

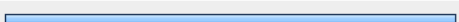
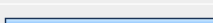






A View from the Field: Participant Survey




Prior to the workshop, a survey was conducted to gain the perspectives of workshop participants regarding marine conservation agreements (MCAs). The graphs below summarize the survey results. Most significant in the findings is that while most participants have only occasionally worked on projects that involved marine conservation agreements (Question #2), the overwhelming majority believed there are opportunities to broadly apply (Question #8) new or additional MCAs where they work or elsewhere (Question #5).

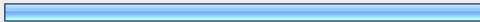


2. How often have you worked on projects that involved Private Marine Conservation Agreements (PMCAs)?			Response Percent	Response Count
Always			3.1%	1
Frequently			9.4%	3
Occasionally			59.4%	19
Never			28.1%	9
<i>answered question</i>				32
<i>skipped question</i>				0

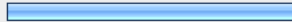
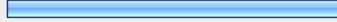

3. In areas you've worked, are all lands and resources lying with ocean and coastal waters publicly owned and managed?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			25.0%	8
Only in limited circumstances			21.9%	7
No			46.9%	15
Not sure			6.3%	2
<i>answered question</i>				32
<i>skipped question</i>				0

4. In areas you've worked, can private entities acquire ownership or rights to lands and resources lying within ocean or coastal waters?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			37.5%	12
Only in limited circumstances			40.6%	13
No			12.5%	4
Not sure			9.4%	3
<i>answered question</i>				32
<i>skipped question</i>				0

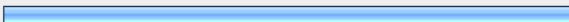
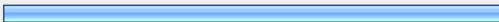
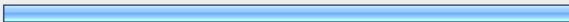

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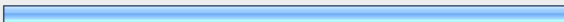
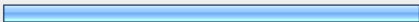



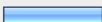
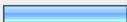

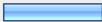
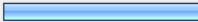

5. Are there opportunities to use new or additional PMCA strategies in areas where you currently work or otherwise?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			71.0%	22
Only in limited circumstances			22.6%	7
No			0.0%	0
Not sure			6.5%	2
			<i>answered question</i>	31
			<i>skipped question</i>	1

6. Based on your experiences, do you think conservation organizations should pay to enter into PMCA's (such as through direct payments, in-kind payments, quid pro quo, lease payments, etc.)?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			62.5%	20
Only in limited circumstances			28.1%	9
No			0.0%	0
Not sure			9.4%	3
			<i>answered question</i>	32
			<i>skipped question</i>	0

7. Based on your experiences, do you think PMCA's set a bad precedent?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			0.0%	0
Sometimes			37.5%	12
No			43.8%	14
Not sure			18.8%	6
			<i>answered question</i>	32
			<i>skipped question</i>	0

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8. Based on your experiences, PMCAs should only be undertaken in areas that are (check all that apply):			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Threatened by immediate degradation		75.0%	24
Already degraded and in need of restoration		65.6%	21
Not degraded and not immediately threatened by degradation		75.0%	24
Not sure		15.6%	5
PMCAs should never be undertaken		0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>			32
<i>skipped question</i>			0

9. Based on your experiences, what are the key issues affecting the success of PMCAs (check all that apply)?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Difficulty monitoring and enforcing terms		74.2%	23
Inequitable distribution of benefits		54.8%	17
Insufficient funding		45.2%	14
Lack of community or political support		54.8%	17
No legal basis or legal basis not clear		58.1%	18
Rarity of opportunity		12.9%	4
Too expensive		16.1%	5
Too isolated		12.9%	4
Too small		12.9%	4
Short-term (impermanent) nature		25.8%	8
Other		12.9%	4
<i>answered question</i>			31
<i>skipped question</i>			1

