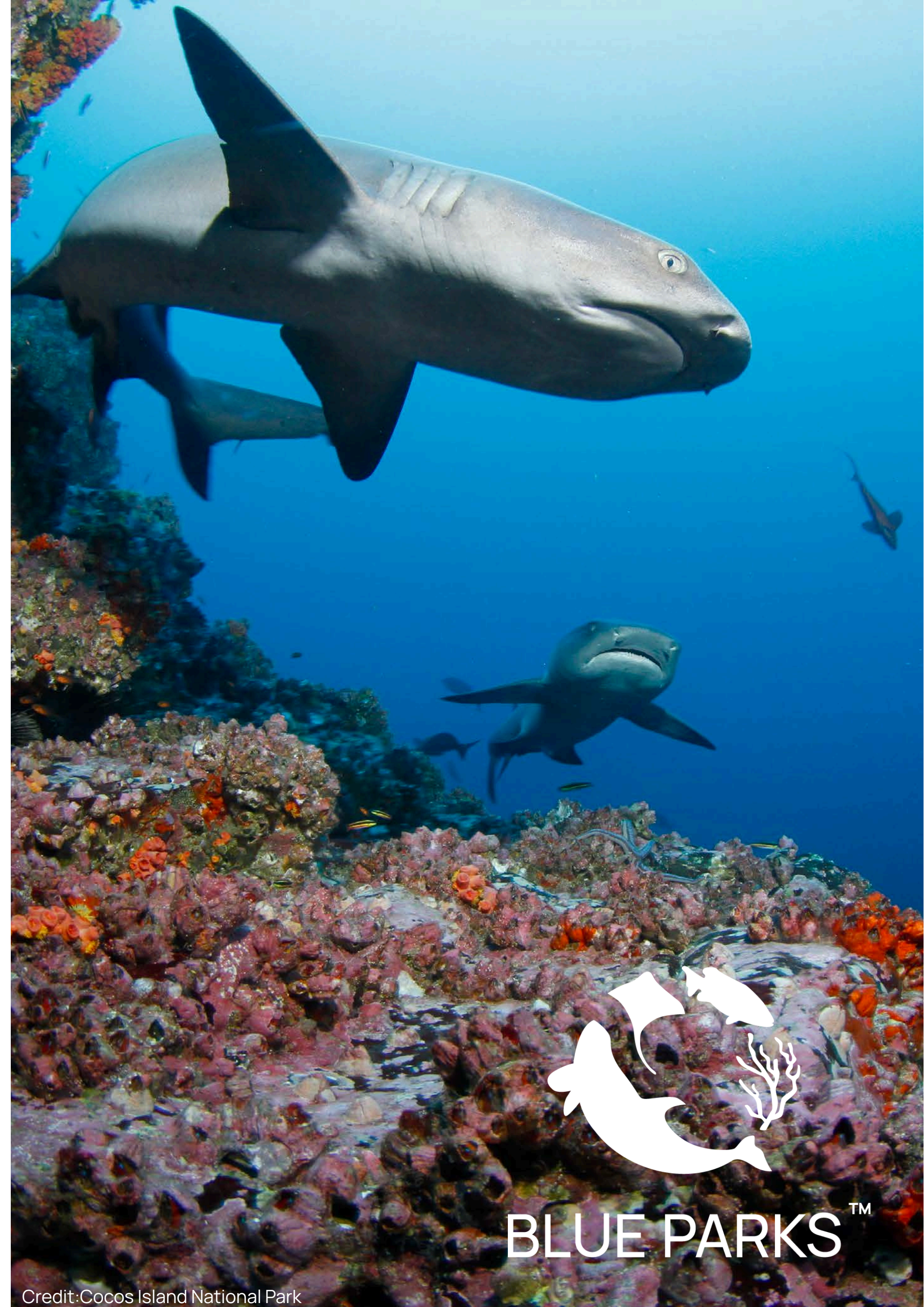
We recognized five other Blue Parks for maintaining the Blue Park Standard for five years:

- **Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (The Philippines)**
- **Cerbère-Banyuls Marine Nature Reserve (France)**
- **Chumbe Island Coral Reef Sanctuary (Tanzania)**
- **Misool Marine Reserve (Indonesia)**
- **Torre Guaceto Marine Protected Area (Italy)**

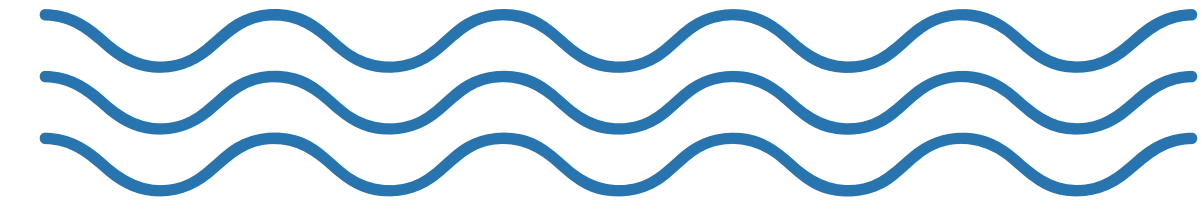


“We were very proud and happy when we received the news that Cocos Island National Park achieved Platinum, the highest level Blue Park Award. This achievement reflects the great effort and perseverance of our team and partners committed to marine conservation. Achieving this award level reaffirms our dedication and responsibility to effectively protect one of the planet’s most valuable marine ecosystems.”

- **Gina Cuza Jones, Regional Director of Cocos Island MPA**



Blue Sparks: Tomorrow's Blue Parks



The Blue Park Standard provides a blueprint for effective marine conservation, serving as a guide for MPA planning and management. In addition to our Blue Parks, Marine Conservation Institute partners with MPAs that are striving to achieve the Standard through our **Blue Spark** collaborations.

We support these Blue Sparks as they work to meet the rigorous criteria outlined in the Blue Park Standard, fostering strong conservation outcomes and equitable community stewardship. Along with guidance from our team of scientists and MPA experts, we provide grants from our Blue Parks Impact Fund to help Blue Sparks improve their management efforts, engage local communities, and acquire the technology and infrastructure they need.

 **Inhambane Bay Community Conservation Areas Network** (Mozambique)



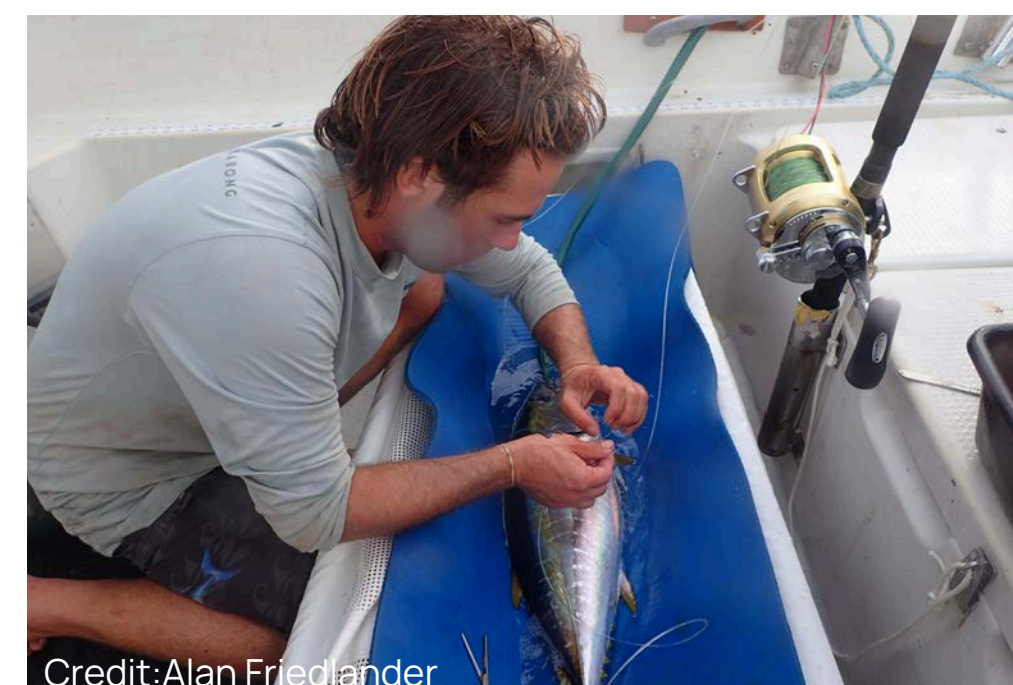
 **Cabo Pulmo** (Mexico)



