OUR MANDATES

Resource Protection
Research and Monitoring
Education and Outreach
Community Engagement
Engagement with FMCs

NOAA also collaborates with FMCs to protect sanctuary resources and promote the role of FMCs in sanctuary communities

- Ban on commercial harvest of krill (West Coast)
- Additional MSA protections for corals and habitat inside NMSs
- FMC reps sit on Sanctuary Advisory Councils & working groups
- ONMS staff sit on RFMC working groups
- Collaborative work on education and outreach programs
Section 304(a)(5) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act requires:

“The Secretary shall provide the appropriate Regional Fishery Management Council with the opportunity to prepare draft fishing regulations for fishing within the Exclusive Economic Zone as the Council may deem necessary to implement the proposed designation. … Any amendments to the fishing regulations shall be drafted, approved, and issued in the same manner as the original regulations.”
NOAA Submits 304(a)(5) Package to Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC)

RFMC Response
- RFMC Determines Fishing Regulations Not Necessary
- RFMC Prepares Draft Fishing Regulations
- RFMC Declines to Act

NOAA Analysis

NOAA Determination
- RFMC Action Accepted
- RFMC Declines to Act or RFMC Action Rejected
Review of Guidance

- NOAA 2008 Guidance
- Working internally to update
- Welcome Regional FMC input and ideas
Resources

- NMS Nominations, https://nominate.noaa.gov/