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Comment Text

1. The State of Texas claims ownership to any land below mean high tide, even if held by private owner under a deed. This means we are required to get a lease from the State for nearly all our restoration work on the coast.
2. I don't have specific PMCA experience but I have worked in a commercial model in mariculture that is similar. The major issue I see is the ongoing and permanent maintenance of key relationships. Without the continual engagement of traditional stakeholders, disenfranchisement with the core aims is almost inevitable. This goes beyond "income" issues. Relationship building at the grass roots is essential to success in these types of projects
3. I have been involved in projects that were de facto conservation agreements in that employment was offered to community members in exchange for threatened species protection. Such agreement may not have been formal or labeled conservation agreements but were nevertheless successful in ensuring protection and also generated economic benefits for participating communities.
4. Have worked extensively with PMCA's throughout the U.S. and found that obstacles are primarily based on long-held perceptions and historical practices as opposed to legal and financial barriers.
5. In one project we are supporting, a Marine Conservation Agreement (conservation Contract) will be developed. The negotiation phase has been positive and made easier by the fact that the Government is the only stakeholder (the islands are remote and no communities live there). PMCA's are generally far more difficult to negotiate and uphold when local communities are the primary stakeholders.
6. None
7. I have only had indirect experience of PMCA's, and in general they have tended to cause splits within communities due to disputes over ownership of the areas in question, usually prompted by the perception of financial gain. One recent example is the Helen Reef CA in Palau. A key concern is where communities have been encouraged to establish and manage their own MPA(s) with limited (or very focused) financial inputs to ensure long term sustainability. Considerable care and social/cultural sensitivity are required when then introducing the idea of PMCA's, as they seem to be more short to medium term initiatives.
8. Not yet, NAZCA is on the feasibility analysis phase.
9. In my experience, PMCA's tend to align well with the needs of the immediate stakeholders (local peoples and parties interested in protecting the areas). They move quickly and rely less on what can be painfully long and politically driven processes.
10. - Collective decision making within the community on priorities to be paid under CAs (Good) - Variety of individual needs within community should be carefully addressed (bad) - Good potential for local (community based) institutional building exercise with targeted capacity building to enhance accountability, transparency and credibility to enter and commit to the agreement. (good)
11. The terms and names are often different, but my experiences have been with groundfish permit purchases off the US west coast, various mitigation banking arrangements nationwide (probably not a PMCA but there are some similarities), and recent talk in habitat restoration and protection circles to use easements as a complement to regulatory processes.
12. my experiences have been "borderline PMCA's" where communities generally allow access for snorkeling in protected areas or planting live rock, with proper discussion beforehand this can add income
13. A lot of them with Chumbe. Internet connection too weak for lengthy answers. Please refer to presentations of Chumbe Island Coral Park Ltd at World Parks Congress Durban 2003 available online, can also forward on request.
14. A positive experience is resorts and communities make agreements to establish MPAs and also have an agreement of how they will finance management and resorts pay to access the MPAs for tourism scuba diving.
15. I read about but didn't take part in the Kenya Sea Turtle nest protection and turtle release program. It seemed to have all the characteristics (positive and negative) mentioned above: public use of the sea but with traditional fishing rights, some inequity occurring from allocating permits, difficulty monitoring (fishermen could purposely catch turtles to gain the reward from their tag and release), and ultimately insufficient funding. However the community support seemed good and the whole project looked well-structured from an economic incentive point of view. I was impressed with the project because of the independent, small-scale nature of the program (although this was related to eventual absence of funding).
16. I will be making a presentation on a PMCA in Kiribati with the Phoenix Islands. I have also explored the use of a lease under Maine law to establish a research site for conservation.
17. I believe that while some experience problems, the concept is generally sound, implementation and lack of real preparation cause most of the problems.

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Comment Text
1. My concern with PMCA's concepts I have seen is a lack of resources into management personnel. There always appears to be money to secure areas and to purchase equipment but operational budgets do not seem adequate to the needs of ensuring long term success.
2. Phoenix Islands Protected Area in Kiribati is the first effort to bring PMCA's to scale and as such has the potential of taking PMCA's from the margin to become a central approach for successful marine conservation.
3. Strategy is grossly under-recognized and under-utilized.
4. I am particularly curious about the legal basis, public trust question. There is a lot of discussion about marine zoning. It seems to me that PMCA's might be part of that.
5. Sorry - not an area in which I have great knowledge. Wanting to learn
6. The above responses are based on indirect experiences with PMCA's, so may not fully reflect the actual circumstances. I'm keen to find out more details on the various options and approaches available. While they are an option, it seems that there could be just as many challenges as opportunities with their application.
7. Given the critical state of most of the planet's marine environments, we must move quickly to protect what is left. By the time governments determine a place is worth protecting, most of the valuable marine resources have already been exhausted. Only when the economic value of continued exploitation is diminished to a point that extractive industries no longer profit, do most governments have the will to impose protective measures. There is far more immediate money in exploitation of resources than conservation of them. The economic equation must be shifted immediately to provide a balance to this issue. When there are immediate gains to conserving resources, the will exists to do it. Private and NGO groups can move quickly to provide such funds and address the economic imbalance. If action is not taken quickly, most scientists agree our marine environments will collapse. In this case, it no longer matters whether a public or PMCA is determined to be more desirable....there is nothing left to "manage". We must shore up vulnerable and important marine areas now.
8. I am concerned about design that: (1) does not transfer property rights without compensation to the public as owners of the common area; (2) does not create a monopoly; and (3) includes stewardship obligations (not just assumptions).
9. Intensive Community organizing is a prerequisite to start with PMCA's to ensure deep understanding on the purpose of the agreement, build or strengthen local institutions to be able to implement the agreement, including effective monitoring and enforcement systems and facilitate variety of needs within the communities.
10. Traditional habitat conservation efforts, including protection and restoration, will probably never reduce environmental concerns to the point of insignificance. Hence, other tools are needed. PMCA's deserve closer consideration. I'm also intrigued by the economic facets of using PMCA's and other such tools since oftentimes economic value or importance (as related to ecological services) is not given appropriate consideration in environmental decisions.
11. Not enough answer options for question 8. Why should PMCA be undertaken 'only' in certain circumstances? I have a much more positive opinion of them: they should be considered an option in ALL circumstances, why not?
12. I think the competition to access the resources in the critical biodiversity areas that needs protection will require PMCA's
13. #9 - as I do not have direct experience with PMCA's (but a lot of experience with land conservation projects), I am only guessing.
14. We have been working with conservation agreements in 18 countries around the world but mainly on terrestrial settings. We are starting to work in marine environments and the main issue we are facing is ensuring local communities can get management rights over resources that have been traditionally open access. Once those rights are granted the key challenge is to ensure that patrolling and enforcing mechanisms are in place and in marine settings those tend to be more expensive due to the big areas to cover than in terrestrial areas. We will be presenting a case in which conservation agreements are setting up the basis for the management system of a new protected area in Ecuador, the first mainland marine area of the country, with a management system that entirely depends on the local communities.
15. My experiences involve evaluating conservation projects in a variety of areas where PMCA's are used (Asia Pacific). I have never been responsible for the implementation of a PMCA.