

Management Progress and Priorities for Large-Scale Marine Protected Area Management

*Data summary:
A survey of the global LSMPA community of practice*

September 2021



BIG OCEAN



HUMAN DIMENSIONS
of **LARGE MARINE PROTECTED AREAS**

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Description of survey and survey respondents

Survey purpose and scope:

This was an exploratory survey designed to collect baseline information about the status of LSMPA management and implementation globally. The survey was specifically designed to inform discussions at the LSMPA Managers Summit 2021. The data presented here reflect the *perceptions* of survey respondents. The LSMPA community of practice is a small but diverse population, as are the LSMPA sites themselves. Thus, with a relatively small sample size (30 respondents with experience at 15 LSMPAs globally) this survey can provide a useful starting point for identifying trends or issues across the broader field. Importantly, the survey does not represent the views of the 'field' as a whole. Its results are intended to show the range of views across sites represented in the survey, rather than to generalize to all LSMPA sites.

Survey description:

This report includes results from two separate surveys administered online to people who had registered for the Big Ocean Summit, a meeting the Big Ocean Network organized for the Large-scale Marine Protected Area (LSMPA) community of practice in August 2021. Participants were offered a choice of two surveys and were directed to take the survey that best suited their LSMPA experience:

- (1) **Site-specific survey:** designed for people who have in-depth knowledge and/or experience with at least one LSMPA site
- (2) **General survey:** designed for people whose knowledge of LSMPAs is more generalized and do not have in-depth knowledge/experience at any particular LSMPA site

We report results for each survey separately. The results reported here include responses between June 30- July 12, 2021.

Overall number of respondents:

- Site-specific survey: 18
- General survey: 12
- Total respondents: 30

Sites represented:

- 15 sites covered across both surveys – approximately half of the LSMPAs globally
- For most sites, only one respondent took the survey. For those sites where more than one person completed the survey, the total number of respondents is noted in parentheses.
- **Site-specific survey** – Respondents were asked to indicate which LSMPA they know best - that they work for or are connected to - and answer all questions about this

site. Respondents held in-depth knowledge of 11 sites.

- **General survey** - Respondents were asked to indicate which LSMPAs they know best (could indicate multiple sites) and directed to answer all remaining questions with these sites in mind. Respondents selected 7 sites.

Sites represented in the survey	Number of respondents - Site specific survey	Number of respondents - General survey
Asencion Island Marine Protected Area	1	-
Australia Commonwealth Marine Reserve(s)	1	-
Azov-Black Sea coastal ecological corridor of Ukraine	1	-
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	-	1
Mar de Juan Fernández Marine Park	2	-
Marae Moana Marine Park	-	1
Marianas Trench Marine National Monument	1	-
Motu Motiro Hiva Marine Park	3	-
Natural Park of the Coral Sea	1	1
Nazca-Desventuradas Marine Park	2	-
Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument	1	-
Palau National Marine Sanctuary	1	1
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument	4	2
Phoenix Islands Protected Area	-	1
Rapa Nui Marine Protected Area	-	1
Not specified		4
Total	18	12

Organizations represented:

For the site-specific survey, respondents were mainly from government (either the office directly responsible for LSMPA management or a supporting agency) (72%)

For the general survey, respondents were primarily from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (58%). Respondents could select more than one organizational affiliation.

	Site-specific survey	General survey
Government-office responsible for LSMPA management	11	1
Government - supporting agency-office	2	
Non-governmental organization/non-profit organization	3	7
Academic institution	2	2
Donor organization	0	
Community-based or cultural organization	1	
Other	1	2

Language surveys were taken in:

	Site-specific survey	General survey
English	14	11
Spanish	4	0
French	0	1

How we report results:

We report results by number of respondents and/or sites, depending on the nature of the survey question. We always make this distinction clear.

Some sites had multiple respondents. For the site-specific survey we managed this in the following way: When we report ‘site level’ findings for sites with multiple respondents, the response was the consistent across all respondents unless explicitly noted otherwise. When responses varied for a single site, we note (in a footnote) that there was diversity in how multiple respondents associated with a single site responded. In such cases, which are common, we report the number of sites where at least one respondent from that site indicated the corresponding response. This means that the number of sites represented in the data may be larger than the number of sites represented in the survey (i.e., if two people from one site responded differently to a given question, that site would be counted in two different responses). This approach captures spread in the data across sites while still recognizing diversity in perceptions across respondents.

Finally, we note that the total number of respondents was not consistent for all questions; sometimes people skipped a question or only completed the survey partially.

For copies of the survey instrument:

Please contact Rebecca Gruby (rgruby@colostate.edu) or Noella Gray (grayn@uoguelph.ca) if you would like a copy of the survey instruments.

Survey Results – Site Specific Survey

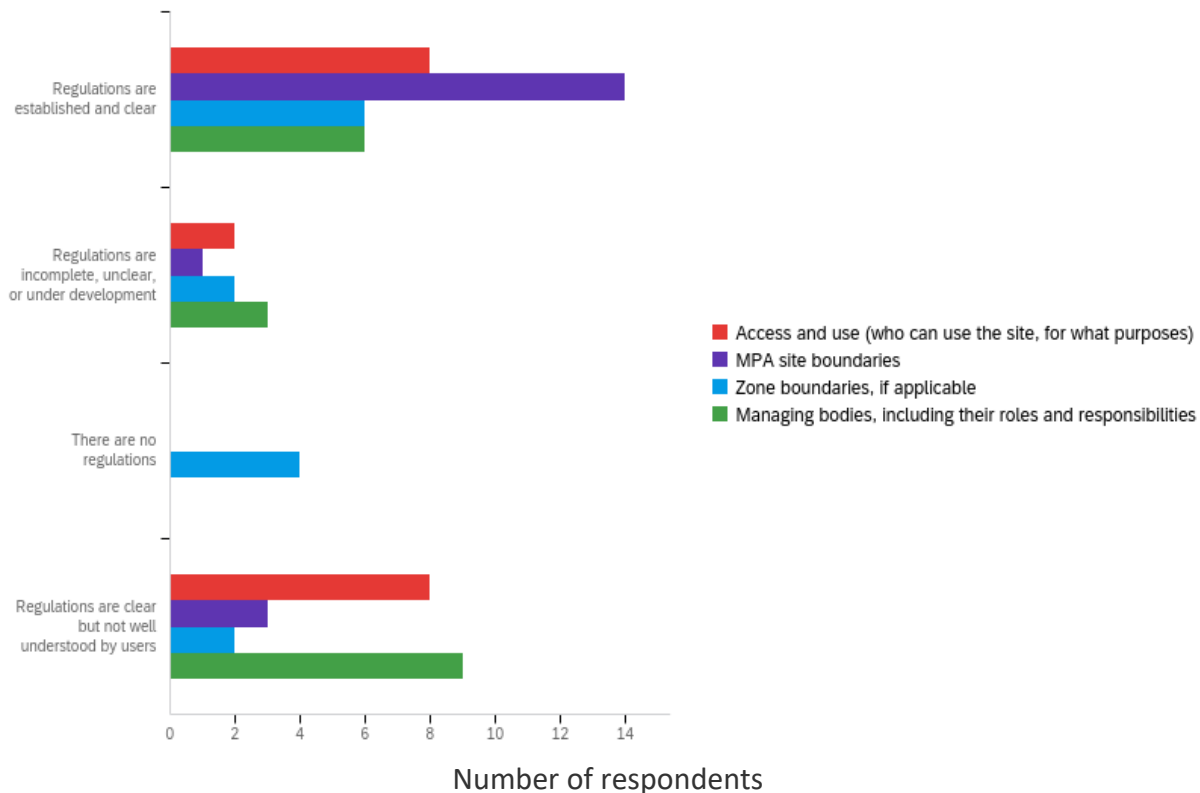
Section 1: Management – regulations, structure, management plan

Q1 – Official Establishment

- **All of the sites** in the site-specific survey had been **officially** established through an Act of parliament or equivalent; under national or regional legislation, or through Presidential order or equivalent.

