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| IALA Guideline |

1234 [Guideline No.]

ATON MANAGEMENT IN PROTECTED AREAS

Edition x.x

Document date

Revisions to this IALA document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

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| April 21, 2016 | First draft | Yes |
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|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. ACRONYMS 5

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 6

3. INTRODUCTION 6

4. OVERVIEW 6

5. FIGURES 11

6. REFERENCES 12

ANNEX A GUIDANCE (EXAMPLE OF AN ANNEX ON A LANDSCAPE PAGE) 13

APPENDIX 1 Example of an Appendix Title 14

ANNEX B CHECKLIST FOR (Example Annex Title) 15

List of Tables

Table 1 Example of a table with the significant information in the first column 6

Table 2 Example of a table with the significant information in the first row 6

Table 3 Example of a table with coloured rows 6

Table 4 Example table 9

List of Figures

Figure 1 Example figure 7

Figure 2 Another example figure 7

List of Equations

Equation 1 Geographical range 5

Equation 2 Theory of Special Relativity 5

# ACRONYMS

To assist in the use of this Guideline, the following acronyms have been used:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AtoN | Aids to Navigation |
| IALA | International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities |
| IMO | International Maritime Organization |
| IUCN | International Union for Conservation of Nature |
| MPA | Marine Protected Area |
| PA | Protected Area |
| PSSA | Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| WWF | World Wide Fund for Nature |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

# AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Over the past years, Protected Areas (PA) and Marine Protected Areas (MPA) have increased and are gaining more importance. Large global environmental organisations representing several countries, such as International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), also play an active role in environmental governance and biodiversity conservation. It is why IALA deemed important to create a guideline supporting national authorities with Aids to Navigation (AtoN) management in PAs and MPAs to better contribute to conservation and protection of environmentally sensitive areas.

This guideline may be used as a tool for national authorities in identifying steps to follow when comes the time to consider installation of an AtoN in a PA or an MPA or for review, on-going maintenance and removal. Examples of best practices and useful links to key sites are also provided in section 4.

# INTRODUCTION

To prevent the degradation of the environment due to human activity, directly or indirectly, by substances, waste or various nuisances such as sound, light, chemicals, thermal and biological hazards, most developed countries already have in place laws or other means to protect the environment including PAs and MPAs.

To make sure to follow the right procedure during creation, review, modification or removal of an AtoN, national maritime authorities should consult with departments responsible for laws/rules/policies on PAs and MPAs as part of their decision making process before taking any action.

For example, a floating aid could have a degrading effect on the environment if its chain is scraping the bottom where the ecosystem is fragile; fog horns or lights on fixed aids could be a nuisance for protected birds or other protected species; and, access to an AtoN for maintenance might be a nuisance if the timing and proximity interfere with the nesting period or spawning season of protected species.

This type of consideration has to be taken into account in the management of new and existing AtoN. Consulting with responsible authorities on PAs and MPAs will allow the identification of potential issues and possible mitigation measures.

# protected areas and marine protected areas

IALA has chosen to comply with the definitions of PA and MPA as stated by the IUCN. They read as follows:

**Protected Area (PA):** Clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

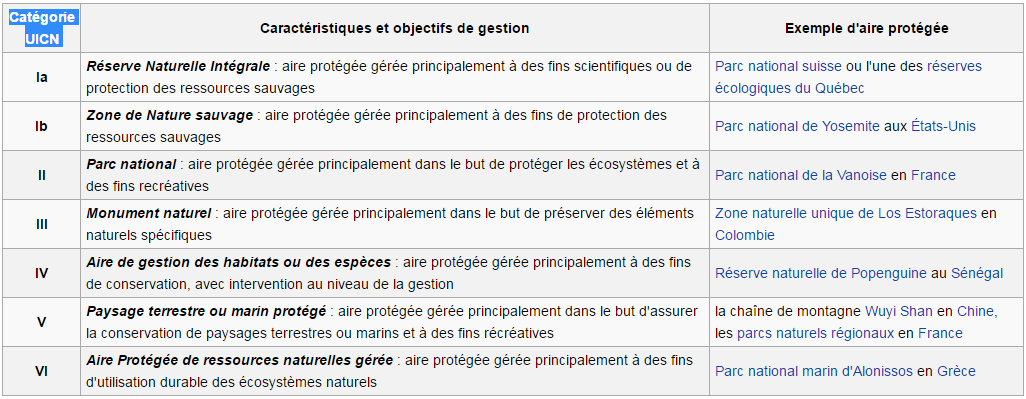
**Marine Protected Area (MPA):** Any area of the intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment.