 **Santuario Piedra del Viento** (Chile)



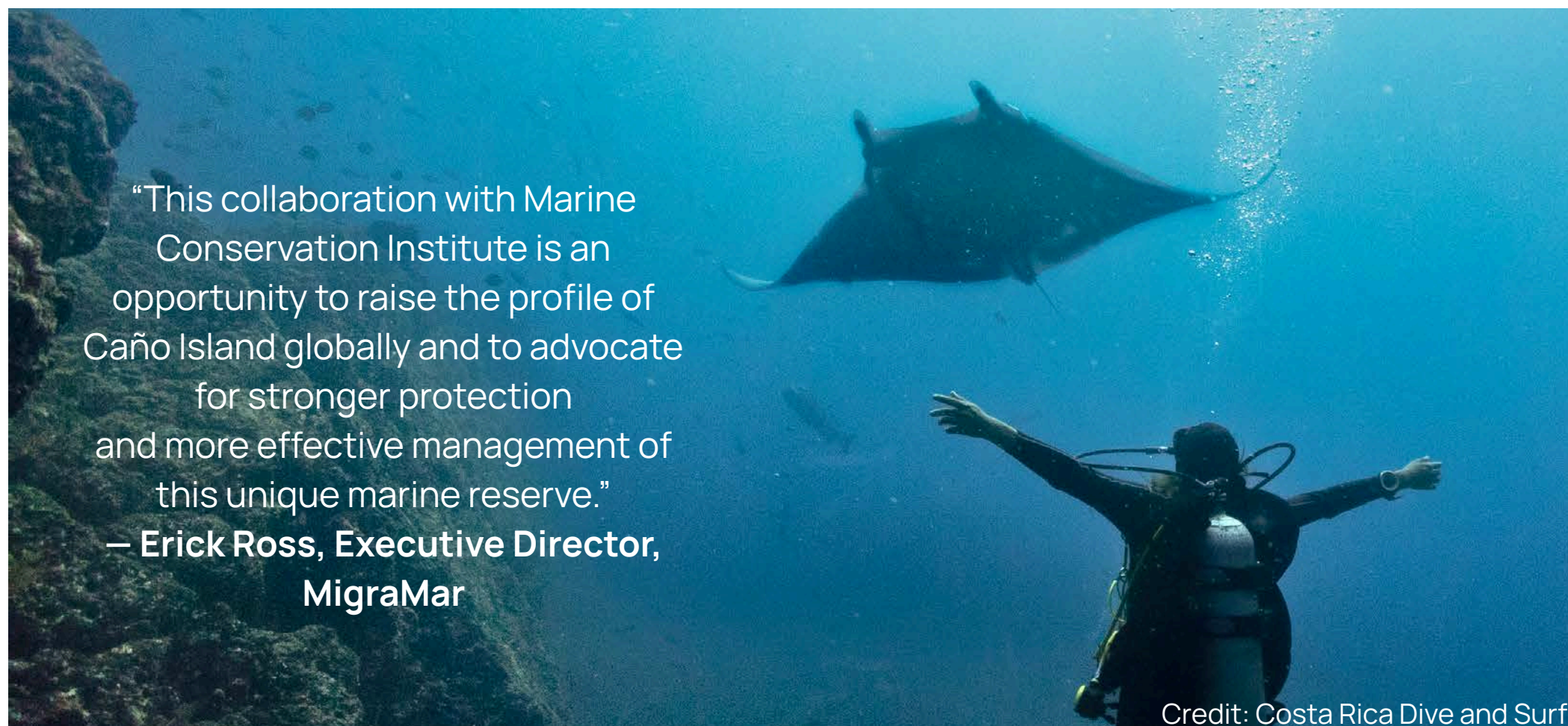
 **Palau National Marine Sanctuary** (Palau)



Celebrating a New Blue Spark Collaboration Caño Island Biological Reserve (Costa Rica)



This year, we developed a Blue Spark partnership with Caño Island Biological Reserve in Costa Rica. Designated in 1978, the reserve is located within Costa Rica's Osa Conservation Area in the Eastern Tropical Pacific. The Osa Conservation Area is famous for having some of the most diverse and best-developed coral reef ecosystems on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica, and Caño Island Biological Reserve is an exceptional example. Its coral reefs are some of the most resilient, extensive, and well-preserved in the world, and the reserve hosts an impressive diversity of reef fish. Due to its isolated location and status as a biological reserve, Caño Island Biological Reserve may serve as a coral refugia during temperature fluctuations such as El Niño events.



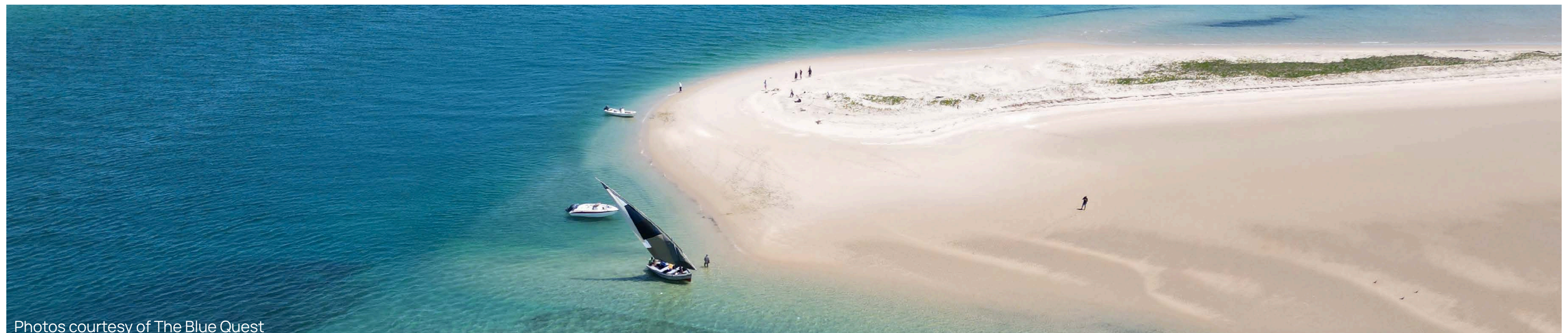
“This collaboration with Marine Conservation Institute is an opportunity to raise the profile of Caño Island globally and to advocate for stronger protection and more effective management of this unique marine reserve.”
— Erick Ross, Executive Director,
MigraMar



Caño Island Biological Reserve's management, research, and outreach activities are also enhanced by a variety of strategic partnerships. NGO partner and Blue Spark collaborator, **MigraMar**, primarily focuses on understanding and safeguarding marine migratory species. MigraMar has been an involved partner in conducting baseline research and advocating for sound management in Caño Island Biological Reserve.