Q2– How would you describe regulations at this site?

- The most common response was that LSMPA regulations are established and clear. But they are not always well understood – and this was particularly a concern for 2 types of regulations: 1) access and use and 2) Managing bodies, including their roles and responsibilities.



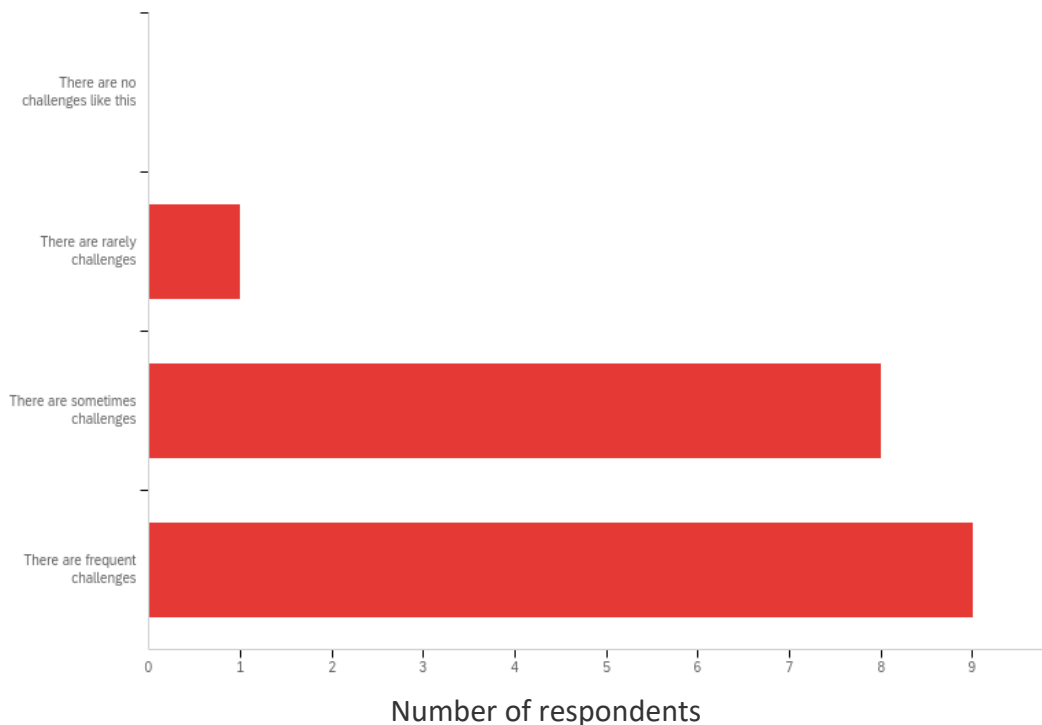
Q3 – Which type(s) of agencies or organizations are officially responsible for management at this site? Please check all that apply.

Summary: National government is key. Most sites include national level government, and about half indicated that primary responsibility was solely with government agencies at the federal/national level.

- Only 2 sites where the agencies or organizations officially responsible for management did not include national level government:
 - 1 site indicated Local-level government (e.g. municipality, village council)
 - 1 site indicated Government agency at sub-national level (e.g. state, territorial)
- 5 sites where primary responsibility lies solely with government agency at the federal/national level
- 4 sites where it was shared among federal government and one or more of the following:
 - NGO (1 site)
 - Sub-national government (2 sites)
 - Customary or indigenous government (1 site)
 - Local community (1)

Q4 – Are there any challenges for this site in coordinating across management bodies and/or levels of government?

Coordination challenges are common across all sites but one. These challenges were cited as “frequent” by respondents in most sites (7 out of the 11 sites represented in the survey).

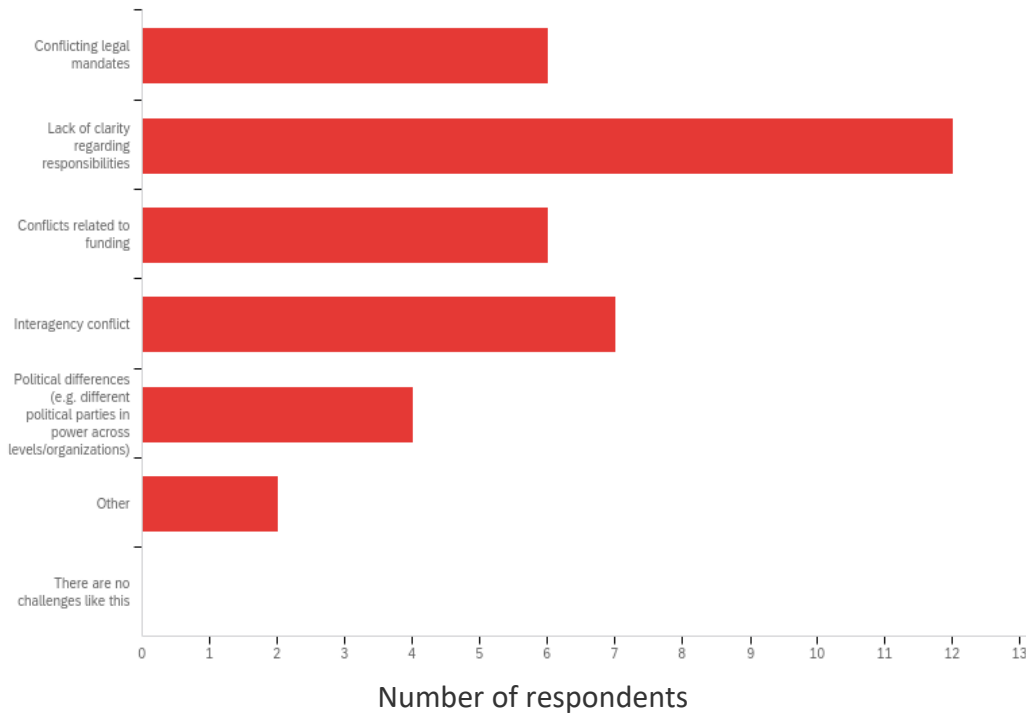


Q5 – If there are challenges coordinating across management bodies and/or levels of government, how would you describe these challenges? Please check all that apply.

The most commonly cited challenge was a lack of clarity regarding responsibilities, followed by interagency conflict, and then conflicting legal mandates and conflicts related to funding.

Respondents listed two additional challenges under ‘other’:

- Unclear what data/information should be communicated, why, and how often.
- Cultural differences (e.g. different worldviews, cultural values and how this translates into management, etc.)