## protected areas

UICN classifies protected areas according to their management objectives. The categories are recognised by international bodies such as the United Nations and by many national governments as the global standard for defining and recording protected areas and as such are increasingly being incorporated into government legislation.

***Table 1 IUCN Protected Area Management Categories***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **IUCN Category** | **Characteristics and Management Objectives** | **Example of Protected Area** |
| Ia | **Strict Nature Reserve:** Strictly set aside area to protect biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphological features.  Main Objective: To conserve regionally, nationally or globally outstanding ecosystems, species (occurrences or aggregations) and/or geodiversity features. |  |
| Ib | **Wilderness Area:** Usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence without permanent or significant human habitation.  Main Objective: To protect the long-term ecological integrity of natural areas that are undisturbed by significant human activity, free of modern infrastructure and where natural forces and processes predominate. |  |
| II | **National Park:** Large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area.  Main Objective: To protect natural biodiversity along with its underlying ecological structure and supporting environmental processes, and to promote education and recreation. |  |
| III | **Natural Monument or Feature:** Protected areas set aside to protect a specific natural monument.  Main Objective: To protect specific outstanding natural features and their associated biodiversity and habitats. |  |
| IV | **Habitat/Species Management:** Area Protected areas aiming to protect particular species or habitats and management reflects this priority.  Main Objective: To maintain, conserve and restore species and habitats. |  |
| V | **Protected Landscape/Seascape:**  Protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value.  Main objective: To protect and sustain important landscapes/seascapes and the associated nature conservation and other values created by interactions with humans through traditional management practices. |  |
| VI | **Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources:** Protected areas that conserve ecosystems and habitats, together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems.  Main objective: To protect natural ecosystems and use natural resources sustainably, when conservation and sustainable use can be mutually beneficial. |  |



The following table is a sample of input received by a dozen countries on their type of protected areas. It illustrates the diversity in the classification of protected areas and their associated level of governance.

***Table 2 Type of protected areas and their associated level of governance***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | International | Supranational | National | Regional | Local | Private |
| **National Park** |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **Natural Park** |  |  | X | X | X |  |
| **Natural Reserve** |  |  | x |  | X | x |
| **Protected Landscape** |  |  | x | X | X |  |
| **Natural Monument** |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| **Closed Area** |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **Wetland** |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| **Special Protection Area** |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **Key Biotope** |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| **Site of Community Importance** |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| **Special Area of Conservation** |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Biosphere Reserve** |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| **Site of Specific Scientific Interest** |  |  | x |  |  |  |

## marine protected areas

Examples of MPAs in different countries and best practices.

It should be noted that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) also identified areas called Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA) that need special protection through action because of their significance for recognized ecological or socio-economic or scientific reasons and which may be vulnerable to damage by international maritime activities. At the time of designation of a PSSA, an Associated Protective Measure is adopted by IMO to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the threat or identified vulnerability.[[1]](#footnote-1)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_protected_area#International_efforts>

## Notable marine protected areas

* The [Bowie Seamount](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bowie_Seamount) on the [Coast of British Columbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Columbia_Coast), [Canada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada).
* The [Great Barrier Reef](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Barrier_Reef) in [Queensland, Australia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland,_Australia).
* The [Ligurian Sea Cetacean Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ligurian_Sea_Cetacean_Sanctuary" \o "Ligurian Sea Cetacean Sanctuary) in the seas of [Italy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italy), [Monaco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monaco) and [France](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France).
* The [Dry Tortugas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dry_Tortugas) in the Florida Keys, USA.
* The [Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Papah%C4%81naumoku%C4%81kea_Marine_National_Monument" \o "Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument) in [Hawaii](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawaii).
* The [Phoenix Islands Protected Area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix_Islands_Protected_Area), [Kiribati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kiribati).[[56]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_protected_area#cite_note-56)
* The Channel Islands marine protected areas in [California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California), USA.[[57]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_protected_area#cite_note-FOOTNOTESmithMiller2003-57)
* The [Chagos Archipelago](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chagos_Archipelago" \o "Chagos Archipelago) in the [Indian Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Ocean).[[58]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_protected_area" \l "cite_note-58)
* The [Wadden Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wadden_Sea" \o "Wadden Sea) bordering the [North Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Sea) in the Netherlands, Germany, and Denmark.

