



# Marine Protected Areas

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# 1. Group Members



- Rosa Maria Román – (CIFOR-CUBA)
- Mabel López Rojas – (CIEC-CUBA)
- Maritza García – (CITMA-CUBA)
- Francisco Nuñez – (TNC- Rep.Dominicana)
- Alexandra Puritz. – (TOF-USA)
- Lazaro Márquez – (SNAP-CUBA)
- Tannia C. Frausto – (WildCoast-MX)
- Mark Besonen – (HRI-USA)
- Jim Gibeant – (HRI-USA)
- Jose Juan Perez Ramirez – (CONANP-MX)
- Fey Crevoshay – (WildCoast-USA-MX)
- Alfredo Cisnero Pineda – (SERMANAT-MX)
- Xiao Recio Blanco – (ELI- USA)

- José Hernández – (CONANP - MX)
- Christopher Gonzalez – (CONANP- MX)
- Alejandra Navarrette – (GoM/LME-MX)
- Richard McLaughlin – (HRI-USA)
- Cesar U. Romero H. – (CONAMP-MX)
- Tomás Camarena Luhers – (CONAMP-MX)
- William Kiene – (NOAA-ONMS- USA)
- Gonzalo Cid – (NOAA-USA)
- Carlos Díaz – (SNAP-CUBA)
- Dalia Salabarría F. – (SNAP- CUBA)
- Sarah Connor – (MARTI-MX)
- Ricardo Gómez – (CONANP-MX)
- Marisol Hernandez – (CONANP-MX)
- Jose Carlos Pizaña – (CONANP-MX)
- Harriet Nash – (NOAA-USA)
- Jill Hamilton – (Duke-USA)

# 1.1 Group Members (cont.) (Institutions)



TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY  
CORPUS  
CHRISTI | HARTE  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR GULF OF MEXICO STUDIES



**SNAP**  
Sistema Nacional  
de Áreas Protegidas



NATIONAL MARINE  
SANCTUARIES



ENVIRONMENTAL  
LAW • INSTITUTE®



CIFOR



**marti**  
the MesoAmerican  
Reef Tourism  
Initiative



THE OCEAN FOUNDATION



Finding the ways that work

## 2. Collaborations established throughout “Trinational Initiative” workshops



### **Bilateral agreements:**

- MOU, Work plan signed
- Climate change meeting CONANP-SNAP
- Climate change adaptation plans
- Exchange of experiences  
Guanahacabibes- Banco de San Antonio and Cabo Pulmo (Wildcoast)
- Past and future sister MPA's
- EcoValor (Ecosystem valuation)



### **Bilateral agreements:**

- MOU-Work plan to be signed

### **Scientific actions:**

- Forums: Fire in coastal wetlands (US Forest Service - CONANP) 1st management plan

Large Marine Ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico (LME-GoM)

- Student Workshop on International Marine and Coastal Management in the Gulf of Mexico SWIMM (HRI) (2017)



### **Bilateral agreements:**

- MOU (NOAA-CITMA)-Work plan and sister MPA's (4 USA, 1 Cuba)
- Sister MPA's: NPS-SNAP Everglades and Ciénegas de Zapata

### **Scientific actions:**

- Marine expeditions (2): NOAA, Academia, Inst., Gov. 50/50
- Monitoring assistance (turtles, sharks, rays)
- Coral reef restoration programs

### 3. Successful trilateral collaborations within Marine Protected Areas



- Bi-national, and tri-national exchanges (Example: trilateral training and application of the InVest tool with support by TNC)
- Communication platforms (Example: Lessons learned in sustainable tourism (MARTI, Cozumel, 2017))
- Tri-national cooperation (Example: Large Marine Ecosystem Project for the Gulf of Mexico (GoM-LME), MX-USA and the incorporation of Cuba)
- Professional and academic development (exchange of experiences, courses, master's degrees, doctorates) (Example: Academic training and exchanges (HRI))
- Bilateral Agreements Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's)

## 4. Results in relation to the Trinational Initiative 2018

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- Formation of a working group-2 per country
  - (USA: Gonzalo Cid and William Kiene), (Cuba: Carlos Díaz and Lázaro Márquez),
  - (México: Ricardo Gómez and José Carlos Pizaña, established as initial contacts)
  - Xiao Blanco, ELI (document assistance, meetings and search for funding)
- Group consensus to use “RedGolfo” & “Gulf Network” for “Gulf of Mexico Marine Protected Area Network”
- Duration of the coordinating group is 2 years (2019-2020).

## 4. Results in relation to the Trinational Initiative 2018 (cont)



- The functioning of the network should be to improve and increase the management effectiveness of the selected MPA's
- AMP: (2 Cuba, 7 Mexico, 2 USA).
- Establish the search for joint financing mechanisms; however, the processes will continue even without explicit financing.
- Proposed next meeting in Mexico. **MarCuba 2018** is an opportunity to spread the word about the network.

## 5. 1. Results (Short term, 1-2 years)



- Development of a document (Vision/Mission, Structure, Follow-up).
- Workshop of MPA's/Institutions/NGO's representatives to formalize the network and establish the search for funding.
- Can be presented at MarCuba October, 2018.
- Establish network visibility across the MPAs in the region using social media (support by Cuba Mar and WildCoast)



## 5. 1. Results (Short term, 1-2 years) (cont.)



- Analysis of MPA regulations.
- Comparison of current management effectiveness methodologies and how they can be strengthened (IUCN Proposal, SPAW Analysis).
- Review of all tools (Atlas- Characterization of benthic habitats, cartography and condition card/reports).
- Comprehensive, tri-national investment portfolios->Search for additional finance. *External yet sustainable.*

## 5.2. Results (Long term, 3-10 years)



- The search for funding is an ongoing process
- Implementation of bilateral and tri-national agreements
- Joint expeditions (monitoring and research)
- Scientific publications
- Unification of shared (adapted) monitoring tools and protocols for key species inside and outside MPA's
- Continuous exchange of good practices and experiences
- Valuation of the ecosystems of the MPA's, and of the shared resources

## 6. Needs and challenges



- Mobility - (Cuba-USA), meetings in Mexico are practical.
- Lack of free technology and free-software that can be shared
- Involve MPA's that do not meet the minimum effectiveness requirements, in order to support them.
- Involve all directors of MPA's
- Involve the extended network of partners (USA, Cuba, MX) (Example: NGOs that are behind projects and can help implement and fund activities.)
- Tri-national working document, language according to what is available, where members decide how to collaborate in the network.

## 7. Additional information



- MPA Center: <https://marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov/>
- System of protected areas in Cuba: <http://www.snap.cu>
- NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program-ONMS- <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>
- Large Marine Ecosystem Project for the Gulf of Mexico (GoM-LME) <http://gomlme.iwlearn.org/es/>
- New bilateral work plan Mexico and Cuba: <https://www.gob.mx/conanp/prensa/mexico-y-cuba>





# THANK YOU!