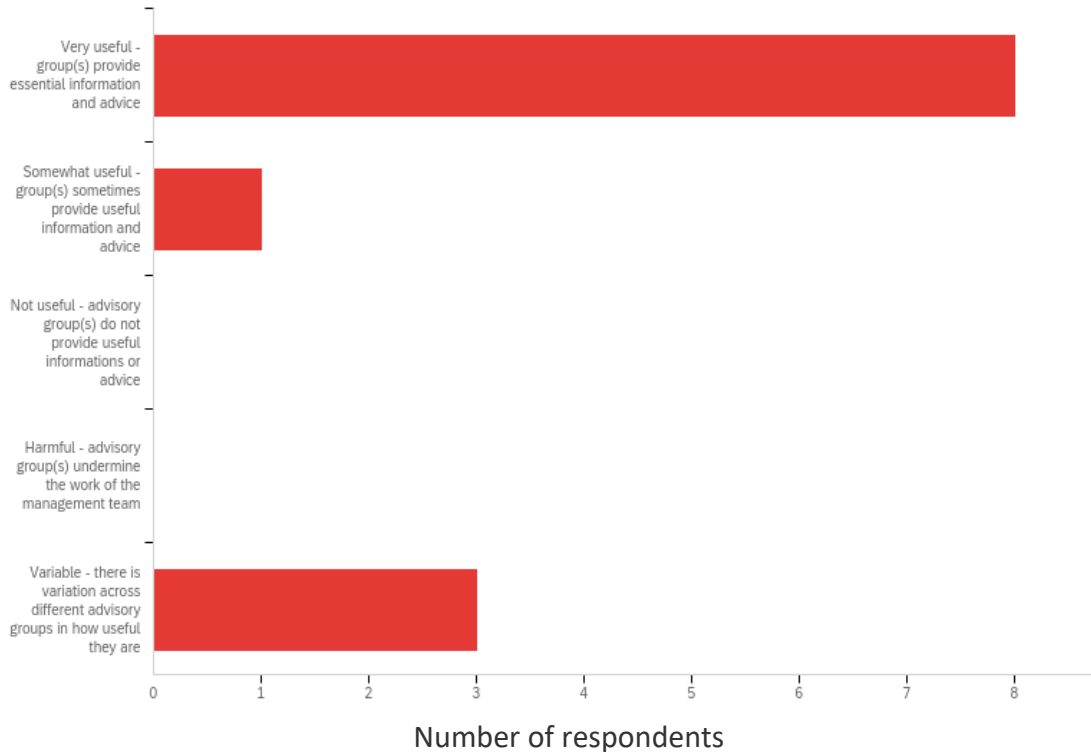


Q6 – Does this site have an advisory council(s) or similar group(s)? (An advisory council includes representatives from various stakeholder groups who provide advice to the management bodies).

8 sites have advisory councils or similar groups, and 3 do not.

Q7 – (Only for sites that have an advisory council). Consider the role of all advisory groups at this site. How useful is the group/are the groups in supporting the work of the management team?

Most respondents and sites found them very useful. No one found them to be ‘not useful’ or ‘harmful.’



Q8 – Does your site have a management plan?

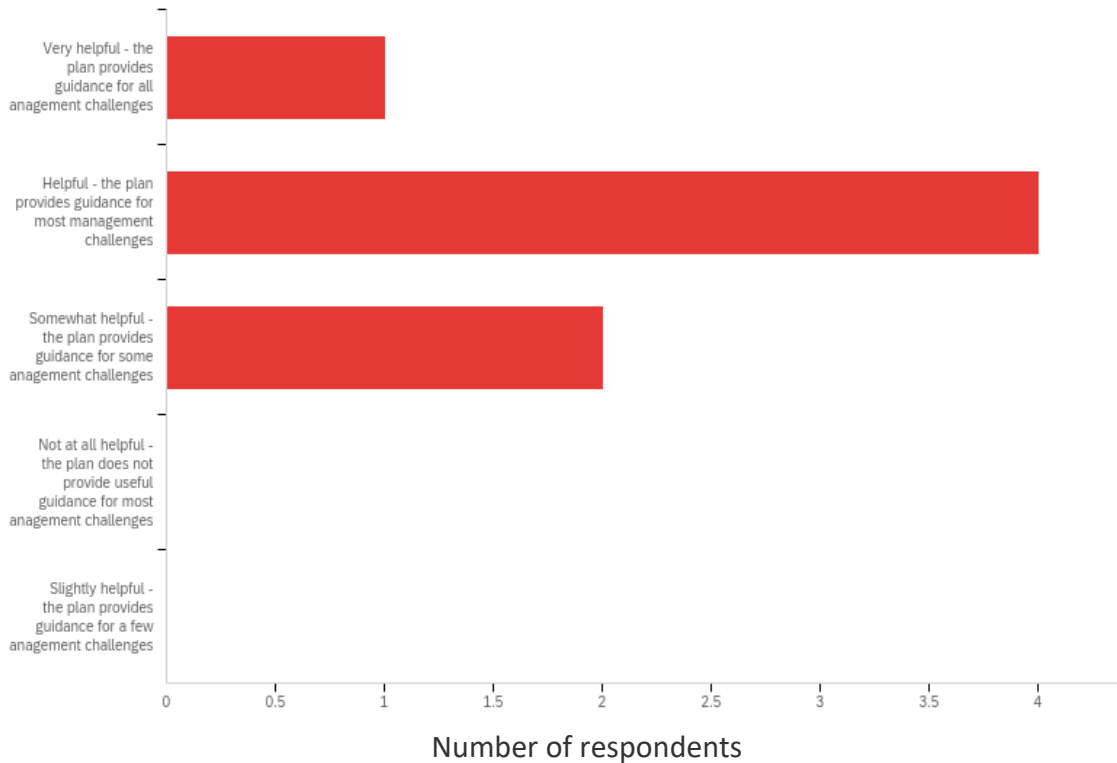
Less than half of the sites have a current management plan.

Most of those sites that do not have a current management are in the process of developing one. All sites that are currently developing management plans anticipate the plan to be completed within the next 2 years (by 2023).

	Number of sites
Yes, and it is still current	4
No, but there is one being developed	6
Yes, but it has expired and there is not yet a new plan in place.	1
No	0

Q9 – (For sites that have a management plan) How useful is the management plan for addressing management challenges at the site?

Respondents generally found the existing management plans to be helpful.



Q10– (For sites that have a management plan) How well does the management plan at this site address the management challenges associated with climate change?

Summary: Answers vary widely across the 4 sites that have existing management plans, and also among respondents associated with the same site. Respondents familiar with only 2 of the 11 sites indicated that the site is taking climate change into account ‘well’ in a management plan. It is unknown whether/how sites may be accounting for climate change outside of a formal management plan.

Respondents for two sites indicated “Well - climate change is addressed comprehensively throughout management plan”.

A respondent from a third site said “Poorly - climate change is addressed in a superficial way in the management plan”

Respondents from a fourth site had answers ranging from ‘Not at all’ to ‘Acceptably’.

Section 2 – Community and conflict

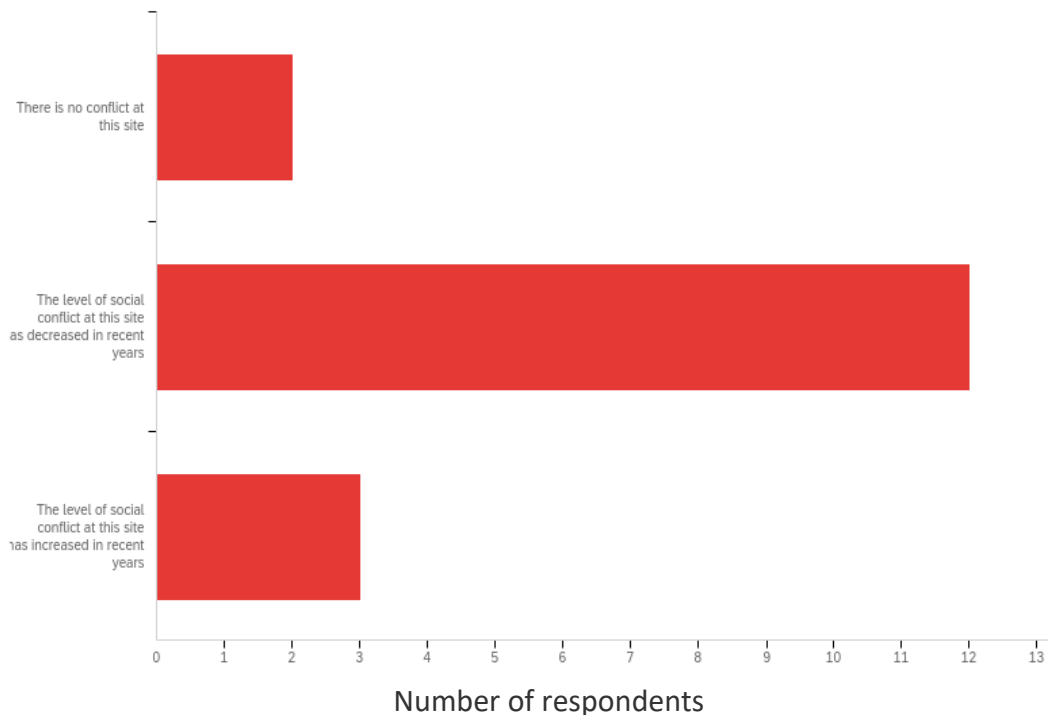
Q11 – How would you describe the involvement of community members in ongoing decision-making processes at this site?