Blue Spark Expedition: Inhambane Bay, Mozambique

In the fall of 2024, Marine Conservation Institute staff and board members had the immense privilege of visiting our partner **Ocean Revolution Moçambique** in Inhambane Bay. We met community members who are designing and supporting a network of protected areas within this incredibly biodiverse region. Supported by our sponsor **Sallaum Lines**, we brought the filmmakers behind **The Blue Quest** to tell the inspiring story of Ocean Revolution's conservation efforts. During the week, we met with fishers, community members, and local officials to hear their story in their own words. We also had the privilege of joining the Bitonga Divers for several days of scuba diving. We look forward to sharing our short documentary in the second half of 2025.



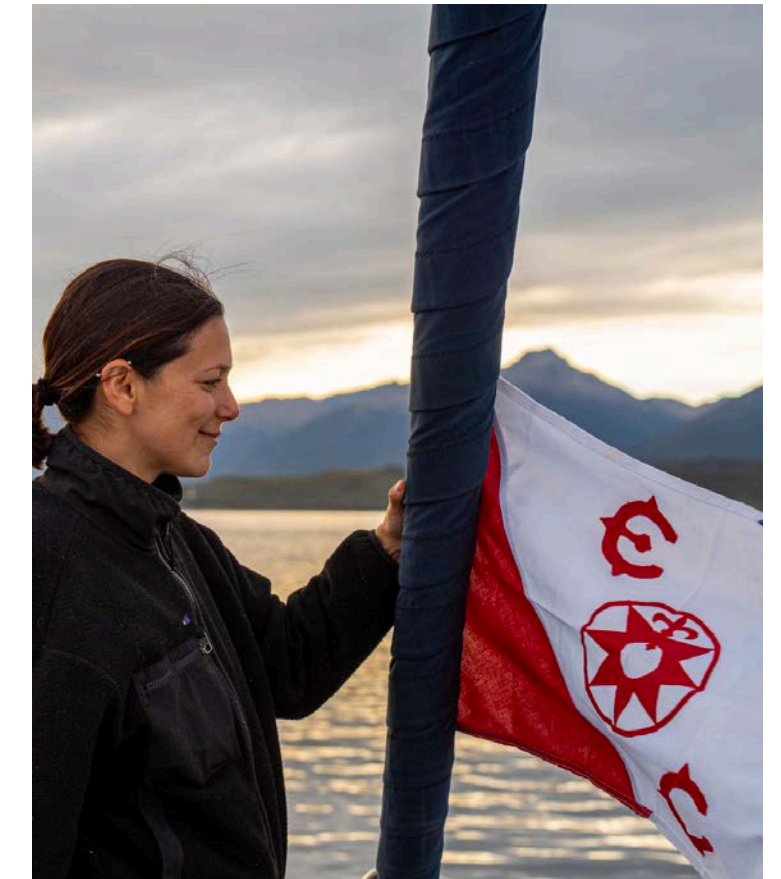
Photos courtesy of The Blue Quest

Showcasing Blue Parks and Sparks with our Blue Park Ambassadors



Clément Pourtal is a documentary producer who has been passionate about the sea since a young age having grown up next to the Mediterranean. Clément and his team at **The Blue Quest** partnered with us to produce the short film “**Palawan**” about MPAs in the Philippines, and will soon release a short film about the Inhambane Bay Community Conservation Areas Network in Mozambique.

Andi Cross is the co-founder of **Edges of Earth**, a women-led expedition team that ventures to remote corners of the world to share untold stories of ocean stewardship and community resilience. Andi and the Edges of Earth Team have traveled to four of our Blue Parks, most recently the Northern Channel Islands MPAs in California, where she dove with members of the Marine Conservation Institute team.



Clément and Mama Ranger
Clément filming “Palawan” with Angelique Songco “Mama Ranger”



Andi scuba diving in the Northern Channel Islands



MARINE PROTECTION ATLAS

MPAtlas.org

The Marine Protection Atlas (MPAtlas) is the leading resource for MPA information, providing detailed assessments of global marine protection quality. Using the science-based MPA Guide framework, the MPAtlas team and collaborators evaluate MPAs to determine their establishment stage and level of protection, key indicators linked to conservation outcomes. Our reporting focuses on fully and highly protected areas—those proven to achieve the greatest biodiversity benefits. With only five years remaining to achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework goal of protecting at least 30% of the ocean by 2030 (30x30), MPAtlas is vital for tracking meaningful global progress.

Key updates from this past year:

- MPAtlas now releases monthly updates, highlighting notable additions to the dataset.
- MPAtlas continues to track announcements and commitments towards 30x30, providing near real-time updates that accurately reflect the quantity and quality of current and promised protections.
- Global Fishing Watch integrated MPAtlas data into the Marine Manager portal, allowing users to visualize the quality of protections in tandem with fishing effort and other data layers that will support research, policy, and planning.
- The Marine Other Effective Conservation Measures (mOECM) Guide is in development and currently undergoing the review process.

2.9%

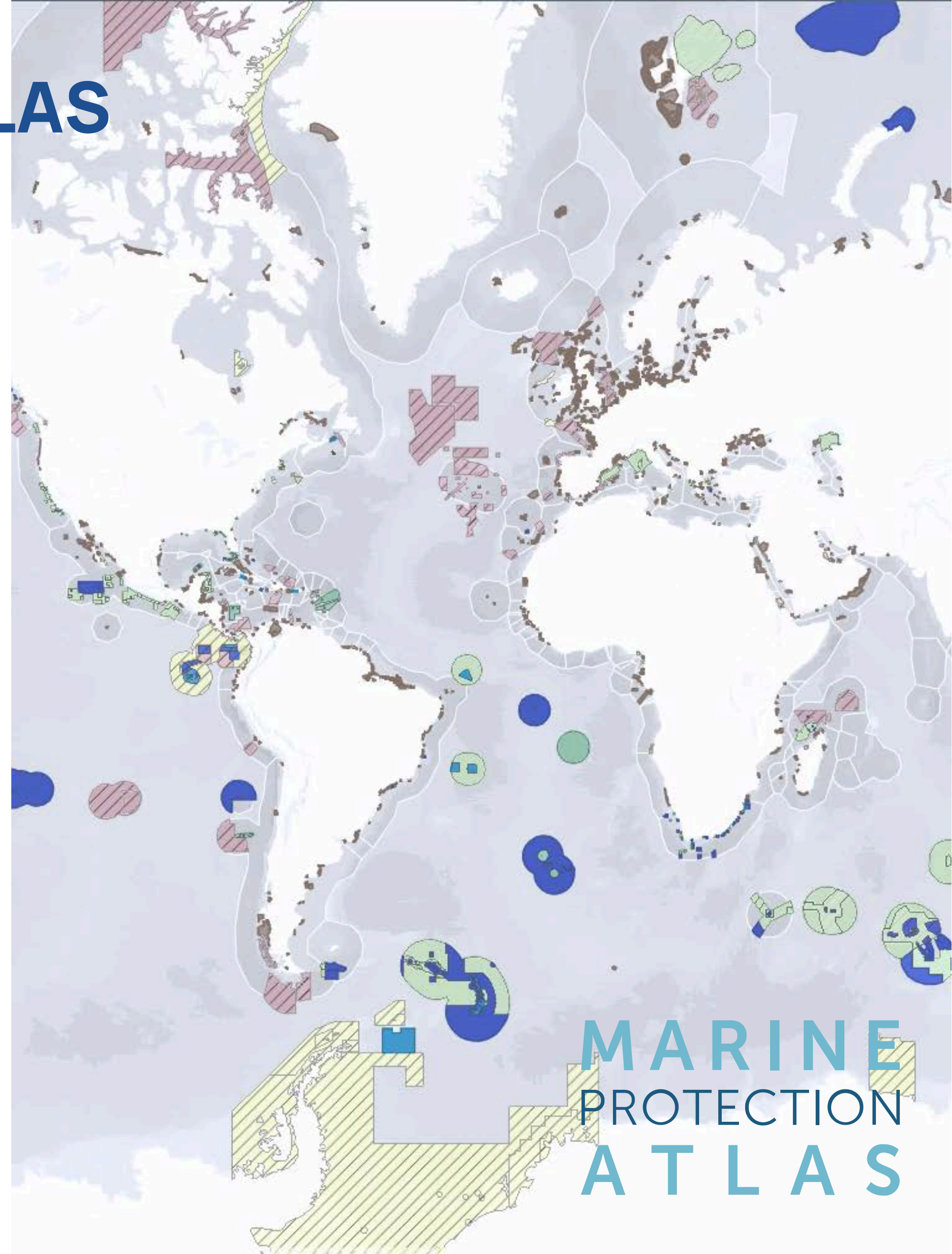
of the ocean
implemented in fully or
highly protected areas

