

Open Call for Oral and Poster Submissions: "Marine Protected Areas on the high seas"
Symposium – 3 and 4 February 2011, ZSL London Zoo

A two-day symposium is to be held at ZSL London Zoo on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 February 2011, entitled "Marine Protected Areas on the high seas". This is an open invitation to submit talks and posters to the conference committee.

This symposium will highlight current progress and barriers to progress towards the 2002 WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development) call for the establishment of marine protected areas and representative networks by 2012. The second day will deal with solutions to these problems and issues surrounding the translation of science into policy. Specific emphasis will be on the application of this goal to high seas ecosystems.

SESSION 1. Do MPAs WORK? (PROGRESS TOWARDS 2012 GOALS and THE STATE OF PROGRESS ON HIGH SEAS MPAs)

In this opening session speakers will address the theory behind the establishment of marine protected areas and summarise their success and failure to date. When implemented in exclusive economic zones where other fishery-management techniques have failed, MPAs have been largely successful in protecting biodiversity. Can they have the same effect in areas beyond national jurisdiction (the 50% of the world's surface referred to as the high seas)?

Themes:

- The impact of existing MPAs
- The existing framework of legislation
- Successes in the progress towards the 2012 target of high seas MPA network
- Will MPAs prove effective on the high seas? Are they sufficient?

SESSION 2. BARRIERS TO PROGRESS

This session will address the main impediments to successfully implementing high seas legislation, including legal, socioeconomic and technical barriers.

Themes:

- IUUs (illegal, unreported, unregulated fisheries)
- Flags of Convenience fishing
- Monitoring, control and surveillance/enforcement (barriers to progress)
- Socio-economics and politics of MPAs on the high seas

SESSION 3. SOLUTIONS AND THE TRANSLATION OF SCIENCE INTO POLICY

This session will directly address the very real issue of the translation of science into management policy

Themes

- Effectiveness of existing frameworks for devising policy
- Fixed spatial MPAs vs mobile/temporal MPAs
- What is needed in terms of law?
- What is needed in terms of science?
- The economics of MPAs on the high seas
- Monitoring, control and surveillance/enforcement (solutions)

Talks will be 20 minutes with five minutes for questions. As with all ZSL symposia the audience will be a mix of practitioners, academics, students and interested public. Given the very high profile of this subject and the invited contributors, we are expecting a sell-out audience and strong media attention for this event. Each session will close with an open discussion session; the equal participation of scientists, policy makers, independent advisors and stakeholders in this symposium promise to make these discussions lively.

Deadline for submission of talk and poster titles and abstracts is 25 November 2010. Notification of accepted talks will be made by 30 November 2010. Registration fee for accepted speakers will be waived.

**Prices for two days (or part days) £130 (£65 for students or ZSL Fellows & Friends)
for one day (or part day) £80 (£40 for students or ZSL Fellows & Friends)**

If your organisation would be interested in sponsoring the meeting please contact Anne Braae at anne.braae@zsl.org. Information on ZSL symposia is widely circulated (specifically to conservation organisations and practitioners, relevant universities as well as to ZSL's supporter base and other interested parties) and these events are very well attended. Acknowledgement of support from external organisations is featured prominently on all promotional materials and other printed materials available at the event.