Respondents indicated that community members are somewhat or very involved in ongoing decision-making in most sites represented in this survey.

Response	Number of sites
Very or somewhat involved	8
Minimally involved (e.g. only involved when required by law or regulation) or Not at all involved	3

Q12 – How would you describe the current level of social conflict (e.g., among community groups, rights holders, stakeholder groups, the management team, and/or others) associated with this LSMPA?

A large majority of respondents described the level of social conflict as decreasing in recent years, across most sites.



Section 3- Objectives and outcomes

Q13 – LSMPAs may have multiple objectives. At this site, which of the following kinds of objectives are officially established (e.g. in law, policy, or management plans) AND actively prioritized in management? Check all that apply:

All sites actively prioritize protection or conservation of natural heritage - Biodiversity and important habitats.

Most sites also actively prioritize cultural heritage.

Less than half of the sites prioritized sustainable production and/or income generation.

Results by site¹:

Objective	Number of sites where objective is officially established and actively prioritized in management
Protection or conservation of natural heritage - Biodiversity and important habitats	11
Protection or conservation of cultural heritage	7
Sustainable production and/or income generation	5
Other	1 (sustainable tourism)

Q14 – Does this site align with an IUCN category? If so, please check.

Sites aligned with a wide range of IUCN categories – all except wilderness area.

The most common categorizes were 1a-strict nature reserve and VI-protected area with sustainable use of nature resources, listed by respondents at 3 sites each.

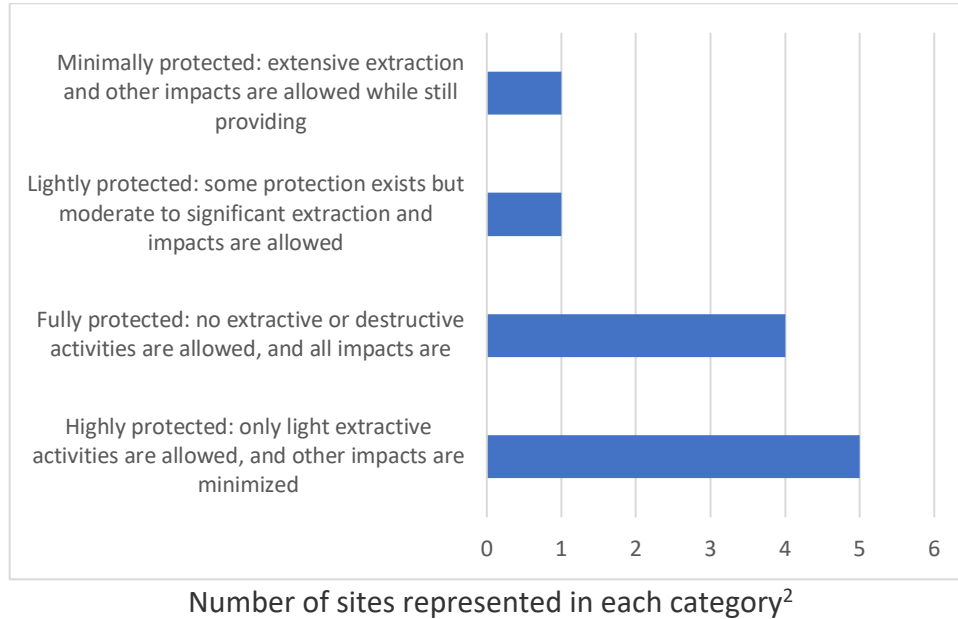
Two sites do not follow this classification.

Participants from 2 sites with multiple respondents gave divergent answers, suggesting that the classification may not be clear or broadly used in those sites.

¹ Two of the sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent answers. The table indicates the number of sites with at least one respondent who indicated the objective as actively prioritized in management.

Q15 – Overall, how would you describe the level of protection at this site?

Most respondents across the large majority of the sites indicated that the site is either “highly” or “fully” protected.



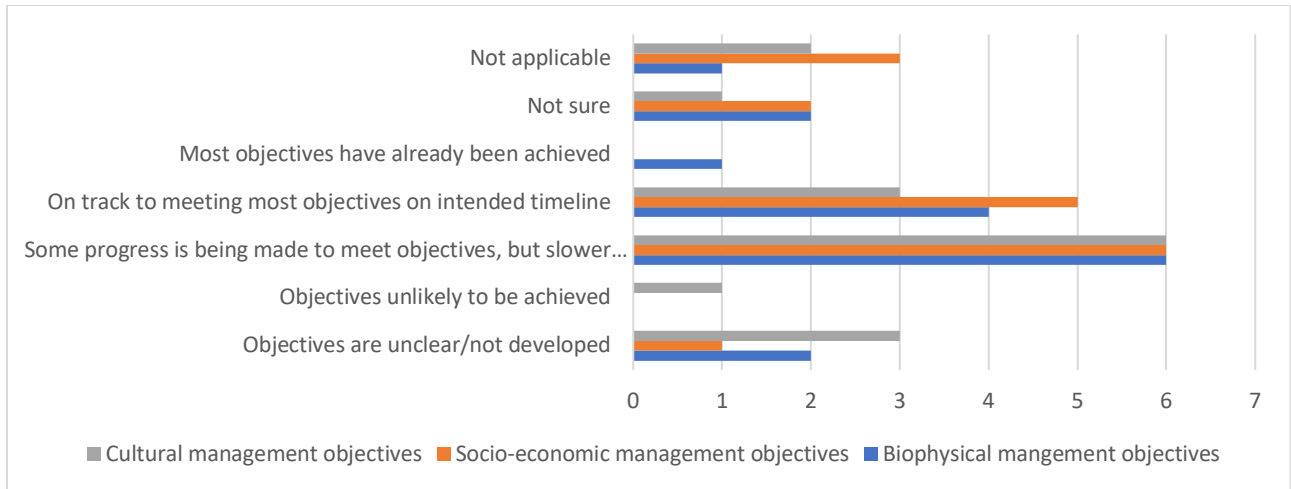
Q16 – Progress toward meeting management objectives

Summary: Almost no one indicated that most biophysical, socio-economic, or cultural management objectives of that site had already been achieved. On the other hand, almost no one felt that the objectives were unlikely to be achieved. Most responses fell somewhere in the middle. The majority of responses across a majority of sites indicated that either *there was some progress being made toward each of the applicable objectives, although slower than expected* or that *the site was on track to meeting most objectives on the intended timeline*.

There aren't large differences across sites in progress across the different types of objectives, although fewer sites are on track to meeting cultural management objectives relative to their socio-economic and biophysical management objectives.

There was particularly wide variability in responses to this question for sites with multiple respondents. One potential explanation is that limitations in monitoring (see Q17) may be limiting systematic and shared understanding of progress toward meeting various objectives.

² No data for two sites. Two sites with multiple respondents had inconsistent answers. This table reports each site where at least one respondent from that site indicated the corresponding response.