1,100+

MPA Guide
Assessments
published

34,513,878 km²

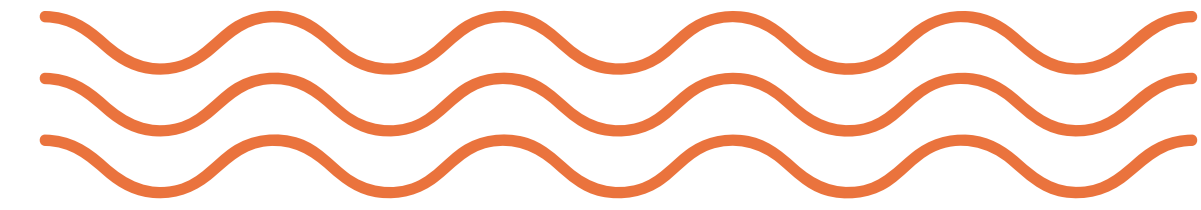
of the global ocean
footprint assessed



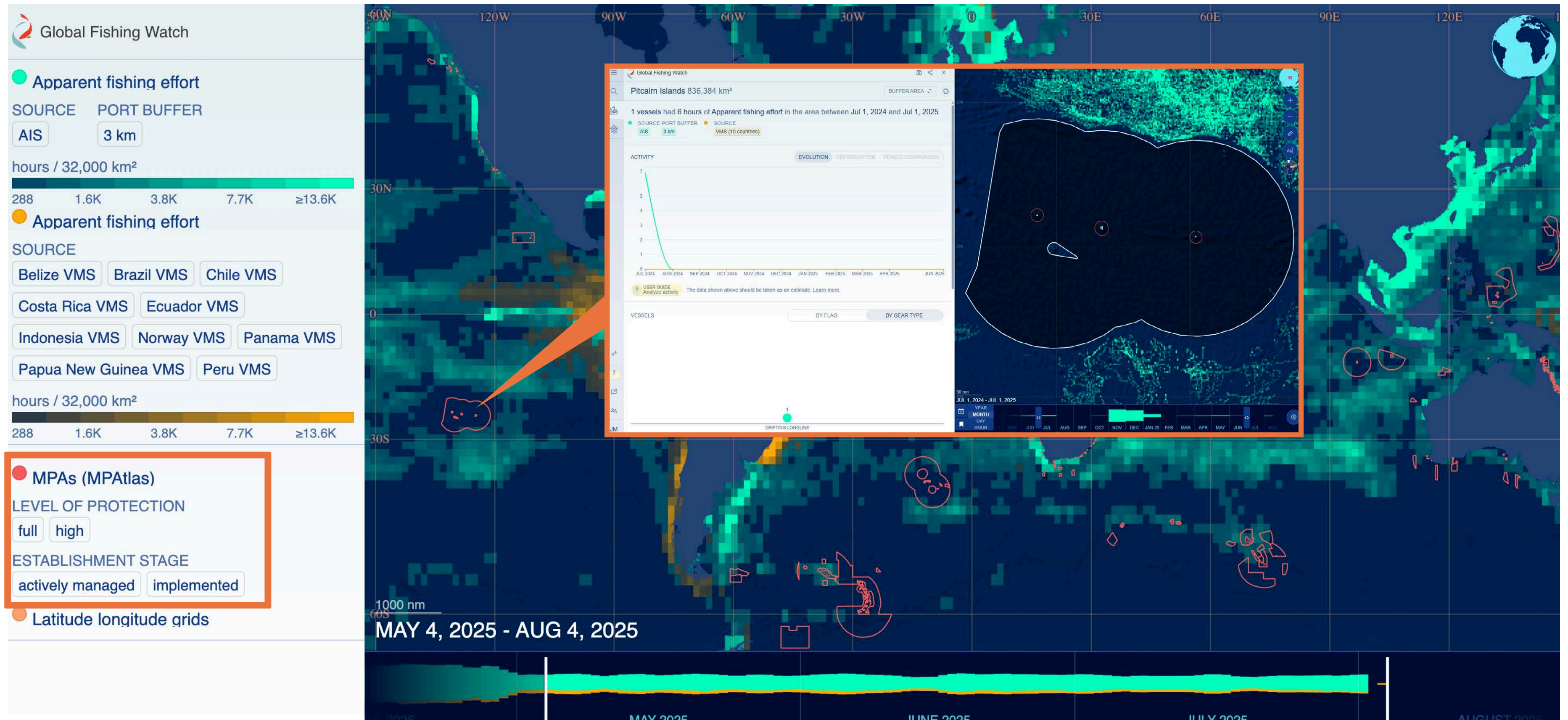
MARINE
PROTECTION
ATLAS

A New MPAtlas Data Integration

Global Fishing Watch Marine Manager



MPAtlas data is now integrated into Global Fishing Watch Marine Manager as a reference layer, showing fully and highly protected MPAs that are implemented and actively managed alongside fishing effort. By overlaying these evaluated MPAs with global fishing effort data, users can easily see where strong protections are in place amid ongoing fishing activity and evaluate in situ activities key to determining an MPA's level of protection and stage of establishment.



PROTECTING THE HIGH SEAS

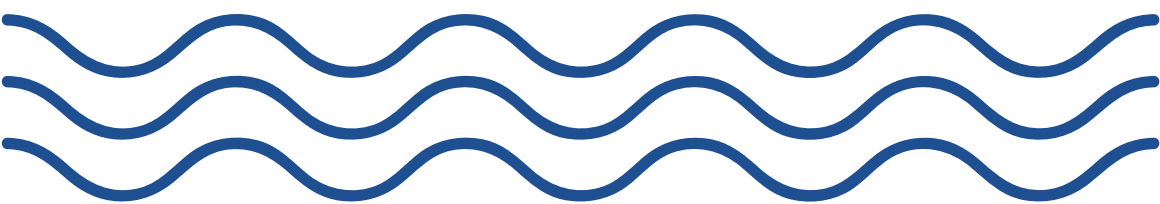
The high seas – the vast open ocean and deep seabed areas found beyond any country’s national jurisdiction – cover about half of the Earth’s surface and 64% of global ocean area. They hold great biodiversity but also remain the least-protected areas on our blue planet and represent a crucial piece of 30x30.

