Laying the Foundation for MSP

Collaborative Science
off the Olympic Coast
Treaty Rights

- Secure the right to fish
- Co-management responsibility
- Are specific to “Usual and Accustomed” areas
  - They are place-based
Tribes have been doing MSP since time immemorial
Coastal Tribes and MSP

- Makah, Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault – coastal U&As
- Concern over potential for conflicting uses in U&As or impacts to treaty resources
- Need for national framework that is flexible
  - Different areas/scales will have different needs
  - Connection between land and sea
Effective MSP*

- **Ecosystem-based**, balancing ecological, economic, and social goals and objectives toward sustainable development
- **Integrated**, across sectors and agencies, and among levels of government
- **Place-based** or **area-based**
- **Adaptive**, capable of learning from experience

* Taken from "Marine Spatial Planning: a step-by-step approach toward ecosystem-based management"
Planning to be Effective

• There is considerable work needed to understand the ecosystem of the Olympic Coast
• The work should be collaborative across agencies
• It should be continuing in order to gain increasing information about the region
Ocean Monitoring and Research Initiative

- Developed across agencies and governments including coastal tribes, state of Washington, NOAA, and USGS
- Designed specifically to improve EBM
- Represents mutually agreed-upon high priority data needs for the Olympic Coast region
- Provides for continuing information gathering
  - Both project data and capacity for future work
Habitat Mapping

- Less than 25% of the seafloor has been mapped
- Seafloor geology
- Habitat characterization
- Corresponding biological communities
- Predictive modeling
Visual Rockfish Surveys
Visual Rockfish Surveys

• Not well surveyed
• Important species
  – Top predators
  – Constrain fisheries
  – Long lived (historical ecosystem information)
• Habitat associations significant
Plankton Surveys
Plankton Surveys

• Link between oceanography and biology
  – Dynamic upwelling system
  – Seasonal effects on community
• Effects of climate change on productivity
  – Changing wind and current patterns
  – Acidification and shifts in community structure
Data Dissemination
Data Dissemination

• Provide data and data products
  – Managers
  – Scientific community
  – Public

• Link with other data monitoring networks
  – e.g. NANOOS, regional moorings, OOI, etc.
Summary

• UNESCO framework relates MSP and EBM
• Our Ocean Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Initiative is designed to accomplish many of the same goals
  – Better understanding of the ecosystem and current uses/impacts
  – Predictive capability
  – Capacity for maintaining healthy ecosystems
• It represents the scientific foundation necessary for MSP to be successful