Number of sites represented in each category³

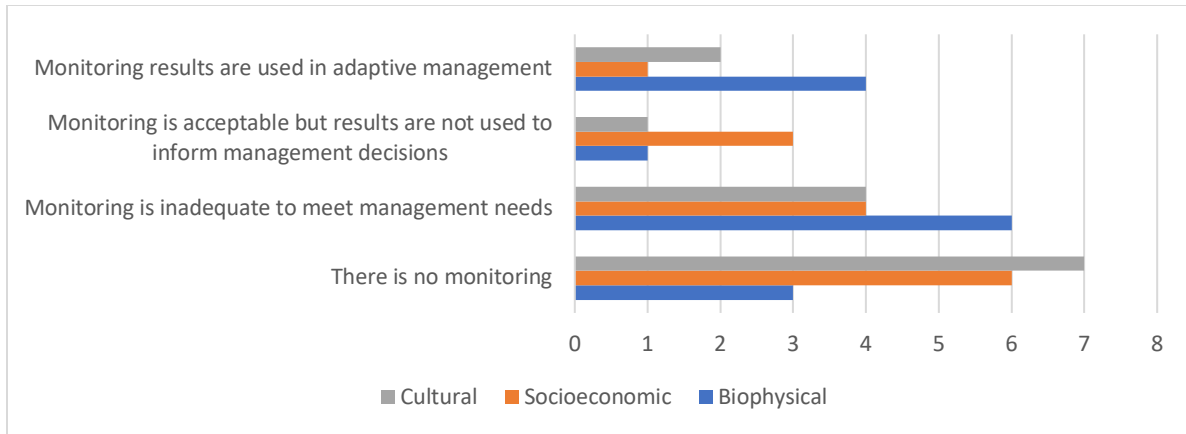
Section 4- Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Management

Monitoring of biophysical, socio-economic and/or cultural variables is sometimes conducted at MPAs in order to assess progress toward meeting management objectives. For example, this may include monitoring resource conditions or impacts on livelihoods. This section asks about monitoring activities at this site.

Q17 – How would you describe the current monitoring strategies for the most critical biophysical, socioeconomic, and cultural issues facing your site?

Monitoring deficiencies are common across all issues. There is no monitoring for cultural or socioeconomic issues in about half of the sites. The use of monitoring results for adaptive management is uncommon in general. When it does happen, it is done most often for biophysical issues (4 sites).

³ Three of the sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

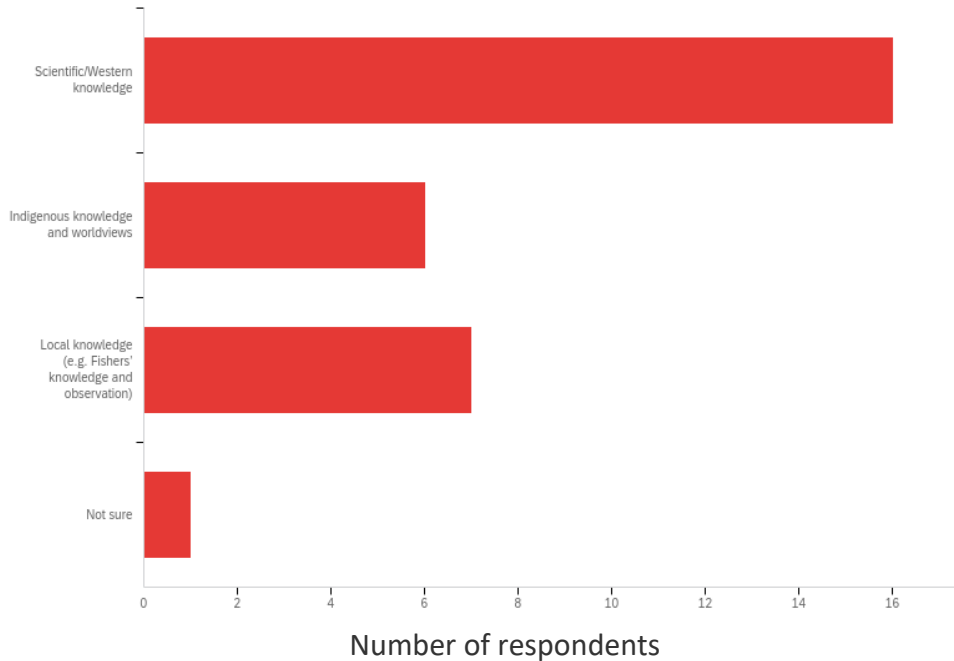


Number of sites represented in each category⁴

Q18 – Which knowledge systems are used to inform monitoring practices at this site? Please check all that apply

All sites report relying on scientific/western knowledge.

Respondents from about half of the sites (6 sites) also reported engaging local knowledge and/or Indigenous knowledge and worldviews in addition to scientific/western knowledge.

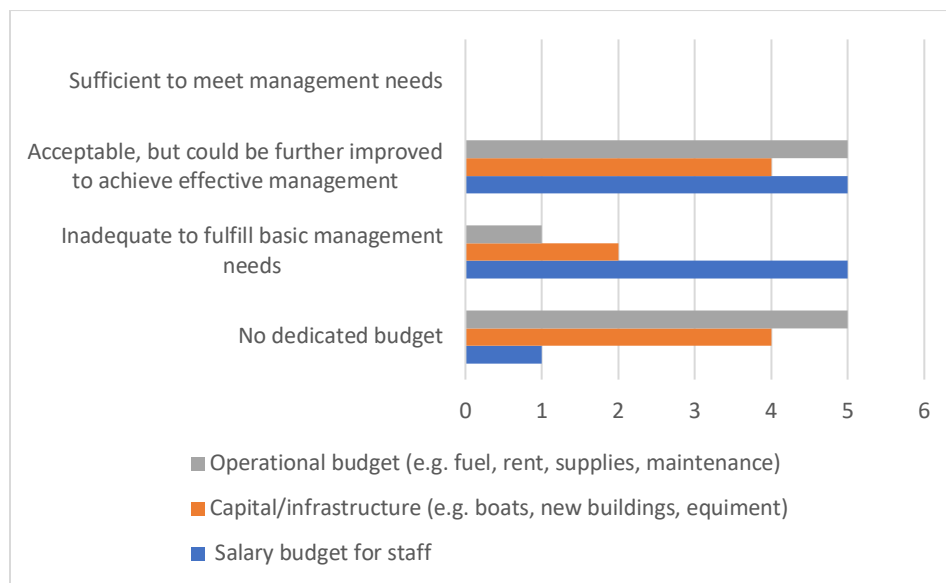


⁴ Three of the sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Section 5- Budget

Q19 – How would you characterize each aspect of the management budget at this site, relative to the current management needs?

Summary: All sites are under-funded relative to their needs. No respondents reported that ‘the available budget is sufficient to meet management needs’ in any category. About half of the sites represented in this survey (5 out of 11) are severely under-funded (meaning: respondents report either reporting no dedicated budget or a budget that is inadequate to fulfill basic management functions across all budget categories). There is no one budget category that is more or less well funded across sites. The variation is at the site level, with consistency across all budget categories.



Number of sites represented in each category⁵

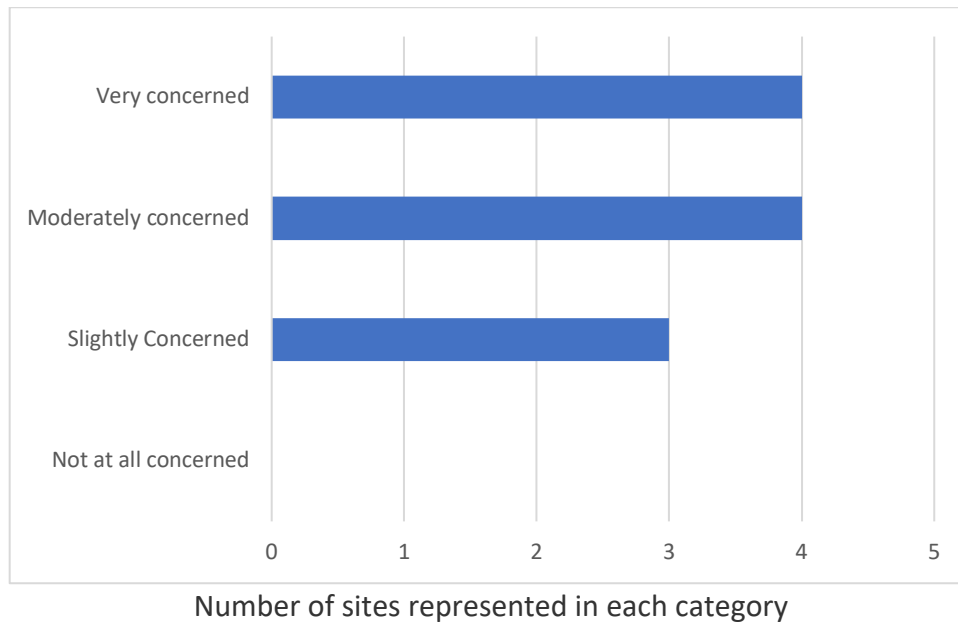
Q20 – How concerned are you about the stability of the budget at this site over the next 5 years?