Marine Conservation Institute advocates for strong, effective protection of the High Seas as an active member of coalitions such as the High Seas Alliance, Coral Reefs of the High Seas Coalition, and Deep Sea Conservation Coalition.



To conserve areas beyond national jurisdictions, the United Nations adopted the historic High Seas Treaty (also referred to as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction or “BBNJ” Treaty) on June 19, 2023, after nearly 20 years of negotiations. We expect that BBNJ will be ratified by the required 60 countries in 2025, allowing these important international protections to take effect.

As of August 2025:



52

countries have
ratified

139

countries have
signed

Post Ratification: Advancing the first generation of High Seas MPAs

Once the treaty is in force, Marine Conservation Institute will join global efforts to ensure the first generation of high seas MPAs are fully and highly protected.

Coming Soon: We will be tracking progress for High Seas protections by updating and improving our **High Seas Protection Tracker**.



IUCN Motion 035: Protection of Mesopelagic Ecosystem Integrity



The Ocean Twilight Zone, or Mesopelagic Zone, extends from 200 to 1,000 meters below the ocean's surface. Though it makes up just 20% of the ocean's volume, it may contain up to 90% of all fish biomass, forming a vital link between surface waters and the deep sea. Marine Conservation Institute, in partnership with **The Ocean Conservancy** and the **Environmental Defense Fund**, submitted a motion to the International Union on the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 2025 World Conservation Congress (WCC). The motion calls for a precautionary pause on any expansion of fishing or other activities that may impact the mesopelagic zone until the conservation community has a better understanding of mesopelagic communities, rules are established to regulate fishing in this zone, and the effects of other activities such as deep sea mining are documented.

The motion is currently set to be voted on in person at WCC 2025 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Marine Conservation Institute staff will attend the conference to build support for the motion.

Motion Co-Sponsors:



CONFERENCES



United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3)
Nice, France



Our Ocean Conference (OOC10)
Busan, South Korea



Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of the Parties (COP)
Cali, Colombia

DSCC Seamount Strategy and Coral Reefs of the High Seas meetings
Santiago, Chile



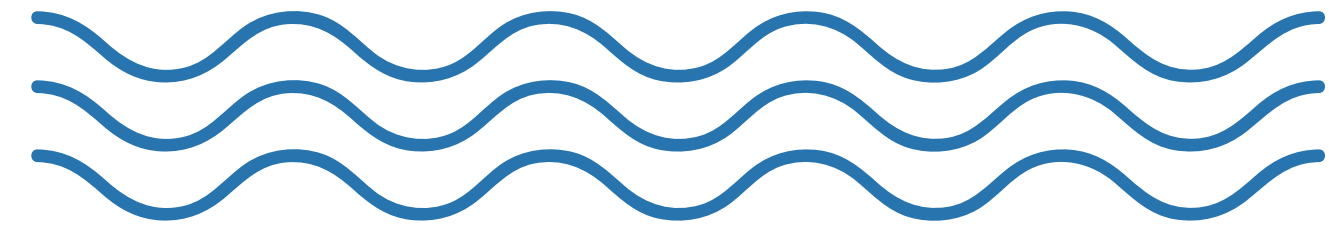
International Marine Conservation Congress (IMCC7)
Cape Town, South Africa

Third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3) Nice, France

Members of the Marine Conservation Institute team traveled to Nice, France, for UNOC3. During the conference, we presented the 2025 Blue Park Awards, celebrating four new Blue Parks, one Blue Spark, and enduring Blue Parks that continue to uphold the highest standards of marine conservation.

We were also active participants in the conference at large:

- Co-hosted events on protecting the ocean twilight zone highlighting our IUCN Motion.
- Participated in panel discussions on The MPA Guide and OECM Guide and the importance of community-led conservation efforts.
- Launched a scientist sign-on letter with the DSCC and IPSO to end bottom trawling on seamounts.
- Co-launched “The Ocean Protection Gap” report highlighting the current lack of financing needed to effectively protect 30% of the ocean by 2030.
- Supported our colleagues and partners at events that called for ratification and implementation of the High Seas Treaty, announced new MPA commitments, and elevated the voices and knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local communities.
- Attended the screening of “Ocean with David Attenborough”,



Winners of the 2025 Blue Park Awards with Dr. Lance Morgan



Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. Eric Gerardo E. Tamayo of the Philippine Embassy to France and Sulubaa'i Foundation Founder Frederic Tardieu accepting the Blue Park Award for Shark Fin Bay MPA Network in The Philippines



Dr. Sarah Hameed with Clément Pourtal and May Saludsod speaking at a panel on the importance of community-led conservation



Dr. Lance Morgan, speaking to IUCN Motion 035: Protection of Mesopelagic Ecosystem Integrity at a Blue Zone Side Event with Peter Thompson, Astrid Schomaker, and colleagues



David Jaeggi, co-founder of Make A Difference, speaks about empowering conservation programs across the Blue Parks network

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR RESEARCH

Assessments of expected MPA outcomes can inform and improve biodiversity conservation: Case studies using The MPA Guide

Sullivan Stack et al. (2024), *Marine Policy*. Co-authors include Jessica MacCarthy, Lance Morgan and Elizabeth Pike

This paper looked at MPAs across 13 studies that used The MPA Guide and related tools to track stage of establishment and level of protection as measures of expected biodiversity conservation outcomes across diverse locations, scales, and cultural, political, and conservation contexts.

Tracking bottom-fishing activities in protected vulnerable marine ecosystem areas and below 800-m depth in European Union waters

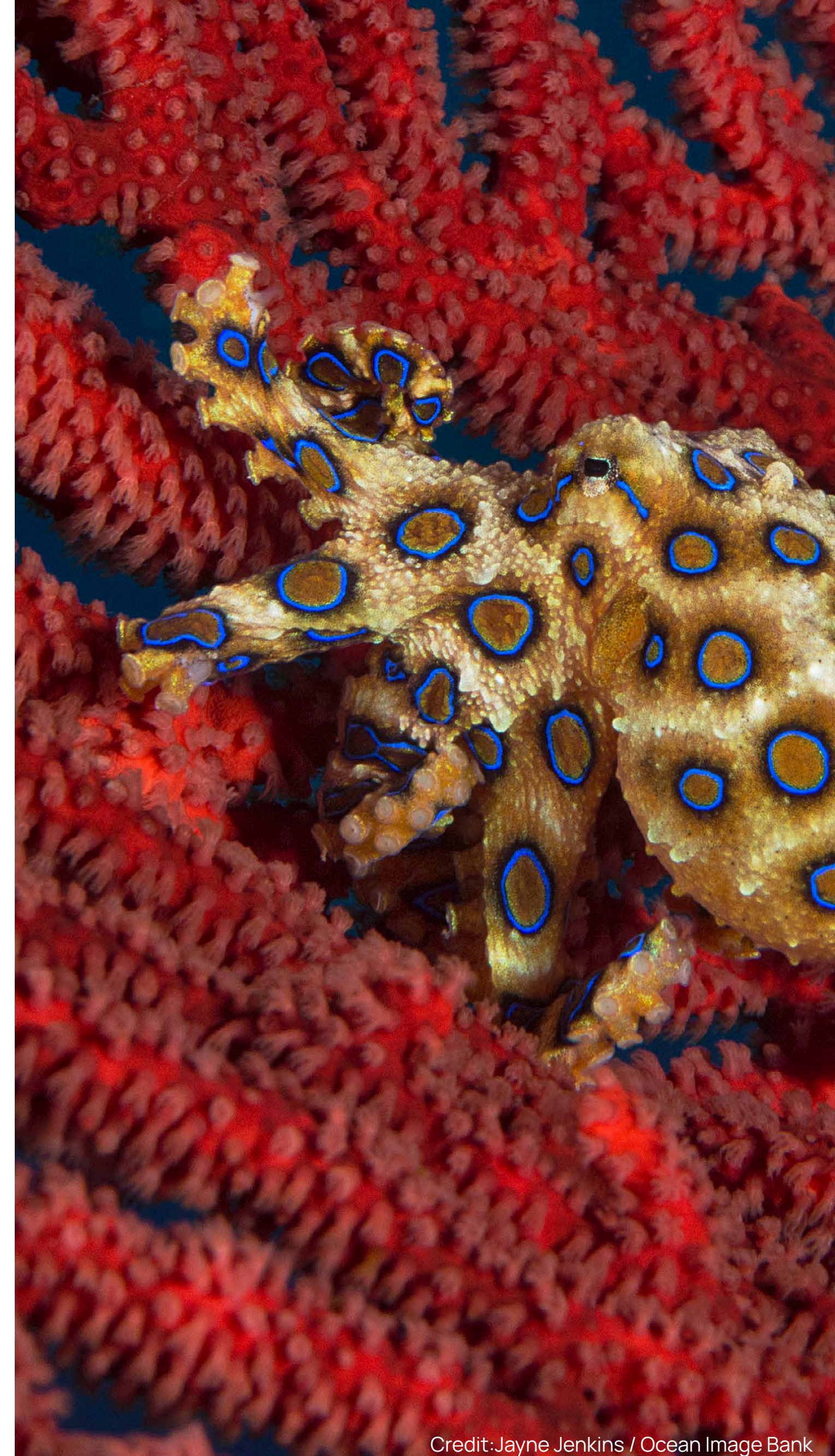
Victorero et al. (2025), *Science Advances*. Co-authors include Russell Moffitt

