

# Planning for Sustainable Tourism in MPAs

## Instructor Biographies

**Ana Báez** ([turbaez@racsa.co.cr](mailto:turbaez@racsa.co.cr)) Energetic, goal oriented, highly trained, bilingual (English-Spanish) professional with extensive knowledge and experience in the Tourism Industry, Science Education, Research and Business fields. Proven success as a multi-cultural/ multi-Government consultant, trainer, teacher and advisor in the areas of Eco-Tourism, Sustainable Development, Museum Science, Administration and Biology. Strong analytical and organizational skills, results oriented professional with intense focus on solutions and professionalism.

### **BACKGROUND PROFILE AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

#### Eco-Tourism and Sustainable Development:

- High-level expertise in the areas of planning, development and evaluation of policies, strategic plans, and products at local and regional level
- Outstanding experience in the design and management of sustainable development projects for Natural and Cultural Resources of private and/or public entities and rural communities.
- Her range of expertise includes sustainable tourism certification and best practices, product development, national policies, park master plan, regional strategies, visitors management plans, guidelines for tourism industry management and operation, and project evaluation for governments, NGO's and developing agencies.

#### Research, Education and Museum Science and Administration:

- Hands on experience on international research projects, multicultural presentations and public speaking engagements as a Professional Consultant.
- Ample experience in the process and implementation phases of research driven solutions for environment related issues.
- Various international publications on topics such as: Eco-Tourism and Sustainable Development.
- College-level course design, development and delivery of on-site educational opportunities for National and International Universities.
- Highly trained to deliver various accreditation and special training courses in the areas of environmental education, Eco-Tourism, sustainable development, leadership and project management to institutions, corporations and government entities.

- Hands on knowledge of Museums administration, management, design and implementation of interpretation centers, visitor's facilities and tourism information materials.

Business:

- Founder of Turismo & Conservación Consultores, a company dedicated to provide professional consulting services in the areas of Eco-Tourism, Sustainable Development, Research and Training.
- Proven success in management and operations of various entrepreneurial ventures.
- Participant and member of various multinational business organizations, NGO's and government entities.

**Salvador Cazar ([s.cazar@conservation.org](mailto:s.cazar@conservation.org))** studied Biology at the Universidad Nacional del Sur, Bahía Blanca – Argentina (1963), and at the Catholic University of Ecuador. Between 1988 and 1994, Mr. Cazar worked as a naturalist and tour leader for several national and international tour operators leading groups of visitor across the Ecuadorian rain forest, Andean forest and to the Galapagos. Since 1995 he has performed a number of functions at the public and private level for national and international organizations. Among others, he acted as the Regional Coordinator of the Feasibility Study for the Environmental Management Program for the Galapagos Islands financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, Coordinator of the Ecuadorian Permanent Commission for the Galapagos Islands, Consultant for the Project "Support to the Global Management Plan for Tourism Development and Ecological Conservation of Galapagos National Park and Galapagos Marine Reserve" funded by the UNDP, Executive Director of the Ecuadorian Association of Ecotourism, Instructor of Environmental Interpretation for the Galapagos National Park and KAPAWI Ecolodge & Reserve, Expedition Leader of the M/N Galapagos Explorer II, and Coordinator of the Sustainable Tourism Program of Fundación ESQUEL - Ecuador.

At the moment, Mr. Cazar is responsible for the management of CI – Ecuador's Sustainable Tourism Program. He works in close collaboration with national partners in the Condor – Kutuku, Choco – Manabí and Galapagos conservation corridors overseen and facilitating the implementation of different projects that mainstream the conservation of biodiversity in tourism. He is also involved with several economic valuation exercises regarding tourism in Ecuador's Protected Area System, and also indirectly with an economic incentive agreement to decrease fisheries pressure in the Galapagos.

**Stephen Edwards ([s.edwards@conservation.org](mailto:s.edwards@conservation.org))** is responsible for the management and programmatic aspects of CI tourism and biocommerce projects in the Andes Region. He works collaboratively with CI's

country programs and partners in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. Mr. Edwards has overseen projects in Latin America, Asia, and Africa, has facilitated numerous workshops, given presentations at international conferences, and is author of several publications on ecotourism, policy, communities, and protected areas.

Mr. Edwards received his bachelor's degree in environmental studies and economics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and his master's degree in resource recreation and tourism from the University of Idaho.