There is some degree of concern about the stability of the budget across all sites.

The level of concern was fairly evenly distributed across ‘slightly, moderately, and very’ concerned, and generally (but not always) corresponded to the current level of funding (Q19). Respondents from 4 of the sites that either have no dedicated budget or a budget that is inadequate to fulfill basic management functions were more concerned than others; they reported that they were ‘very concerned,’ suggesting there may not be obvious sources of funding on the horizon for those sites.

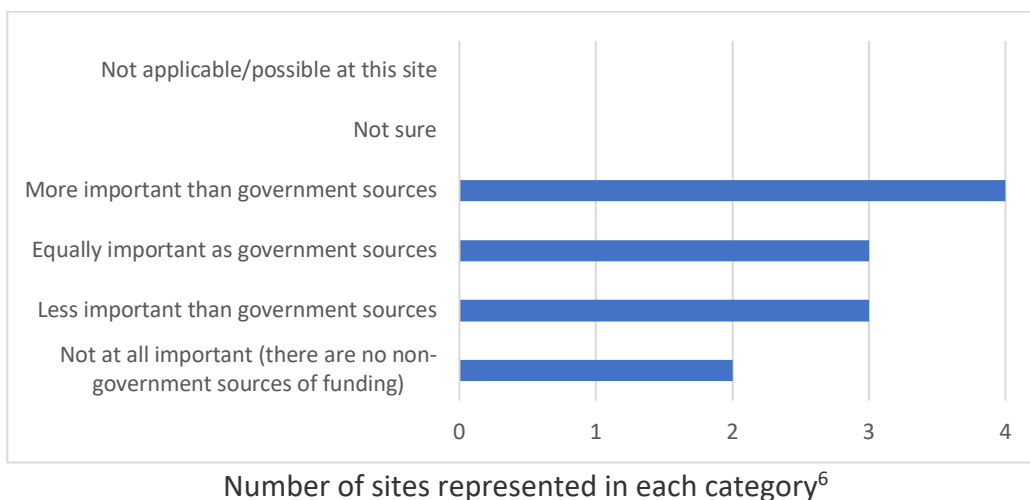
⁵ This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Respondents from sites that had ‘acceptable’ funding levels were relatively less concerned than others: they were either slightly or moderately concerned.



Q21 – How important are non-governmental sources of funding for the management budget at this site? (e.g. trusts, grants or donations from non-profit organizations, multi-lateral funding agencies, philanthropic donors, etc.)

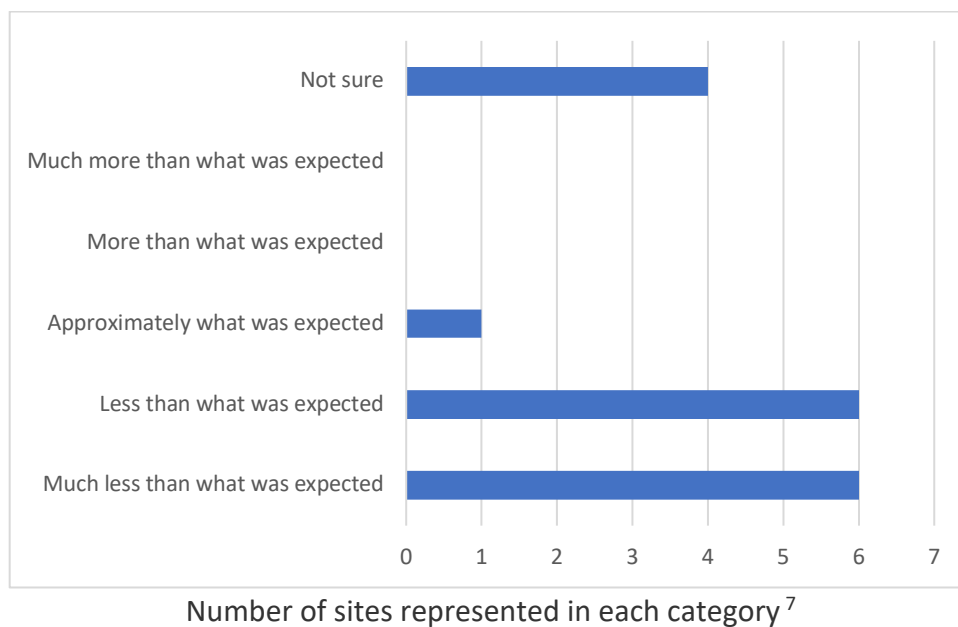
Importance of non-governmental sources of funding is variable across the sites, but often important. It’s notable that for respondents at 7 sites – more than half in the study – that non-governmental sources of funding are equally or more important than government sources.



⁶ One site with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Q22 – When you consider the funding that was promised or expected at the time this LSMPA was designated, how would you characterize the current funding available for this site?

A largely majority of respondents (nearly everyone who had knowledge about this) reported that the current funding for their site is “less” or “much less” than what was promised or expected at the time this LSMPA was designated.



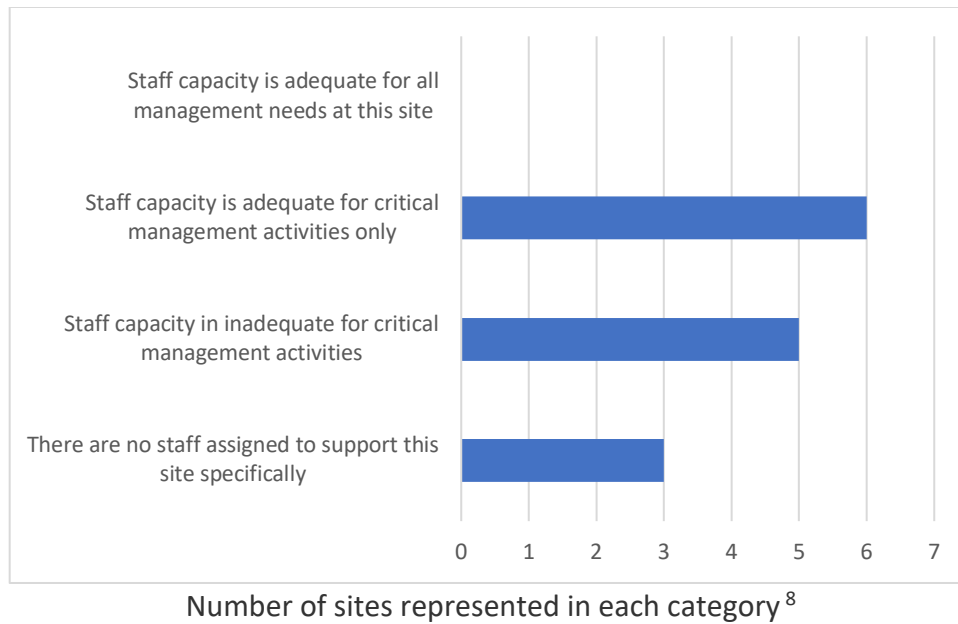
Section 6- Staff Capacity

Staff refers to people whose jobs are all or partially dedicated to supporting LSMPA management.

Q23 – Staff capacity refers to both the number of personnel and the adequacy of their training/technical skills to meet management needs. How would you describe the capacity of LSMPA staff at this site?

Summary: No sites report that staff capacity is adequate for all management needs. Respondents associated with most of the sites represented in this study – 8 sites, or ~73% – report that there is either no staff assigned to support the site specifically, or that staff capacity is inadequate for critical management activities.

