



Reporter's Tip Sheet for NOAA at IUCN World Conservation Congress

For the first time, the IUCN World Conservation Congress will be hosted in the United States--in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The congress is the largest recurring conservation event in the world, bringing together leaders from government, civil society and business from around the world to discuss pressing conservation issues.

During the congress forum, September 2-5, NOAA leadership, scientists and experts will be showcasing the agency's commitment to robust science and ocean protection in the Pacific and throughout the nation. Below is a list of featured presentations and topic area experts. This document is also available online at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/iucn2016>.

Please note that all times listed are Hawaii Standard Time.

Featured Presentations

Tech Corner: Mapping the Marine National Monuments of the Pacific

A team from NOAA's Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center launched a series of new web-based geographic information system (GIS) mapping tools that provide access to data collected in Mariana Trench Marine National Monument. The tools focus on themes such as fisheries research, cetacean surveys, coral reef monitoring, benthic habitat mapping, oceanographic information and research cruises.

Who: Risa Oram, NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center natural resource management specialist

When: 2 Sept, 12:30-1:00

Where: US Pavilion

Light Animal Magic: Homes for Whales in the Sea

Singing Hawaiian humpback whales, spinner dolphins & orcas in their ocean habitat come to life in this interactive animation created by Japanese cetacean illustrator-animator Haruyoshi Kawai and computer graphic designer Keisuke Saikai. "LightAnimal" was devised to offer a non-intrusive way to learn about marine life and to support animal conservation and education. Join NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and partners in celebrating the Year of the Whale.

Who: Naomi McIntosh, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries senior advisor

When: 2 Sept, 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. and 4 Sept, 1:15 - 2:15 p.m.

Where: Hawaii Convention Center Room 310

Note: Light Animal Magic will also display at the "Humpbacks return early to Hawaii" to celebrate our Ocean World at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Sept. 2nd. Event starts at 5:30p.m.

Building Pacific Partnerships

Please join NOAA leadership for a discussion about the global expansion of large-scale marine protected areas and NOAA's role in this international movement. The 1-hr session will include a series of short talks by NOAA leadership and scientific experts. Talks will include high resolution video and still imagery from recent efforts to understand deepwater areas of U.S. Pacific MPAs

and a major announcement about planned field work in 2017 in conjunction with domestic and international partners. <https://portals.iucn.org/congress/session/12345>

Who: Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, NOAA administrator; Alan Leonardi, NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research director

When: 3 Sept, 1:30-2:30

Location: U.S. Pavilion, NASA Hyperwall

Ocean Linkages: Using Oceanography to Manage and Conserve Living Marine Resources

Presenters will explore how oceanographic datasets help NOAA Fisheries' Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center understand trends in fish and marine mammal populations and inform their recommendations for management of these critical resources. This presentation will focus on NOAA's Hawaiian monk seal recovery efforts, the most proactive marine mammal conservation program on the planet.

Who: Charles Littnan, NOAA Fisheries Protected Species Division acting director

When: 3 Sept, 5:00-5:30

Where: US Pavilion, Science on a Sphere

The Global Marine Biodiversity Observation Network (MBON): Biodiversity monitoring and capacity building for the global conservation community

Marine biodiversity is a key indicator of ocean health, underpins the concept of environmental intelligence, and provides a multitude of essential ecosystem services, yet no global network for organized biodiversity observations is yet in place. MBON is building large, global partnerships to coordinate existing monitoring programs, fill gaps in our understanding, and efficiently share data, experiences, and protocols to understand status and trends at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Who: Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, NOAA administrator

When: 4 Sept, 12:00-12:30

Where: US Pavilion, Hyperwall

Building the Climate Resilience of U.S. Landscapes - Highlights and Lessons Learned from the Resilient Lands and Waters Initiative

The Resilient Lands and Waters Initiative is an action of the Administration's Priority Agenda for Enhancing the Climate Resilience of America's Natural Resources. The goal of the initiative is to develop climate resilience strategies through the use of landscape-level planning. Panelists representing three Initiative partnerships will discuss highlights and lessons learned.

Who: Heather Stirratt, NOAA Great Lakes regional coordinator

When: 5 Sept, 10:30-11:30

Where: US Pavilion

Engaging the Public in Marine Protected Area Networks

Public participation and support is the foundation for the success of marine protected areas. U.S. agencies have been exploring a variety of approaches to broaden public engagement in MPAs, including engaging new audiences. This session will highlight the participatory process for proposing new national marine sanctuaries; the national marine sanctuaries' "Earth is Blue" social media campaign; and hands-on experiences in estuaries to teach teachers and students about science and stewardship.

Who: John Armor, Office National Marine Sanctuaries acting director; Elizabeth Weinberg, Office National Marine Sanctuaries social media coordinator

When: 6 Sept, 1:30-2:30

Where: US Pavilion

NOAA Areas of Expertise

Fishery Management

Experts from NOAA Fisheries' Sustainable Fisheries Division are available to talk about fishery management including preventing overfishing, training fishermen on how to minimize harm to protected resources, and maintaining a sustainable supply of well-managed domestic seafood for consumers.

Who: NOAA Fisheries staff

When: by request

Marine Debris

Experts from NOAA's Marine Debris Program available to discuss the program's 10 years of marine debris prevention and science.

Who: Mark Manuel, Grace Chon, NOAA Marine Debris Program

When: by request

Monk Seals

Experts from NOAA Fisheries' Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program available to talk about recovery efforts for this critically endangered species and the most proactive marine mammal conservation program on the planet.

Who: Charles Littnan, NOAA Fisheries

When: by request

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, was one of the first large-scale marine protected areas in the world and virtually every research expedition there yields new discoveries. Recently expanded by President Obama, it now encompasses 582,578 square miles and making it the world's largest marine protected area. Additionally it is home to more than 7,000 marine species, one quarter of which are found only in the Hawaiian Archipelago. In 2010, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument was inscribed as the first mixed (natural and cultural) UNESCO World Heritage Site in the U.S.

Who: Athline Clarke and Samantha Brooks, NOAA superintendents; other subject matter experts

When: by request

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For social media updates during the IUCN World Conservation Congress, follow NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

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