**Laura Francis ([laura.francis@noaa.gov](mailto:laura.francis@noaa.gov))** is education coordinator for the Santa Barbara office of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and has been with the sanctuary since 1994. She manages all aspects of education and outreach programs including publications, professional development for teachers, exhibit design and multimedia education projects. Laura helped to coordinate the NOAA/IUCN International Management Capacity Building training in Vietnam in December 2005 and the Eastern Tropical Pacific Management Capacity training in Colombia in 2006. She has more than 15 years of progressive experience in marine research, training, and education positions including experience as a classroom teacher, environmental educator, marine biologist, environmental consultant and education coordinator. Laura graduated from UC Berkeley with a bachelor's in Zoology and earned her master's degree in Deep-Sea Biology from UC Santa Barbara. Laura finds her work most rewarding when she discovers innovative ways of integrating ocean research, policy, education and conservation.

**Pam Kylstra (pam.kylstra@noaa.gov)** is a program development specialist with the NOAA Coastal Services Center where she also serves as the Center's Sea Grant Liaison. As a trainer for the Center, she assists with the educational design of Center products, and develops training programs for the coastal resource management community, including Sea Grant, National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR), and other federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. Her responsibilities include conducting trainings about managing visitor use and project design and evaluation.

Before joining the Center in January 2006, Pam worked on the Oregon coast with the South Slough NERR to coordinate a public involvement program. As a faculty member with the School for Field Studies' Center for Coastal Studies in Baja California Sur, Mexico, she collaborated with local educators to develop bioregional environmental education curricula. Other experience includes training volunteers to be field research assistants for seasonal behavioral ornithology projects in Central America.

Pam holds a master of science in marine resource management from Oregon State University's College of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences and a bachelor of science in zoology from North Carolina State University.



## **Greg McCormack ([greg.mccormack@noaa.gov](mailto:greg.mccormack@noaa.gov))**

joined the OCNMS team at the start of 2003. He works as an Education Specialist, assisting in planning & implementing Sanctuary related education programs, teacher training workshops, tribal youth programs, and writing web pages. Greg earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology at Humboldt State University. He has twenty years of professional experience in developing interpretive programs and has worked for the Catalina Island Marine Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon, Elderhostel, as an Alaskan river guide, and environmental educator for kids on the Olympic Peninsula and the Peruvian Amazon.

Greg has been a naturalist in a dozen parks, including: Denali, Everglades, Glacier Bay, Grand Canyon, Hawaii Volcanoes, & Mount Rainier, among others. He has served as expedition leader, cruise director, lecturer & Divemaster onboard adventure-travel ships, guiding people to the most pristine, remote regions of the world such as the Siberian Arctic, Sea of Cortez, South Pacific, South Georgia, & Antarctica.

Greg recently completed bicycling the entire length of the Americas - 18,350 miles through 20 countries - from Prudhoe Bay, Alaska to Ushuaia, Argentina. The reason for his peregrinations is to experience the last of the world's intact ecosystems before more environmental degradation occurs. His favorite region is Alaska, where he has worked nine of the last ten summers.



**Thomas Meller** ([martiriviera@hotmail.com](mailto:martiriviera@hotmail.com)) has over 15 years of experience as environmental project manager in project formulation, implementation and evaluation as well as in capacity building and training. He has worked for the German technical assistance program, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), private sector consultant firms, industry associations and globally operating NGOs. Starting in training and capacity building with the German Foundation for International Development, he continued with UNDP managing the environmental project portfolio in Jamaica. Subsequent to his post-graduate studies in environmental management he has been working as private sector consultant in Germany and as of July 2000 in the Mexican Caribbean with PA Consulting for USAID carrying out environmental best practice and cleaner production audits, implementing environmental management systems, preparing hotel properties for sustainable tourism certification and supporting NGOs in environmental education activities. As of October 2006 Thomas is director of Conservation International's Mesoamerican Reef Tourism Initiative based in Amigos de Sian Ka'an office in Cancun, Mexico. He is an approved Green Globe assessor and benchmark instructor as well as a CAST technical service affiliate.



## June Marie Mow Robinson (mariemow@gmail.com)

Has an Undergraduate degree in Microbiology from the University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia. She completed my Graduate work in Marine Microbiology through the University of Kiel-Germany. She also holds a Post-Graduate degree In Regional Sciences from the University of Karlsruhe-Germany.

June was elected the first General Director of the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of the Archipelago of San Andres, Old Providence, and Santa Catalina – CORALINA. She was subsequently reelected to two consecutive 3-year terms. CORALINA is the environmental authority for Colombia's only oceanic department, which is located in the western Caribbean. CORALINA's jurisdiction includes the insular area of the Archipelago as well as the territorial waters and exclusive economic zone of the islands (approximately 300,000 km<sup>2</sup>).

As a result of her work in establishing the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve, she was a member of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere board, at their invitation for the period 2001-2005. June feels privileged in that CORALINA's work during her tenure has furthered marine conservation not only to the benefit of the San Andres Archipelago and Colombia, but also has had regional and global significance. A few years after initiating the process to establish a Regional System of Marine Protected Areas (MPA), CORALINA has become an internationally recognized example of a successfully designed MPA, particularly in terms of community involvement. Its vision is resource users working hand in hand to influence activities and actions in the SEAFLOWER Marine Protected Areas.