⁷ Two sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.



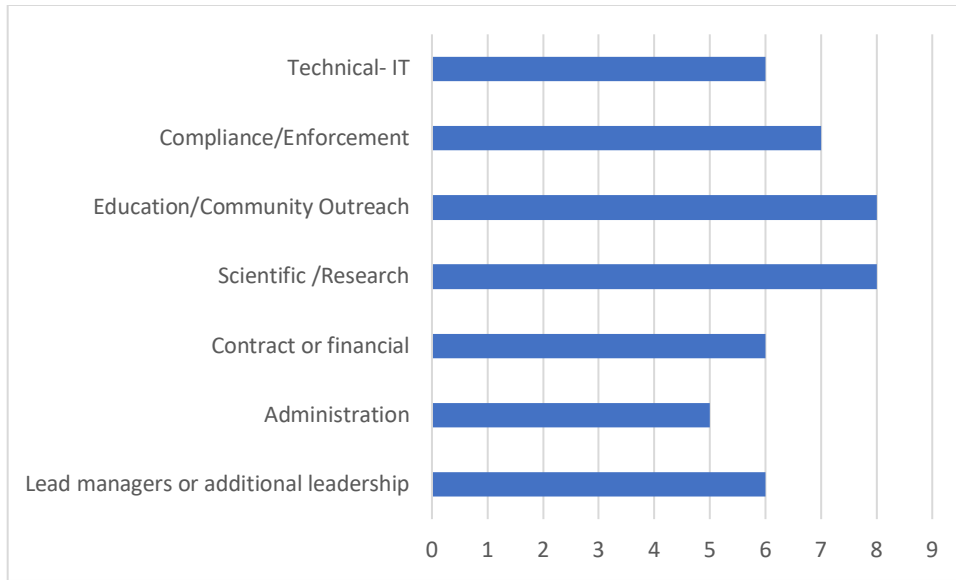
Q24 – If staff capacity is lacking, which specific positions or skills would need to be added to fulfill all management needs at the site? Please check all that apply.

Respondents from most of the sites identified needs for specific positions or skills across multiple areas.

Needs were fairly evenly distributed across the categories. Need for Scientific/Research and Education/Community Outreach related skills and positions were identified slightly more frequently across the sites.

Other skills/positions respondents identified needs for include: Marine park rangers, Cultural Heritage Management, Community engagement

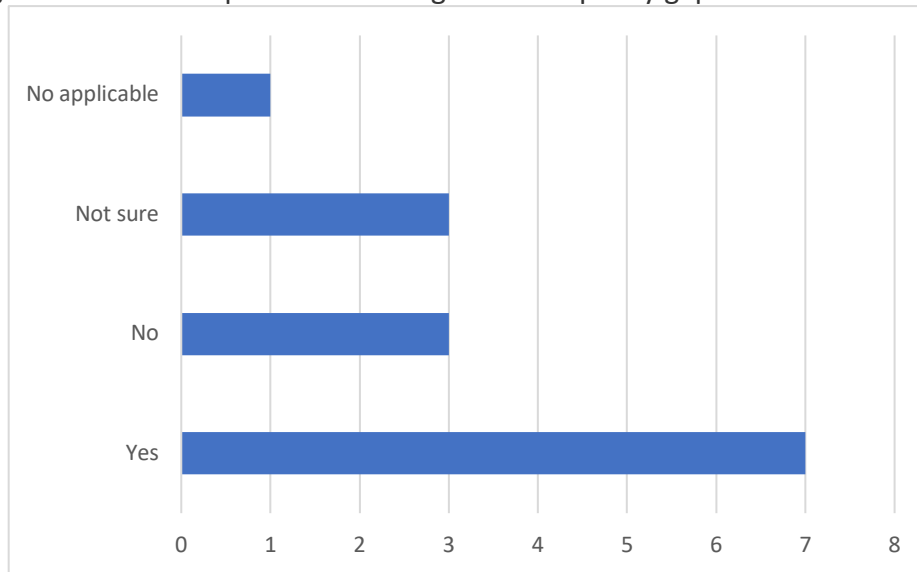
⁸ Three sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports each site where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.



Number of sites represented in each category⁹

Q25 – If staff capacity is lacking in the team that is formally responsible for LSMPA management, do external organizations provide support to fill in gaps?

External organizations are important for filling in staff capacity gaps.



Number of sites represented in each category¹⁰

⁹ Three sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

¹⁰ Two sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

**Q26 -Does the site have a publicly accessible website? AND
Q27 - Is the website updated?**

About half of the sites represented in this study have publicly accessible websites. All but one of those websites are updated occasionally or frequently.

Response by site¹¹:

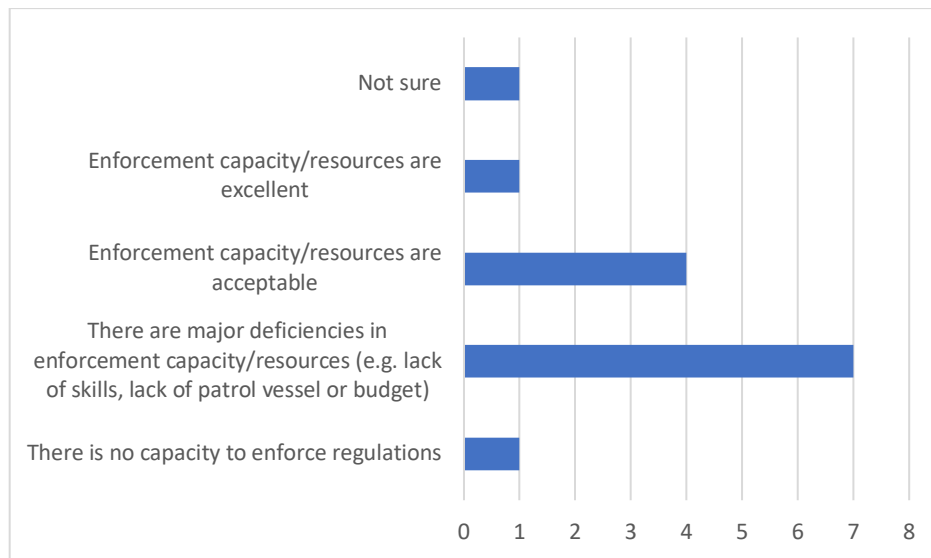
Publicly available website?	Number of sites
Yes	6
No	6

Section 7- Surveillance and Enforcement Capacity

Surveillance and enforcement capacity includes the ability and resources to monitor use of the site and to enforce all regulations for the LSMPA.

Q28 – How would you characterize the surveillance and enforcement capacity at this site?

Summary: Respondents from most sites (8 out of 11) reported serious deficiencies in surveillance and enforcement capacity.



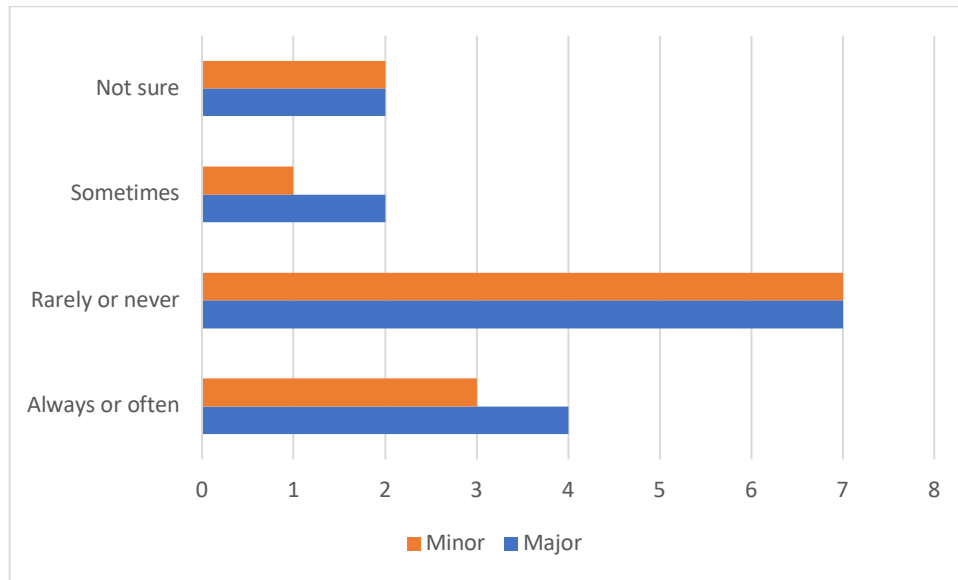
Number of sites represented in each category¹²

¹¹ One site with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

¹² Two sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Q29 – When there are violations of LSMPA regulations, how frequently are they legally prosecuted or resolved through another acceptable mechanism? Consider for both major violations (e.g. illegal industrial fishing, dumping, spills, grounding) and minor violations (e.g. entry without permit, illegal recreational or artisanal fishing).