# way forward

Futur = action groupée. Remain aware of all levels of governance implicated for a given protected area. Donner exemples.

TABLES

Body text (e.g. To assist in the use of this guideline, the following acronyms have been used:)

1. Example of a table with the significant information in the first column

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1. Example of a table with the significant information in the first row[[2]](#footnote-2)

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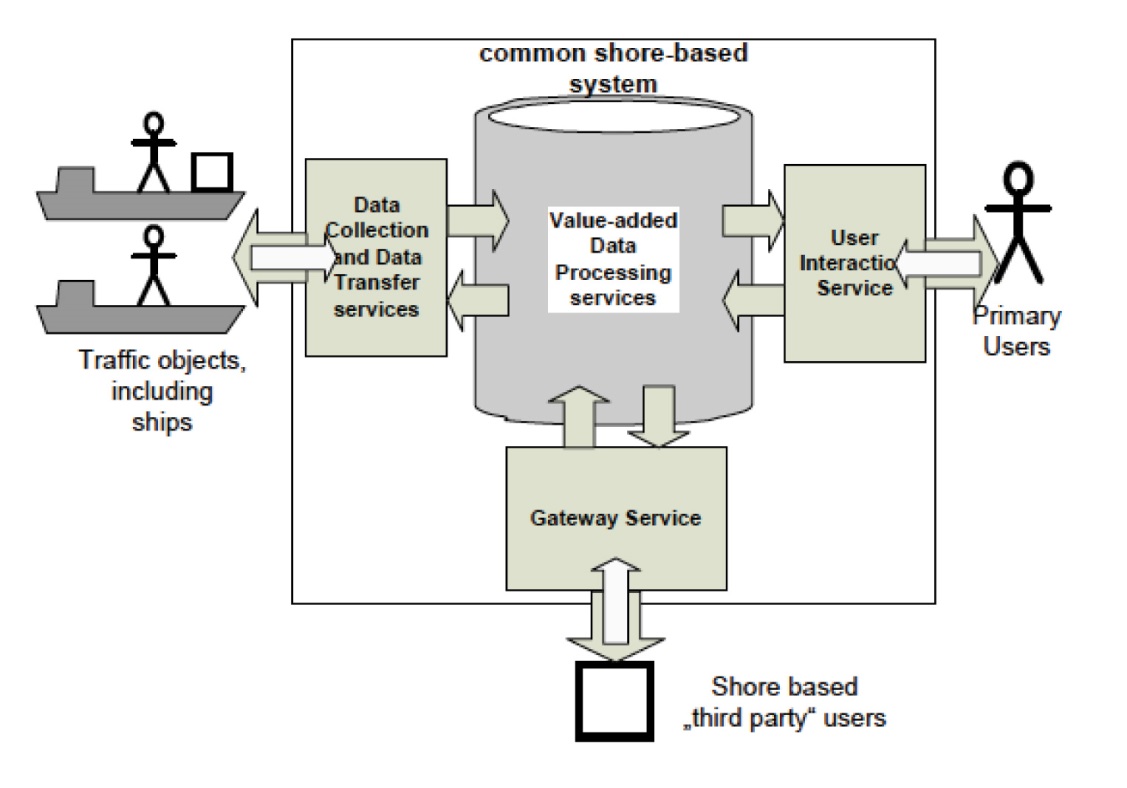
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# FIGURES



1. Example figure



1. Another example figure[[3]](#footnote-3)

# REFERENCES

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1. Abcd
2. Efgh
4. GUIDANCE (EXAMPLE OF AN ANNEX ON A LANDSCAPE PAGE)

Body text

1. An example of an ANNEX heading level 1 [*followed by style: heading separation line – landscape]*

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* 1. an example of an annex heading level 2

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* + 1. An example of an annex heading level 3

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* + - 1. An example of an annex heading level 4

Body text

1. Example table

| No | Title/Topic | IMO References | Requirements | Possible Audit Questions | Remarks |
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1. Example of an Appendix Title
2. APPENDIX HEADING 1

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1. CHECKLIST FOR (Example Annex Title)
2. Introduction (Example Annex Heading 1)

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* 1. Example of an ANNEX HEADING Level 2

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1. <http://pssa.imo.org/#/intro> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Example of footnote text [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Example of footnote text [↑](#footnote-ref-3)