

Marine Spatial Planning *Principles*

Noo Raajje Working Group Meeting

May 11, 2021



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Agenda

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- 10:05 – 10:10 am WELCOME & REVIEW MEETING MINUTES RECAP
- 10:10 – 10:15 am RECAP OF PRINCIPLES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR BREAKOUT
- 10:15 – 10:45 am BREAKOUT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR NOORAAJJE
- 10:45 – 11:00 am REPORT BACK ON PRINCIPLES
- 11:00 – 11:05 am WRAP UP & NEXT MEETING TIME

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Why we need Principles, Goals, & Objectives

Principles

- Establish a framework for how we want the MSP process to operate
- Ensure that all parties have a clear idea of what will guide the process

Goals and objectives

- Provide specific information on desired outcomes that help to build design criteria, determine the spatial data needs, and develop a map of priority areas for conservation that is the foundation for the remainder of the MSP process
- Provide a means of evaluating the merits of a plan

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Defining Principles

A **principle** is a basic or essential quality or element determining the intrinsic nature or characteristic behavior of the marine spatial plan (MSP).

- Principles should reflect the ultimate results we want to achieve with the MSP.
- Principles do not stand by themselves, but should be reflected throughout the MSP process and, in particular, in the goals and objectives we identify later.

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Example Principles

Ecosystem Integrity Principle	Primary focus on maintaining ecosystem structure and functioning within a MSP area. Recognizes that ecosystems are dynamic, changing and sometimes poorly understood (therefore requiring precautionary decision-making).
Integration Principle	Working in sectoral and institutional compartments are usually efficient to manage, but it creates significant costs of non-coordination that should be identified and addressed. MSP can play a critical role in facilitating coherence and integration among levels of government to help create complementary and mutually reinforcing decisions and actions.
Public Trust Principle	Marine resources, including marine space, belong to the people and are held in trust by the government for its people and future generations. Marine space should be managed as a “commons”, i.e., as part of the public domain, not owned exclusively or to be benefited by any one group or private interest.
Transparency Principle	Processes used to make decisions should be easily understood by the public, allow citizens to see how decisions are made, how resources have been allocated, and how decisions have been reached that affect their lives.
Precautionary Principle	Decision could cause severe or irreversible harm to society or the environment, in the absence of a scientific consensus that harm would not ensue, the burden of proof falls on those who advocate taking the action.
Polluter-pays Principle	The costs of pollution or damage to the environment should be paid by the responsible party.