June has also served UNESCO as an external advisor to lead an assessment team of the project “Coastal Resources Management and Ecotourism: an intersectoral approach to localizing sustainable development, Ulugan Bay, Palawan, Philippines”, which was carried out in 2002; to support the establishment of new biosphere reserves for Coastal Areas and Small Islands in the Caribbean and Cape Horn (Chile) in 2005; and to assess the visioning process on Old Providence and Santa Catalina in 2005. The Man and the Biosphere Programme of Spain invited me in 2005 to advise the autonomous communities and municipal governments during the planning phase of Biosphere Reserves. She has successfully carried out an assessment of InWent’s (Capacity Building International, Germany) development cooperation programme to strengthen Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Southeast Asia, Latin America and Africa on behalf of the German Development Ministry (BMZ) and the Bremen State Office for Development Cooperation through capacity building in 2005-2006.

Other recent work experiences include serving the Colombian National Government to develop Colombia’s National Ocean Strategy for a system of good governance in the 21st century which includes the integration by 2006 of ocean issues such as multiple uses and good management, tourism development for both the Caribbean and the Pacific zones, scientific knowledge for better use, management and conservation of the ocean, as well as a new system of good governance into the development plans at the national, regional and local levels, as well as the enactment by 2019 of a National Ocean Policy and the Law of the Ocean. She is currently working with the black population in Colombia to create a National Development Plan for their communities. In 2005 I served the National Marine Research Institution (INVEMAR) in the planning phase of the GEF Project “Integrated national adaptation pilot: high mountain ecosystems, Colombia’s Caribbean insular areas, and human health (INAP)”. She is an Expert Reviewer of the First and Second Order Draft for Chapter 16: Small Islands for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4).

June is a founding member of Providence Foundation, whose mission is to promote the conservation of the ecosystems of the SEAFLOWER Biosphere Reserve.

She continues to work at all levels to improve environmental protection and planning, environmental education and awareness, and grass roots community involvement in environmental management.



## Fernando Ortiz Q. ([f.ortiz@conservation.org](mailto:f.ortiz@conservation.org))

- +Biologist, married, 2 children
- + Visited the Galapagos Islands for the first time in 1982.
- + Did volunteer work in the National Institute for fisheries in Guayaquil
- + Visited Galapagos twice more as volunteer in a study measuring the impact of the pencil spined sea urchin *Eucidharis thouarsii* in the hermatypic coral population around Floreana island.
- + During university and right after it worked in the shrimp business as technical director of a shrimp farm in Puna island in the Golfo de Guayaquil, shrimp trading and commercialization of Products related to shrimp production.
- + Worked 11 years as a naturalist dive guide in the Galapagos islands
- + Participated in 12 specialized diving trade shows.
- + participated in the Production of "Lo que Charles Darwin no vio, el maravilloso mundo submarino de las islas Galapagos) first ever documentary on the underwater fauna of Galápagos made completely by Ecuadorians, as underwater and land cameraman, and writing the script.
- + worked for a year as naturalist dive guide for Machalilla National Park in the Ecuadorian mainland.
- + Elaborated the tourism sector coastal zoning proposal, as part of the negotiation for the establishment of the current Provisional Zoning Scheme of the Galápagos islands)
- + Worked 3 years as Operations Manager for a Tourism company in the islands
- + 9 months in Charge of the Conservation and Control of the Galápagos Marine Reserve Process in the Galápagos National Park.
- + Participated in the Year of the Shark, local conservation movement in the Islands
- + Joined Conservation International as Galápagos program coordinator until now.



**Anne Walton ([anne.Walton@noaa.gov](mailto:anne.Walton@noaa.gov))** is the coordinator for NOAA's International MPA Management Capacity Training Program and is currently overseeing MPA network projects in the South China Seas region (China, Vietnam and Cambodia) and the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (Costa Rica, Panama, Columbia and Ecuador). Anne also serves as the Management Plan Coordinator for the Pacific Islands Region, and is about to embark on 2-3 year community-based management plan review process for Fagatelle Bay National Marine Sanctuary in American Samoa.

From 1998-2005, Anne served as Management Plan Coordinator for four U.S. west coast national marine sanctuaries, developing new community-based management plans for each of these sites. Prior to this position, Anne served as Education Coordinator for Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary in Santa Barbara, CA. From 1992-1996 Anne worked on the designation of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

Anne Walton has a graduate degree from the University of Washington, School of Marine Affairs in marine policy and resource management, with an emphasis on marine protected areas; and a graduate degree in education from the University of Kentucky, specializing in curriculum development.