

A photograph of two children standing on a dark rock in the foreground, silhouetted against a bright sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong orange glow and a reflection on the water. The children have their arms raised in the air. The entire image is framed by a thick blue border.

Protecting our oceans and coasts

Strengthening Adaptive Capacity of Marine Protected Areas

Why this matters to you:

Marine ecosystems have critical ecological, social and economic value. Many local and indigenous communities depend on the oceans for their livelihood (for example, through fisheries and tourism). Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) exist to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and marine resources, and are cared for by hundreds of MPA practitioners across North America. MPAs are already affected by climate change. To help them adapt so that they can continue to conserve biodiversity and benefit reliant communities, the CEC is working directly with MPA practitioners to help them protect the coastal environment and nurture healthy oceans.

MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) PRACTITIONERS IN NORTH AMERICA CAN BETTER PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO CHANGES IN COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTS AND SUPPORT THE ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CRUCIAL HABITATS THEY HARBOR.



Because of the CEC...

- MPA practitioners are working together on common priorities across shared seascapes and have more capacity to help MPAs adapt to climate change.
- MPA practitioners can now access a centralized source of information to address the local impacts of changes within MPAs.
- There is now an independent network of institutions and people connected with North American MPAs.

For more information: www.cec.org/MPA-project

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