This paper used public AIS data to assess the impact of new bottom-fishing closures in European waters. The authors found an 81% reduction in bottom-contact fishing effort within protected areas, but significant fishing continued both inside and outside these closures. This analysis highlights the need for improved surveillance and enforcement to effectively protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs).

Research advances and conservation needs for the protection of the Salas y Gómez and Nazca ridges: A natural and cultural heritage hotspot in the southeastern Pacific Ocean

Gaymer et al. (2025), *Marine Policy*. Co-authors include Lance Morgan

This study reviewed geological, oceanographical, biological, ecological, cultural, and governance information on the Salas y Gómez and Nazca ridges in the southeast Pacific on the High Seas, described current and future threats, reviewed conservation measures, and analyzed what remains to be done to achieve their effective protection.





On Track or Off Course? Assessing Progress Toward the 30x30 Target for the Ocean

Metabolic (2024). Produced in partnership with Marine Conservation Institute

This report, launched at the 16th Conference of Parties under the Convention for Biological Diversity, finds that the world is failing to meet the goal of protecting 30% of the ocean by 2030. Given that less than 3% of the ocean is fully or highly protected (MPAtlas), the report urges governments to rapidly increase both the quantity and quality of marine protected areas, ensure real enforcement, and include Indigenous and local communities in conservation efforts. It also highlights the urgent need for greater financial support, especially from wealthier nations to developing countries, and improved data transparency.

Marine protected areas stage of establishment and level of protection are good predictors of their conservation outcomes

Horta e Costa. (2025) Co-authors include Nikki Harasta, Jessica MacCarthy, Lance Morgan and Elizabeth Pike

This paper used the MPA Guide framework to show that an MPA's Level of Protection and Stage of Establishment are good indicators of its ecological outcome and that actively managed MPAs that are fully and highly protected provide significantly higher conservation benefits than unprotected areas. .

The Ocean Protection Gap: Assessing Progress toward the 30×30 Target

Systemiq (2025). Produced in partnership with Marine Conservation Institute

This report, launched on World Oceans Day at UNOC, warns of a \$14.6 billion annual shortfall in ocean protection funding and highlights the urgent need for increased investment and effective action. Marine Conservation Institute contributed significantly to the report, providing data on the status of fully and highly protected MPAs.

CREW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard to our Newest Staff!



Ruth Lin
Finance and
Operations Manager



Eleanor "Elle" Bent
Program Assistant



Connor Fasel
Communications and
PR Manager

Board of Directors

Nathalie Udo, Chair
Cariad Shepherd, Vice Chair
Jeff Smith, Treasurer
Yonel Grant, Secretary
Elliott Norse, Founder
Simon Coles
Samuel Dakin
Eric Liddle
Steve Olson
Nandita Parker
Michelle Scobie
Everett Seymour
Justin Xavier
David Johns, Emeritus
Sylvia Earle, Emeritus
Jim Greenwood, Emeritus

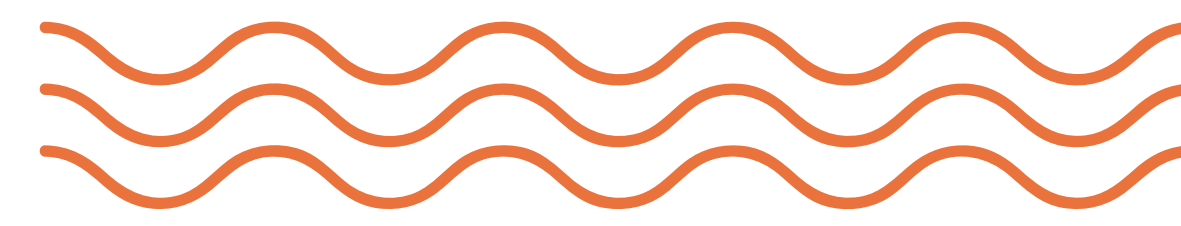
Staff and Contractors

Lance Morgan, President
Sarah Hameed, Blue Parks Director
Angela Nardo-Morgan, Development Director
Elizabeth Pike, MPA Atlas Director
Russell Moffitt, Strategic Partnerships Director
Jessica MacCarthy, Conservation Analyst
Nikki Harasta, MPA Researcher (Contractor)



Staff Retreat 2025 - Monterey, CA

Our staff convened in Monterey, California, for our 2025 retreat, where we re-dedicated ourselves to our mission for the coming years. We strengthened team bonds and got to know our new team members while visiting the beautiful California coast, enjoying beach bonfires, exploring the wonders of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and kayaking through Elkhorn Slough amid playful sea otters and baby harbor seals.



The Next Generation of Ocean Advocates

Every year, Marine Conservation Institute is privileged to work with incredible interns and fellows. These bright young minds work closely with our team on a wide range of projects: Blue Park Awards, communication campaigns, and deep dives into the details of effective MPAs give these students valuable hands-on experience. We are inspired by their hard work and look forward to seeing where their journeys take them.

Blue Parks

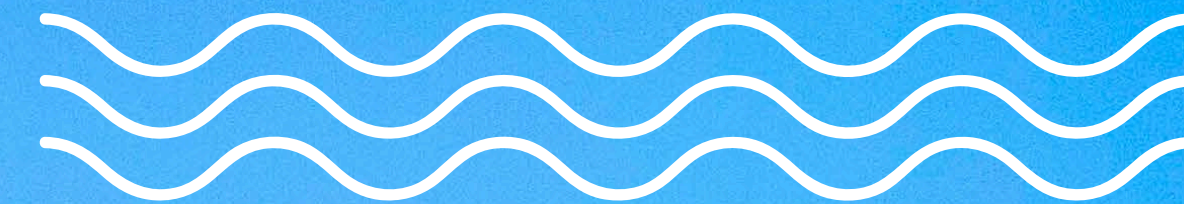
Kayla Andra
Leticia de Bonilla
Lauren Gode
Xiaoshu Lin
Collin Oliver
Ciara Olmstead
Maggie Stoffer

MPAtlas

Nora Baynes
Layla Elfiky
Tina Wang Ellingsen
Elizabeth Kroger
Bea San Juan
Tara Santos

Development & Communications

Alex Barnard
Maria Lopez Bringuier
Emma Denes
Brennan Martinez
Isabel Schimpp



Donors and Supporters

Calendar year ending December 31, 2024

Our work would not be possible without the generosity of the foundations, corporate sponsors, and individual donors that support us. We are incredibly grateful for this community of ocean heroes!

\$50,000+

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Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
Arcadia Foundation
Bloomberg Ocean Fund
Blue Nature Alliance
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Oceans 5
Winslow Foundation

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\$5,000+

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Nathalie Udo & Thomas Watt
Wendy's Wish Giving Fund

\$2,000+

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Blue Marine Foundation
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Gant Family Foundation
Patrick V. Kinlan
Donald Ross & Susan Kirchoff
Lance & Angela Morgan
Jill & Thomas McCleary
Pharaoh C. Thompson Foundation
Meghan Wilm

\$1,000+

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Rachel Brune
Bess Celio
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Cariad Shepherd Louis
Jeff & Tami Smith
Eileen Roberta Smith
Eric Strand
Falk Tischendorf
Andrew Thompson
Winky Foundation

\$500+

Anonymous
Wendy Benchley
Bluhm Family
Larry Crowder
Frank Chow & Michele Jehenson



Friends and supporters aboard the Matthew Turner Tall Ship (October, 2024)

Lucy Christensen & Patrick Talbott
Beez Evans
Larry Fritzlan & Avis Rumney
Givinga Foundation
Michael Gravitz
Kohya Kato
Isaac Khan
Murray & Jeanie Kilgour
Kelsey Kobayashi
Bernie & Katherine Krause - Wild Sanctuary
Steve Olson
Gene Park
Hannah Price
Elle Sayre
Jonas Ruiz & Frances Tomacruz
Frieda, Sonya & Wendy Walter-Herr
Maurice Warner
Kurt Vancil
Justin Xavier
Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

\$250+

Vicki Athans
Mary Cantini & Rick Norkin
Nancy Dadigan
Florence "Missy" Danneberg
Joy Dryden

Kristina Gjerde
Stacy Goodchild
Hameed Family
Jessica Hildebrandt
Carl Hoffman & Betsy Naumburg
Ronald Jenkins & Roberta Hunter
Andrea Julson
Elizabeth Krell
John Kuhns
Karen Kustsel & Michael McGrath
David LaFountain
Wendy Martling
James McKowen
Joyce Mok
Steve Morris & Ofelia Ochoa-Morris
Rizwan Mujeebuddin
Nancy Putnam
Lydia Schindler
Emma Smith
Allison Stamp
Imma Trillo
Jay Wallace & Myra Chow
Darlene Zandanel

\$100+

Vasundhra Agarwal
Ana Ali
Julie Alonso
Clifford Alper
Donald Ball
Heather Baron
Barbara Bazett
Natasha Bergson-Michelson
Charley & Jeanne Biggs
Rowan Biggs
Kate E. Black
Doug & Kristen Bond
Elizabeth Campbell

Tracie Caramellino
James Carlton
Jonathan Chalaturnyk
William Chandler
Linda and Haley Cohn
Ross Crow
Steve Cummins
Nancy Curry
Dorinda G. Dallmeyer
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Meryl Greenblatt & Robert Nirkind
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Karin Gwin
Bernd Haber
Evan Hirsche
H. Hoffman
Amanda Holloway
Marissa Holloway
Heidi Howell
Minh Duc Huynh Ba
Cheryl Higgins
Jack Hynes
Sarah Kianfar
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Tara Mocco
Joyce Mok
Svend Møller
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Sarah Pitts
Jamie Pridmore
Margaret Rombach-Riggs
Michael Rosen
Minia Roth
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Kristin Sciulli
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Rick Wade
David Weckler
Timo Weber
Johanna Weker
Jay Wallace & Myra Chow

Beth Walters
Janis & Warren Watkins
Linda Ward
Valerie Willis
Joshua Woods
Timothy Wood
Diane Wrona
Audrey Yee
Darlene Zandanel
Charlie Zhong

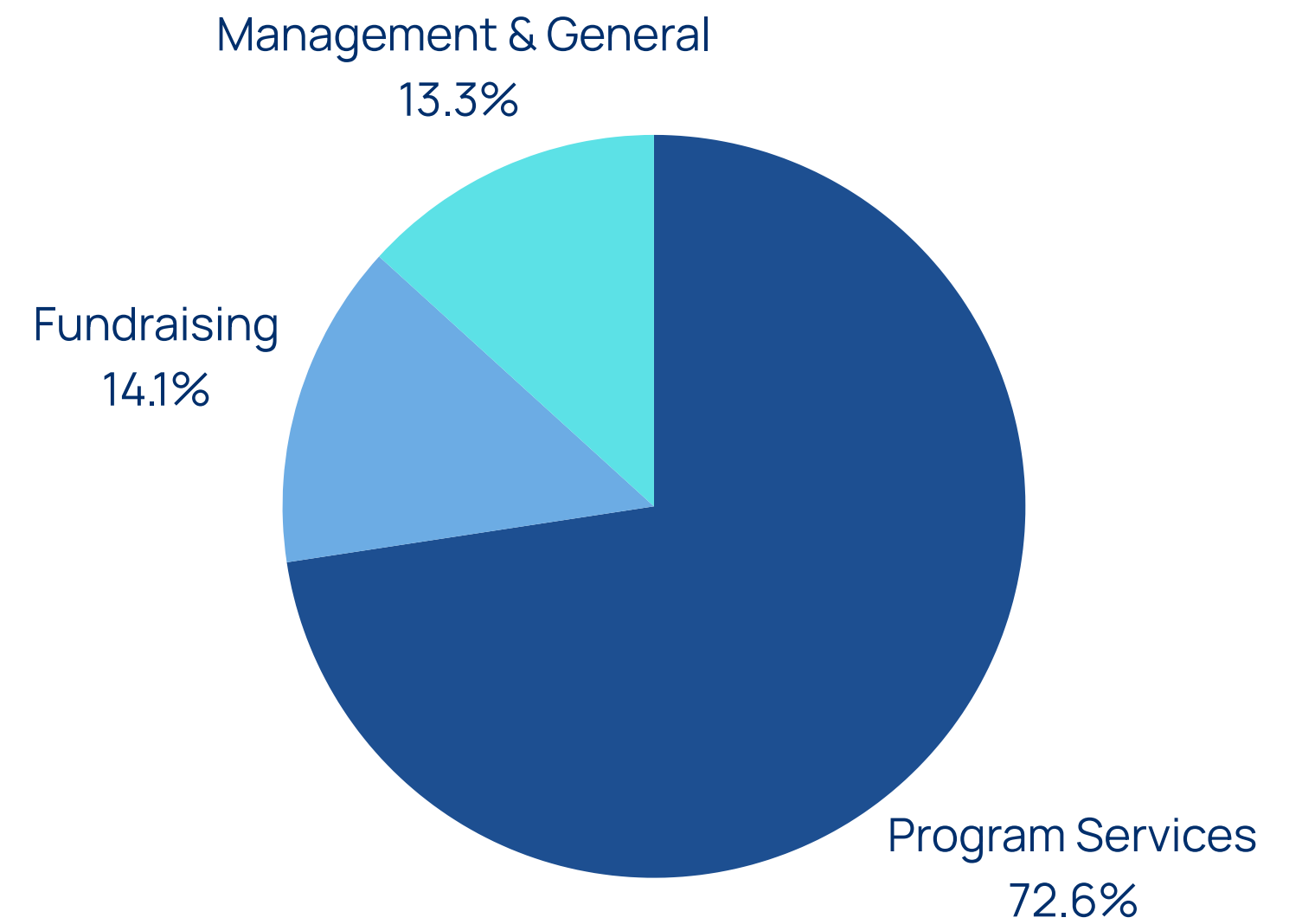
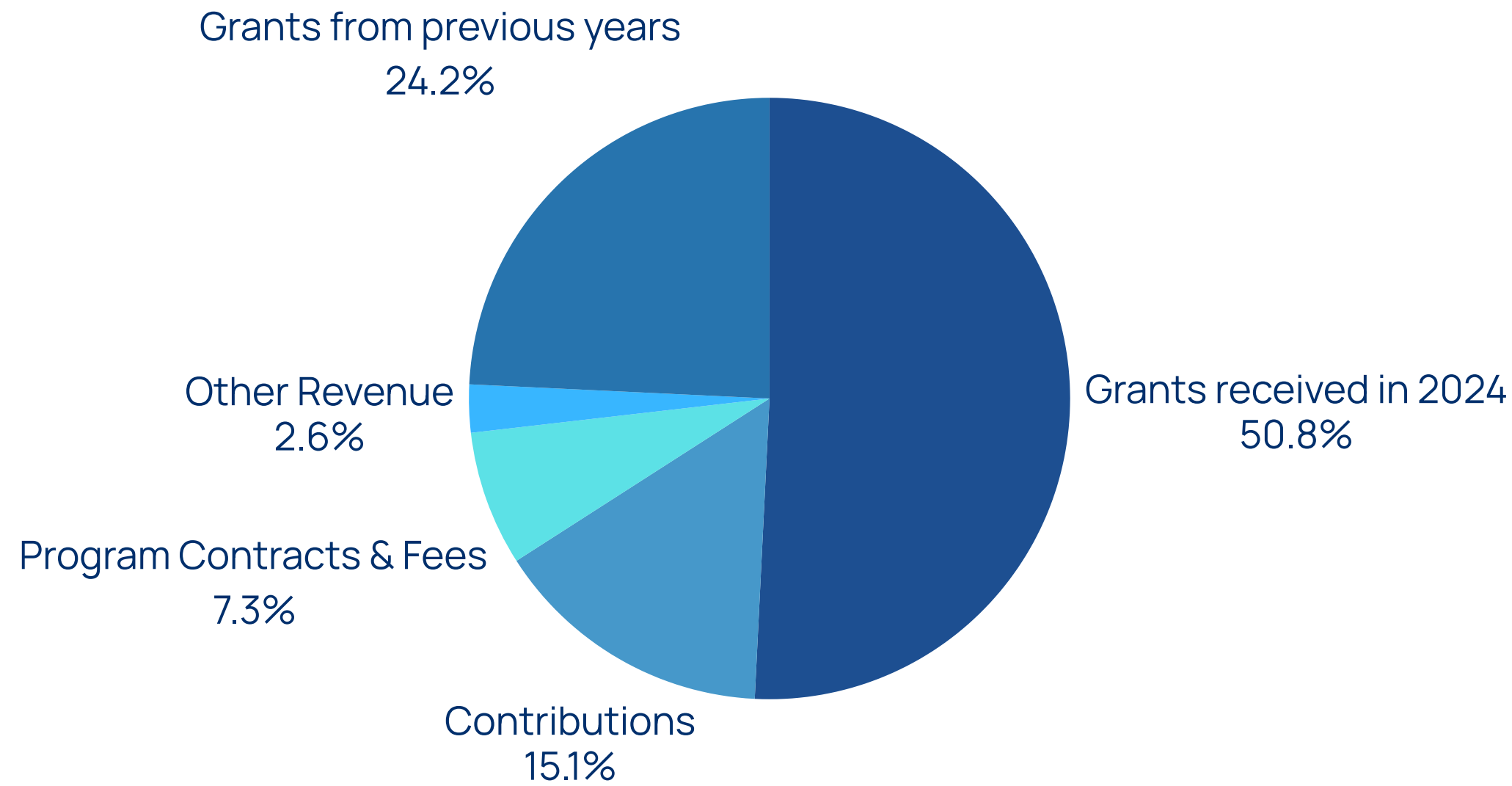
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Google
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JP Morgan Chase Foundation
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Pittsburgh School of Massage Therapy
Safari West Wildlife Preserve
San Diego Environmental Film Festival
Sallaum Lines
Sand Cloud
Something Smol
TravelPerks Dream Vacations
USAA
VISA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Calendar Year ending December 31, 2024

Credit: Lewis Burnett / Ocean Image Bank



Revenue

Grants received in 2024	\$949,000
Grants from previous years	\$453,132
Contributions	\$282,966
Program Contracts & Fees	\$135,537
Other Revenues	\$48,080

Total Support & Revenue **\$1,868,715**

Expenses

Program Services	\$1,098,594
Fundraising	\$214,107
Management & General	\$200,663

Total Expenses **\$1,513,364**

FROM OUR BOARD

Charting Course, Setting Sail

Dear Ocean Friends,

I write this note filled with both urgency and hope: Urgency because our ocean faces monumental challenges and climate change and biodiversity loss are real and imminent threats. Hope because there is real and growing global consensus that protecting our ocean is vital to our future.

At the UN Ocean Conference in June, I saw firsthand the profound effects of your support when we presented our Blue Park Awards. The dedication of the local people who manage and protect these parks, often working with limited resources, has created meaningful protection for some of the most extraordinary places on our blue planet. Behind each of these grateful recipients was a group of supporters like you who have chosen to be guardians of our ocean's treasures.

Witnessing the pride and gratitude of the Blue Park recipients was the capstone of a transformative year for ocean conservation. We recognized four new Blue Parks and one new Blue Spark, providing vital support and empowering communities to safeguard more than 3.5 million square kilometers of key marine ecosystems. Our Marine Protection Atlas continues tracking progress toward the 30x30 goal, providing transparency and accountability. Marine Conservation Institute is now at the forefront of a global movement for science-based marine conservation, proving daily that recognition, accountability, and community can make a difference.



Your unwavering support made this possible.

We are confident that this combination—rigorous science and putting local communities at the center of the conservation effort—is what creates lasting protection. The need is urgent and enormous, but the vast network of ocean guardians that supports our work has renewed our hope again and again. With your help, we know we will succeed.

Thank you for sailing alongside us on this vital mission, and for sharing our commitment to the health of our ocean and to the people who make conservation possible.

With deep gratitude and determination,

Nathalie Udo

Chair, Board of Directors

P.S. We are proud of this year's accomplishments and of the global momentum we witnessed at UNOC, but the work ahead demands continued partnership. A tax-deductible gift of \$1,000 will make you an Ocean Guardian. Any amount you can contribute directly supports the local communities and scientific work that make lasting ocean protection possible.





Marine
Conservation
Institute

After living for nearly 100 years on this planet, I now understand that the most important place on Earth is not on land, but at sea."

– Sir David Attenborough