Summary: The most common response across sites is that both major and minor violations are “rarely or never” prosecuted. This response is consistent with the significant number of sites that report deficiencies in capacity. There are not major differences across major or minor violations.

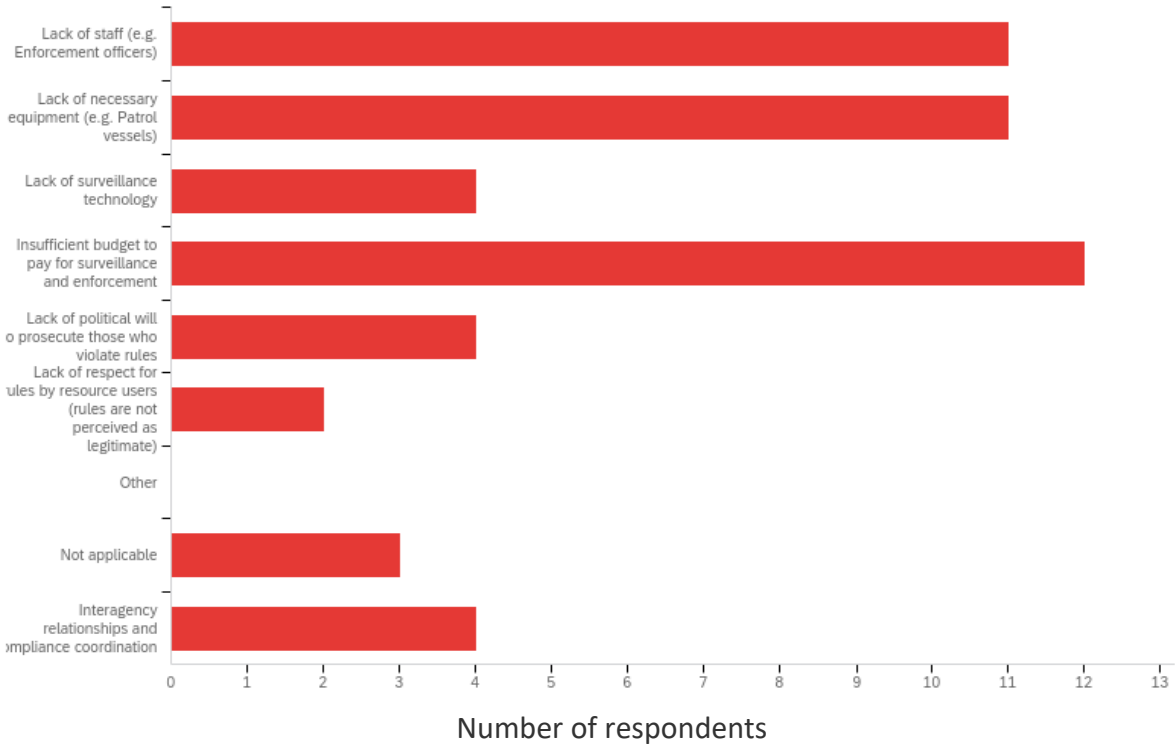


Number of sites represented in each category¹³

Q30 – If surveillance and enforcement are not as effective as you think they should be, what are the main barriers or challenges? Please check all that apply.

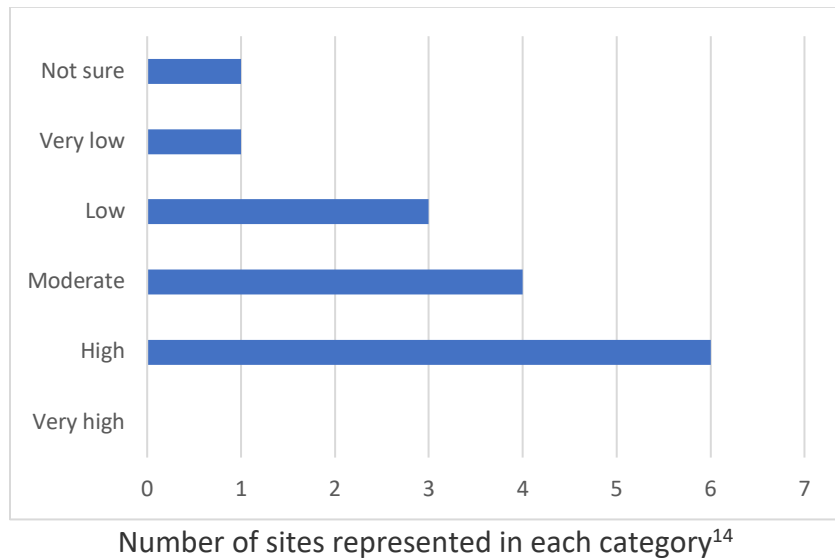
Summary: The three most commonly identified barriers or challenges are inter-related: insufficient budget to pay for surveillance and enforcement, lack of staff, lack of necessary equipment.

¹³ Two sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.



Q31 – How would you describe the current level of support for the site among relevant high-level government officials?

Summary: Most sites have moderate to high support among relevant high-level government officials – a measure of political support.

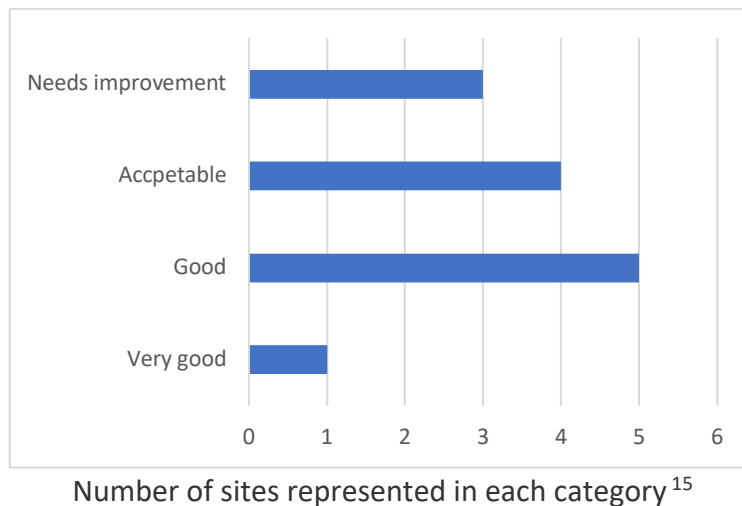


¹⁴ Three sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Q32 – How would you describe the capacity of the management team to develop and maintain political relationships?

Summary: Responses to Q32 correlated with responses to Q31: All respondents who reported low to very low political support indicated that the capacity of the management team to develop and maintain political relationships needs improvement. All respondents who reported moderate to high political support indicated that the capacity of the management team to develop and maintain political relationships is acceptable to very good. Correlation among political support and political “skills” of the management team does not imply causation, but this is a relationship worth exploring further.

Most commonly, across respondents and sites, this type of capacity was rated acceptable or good.



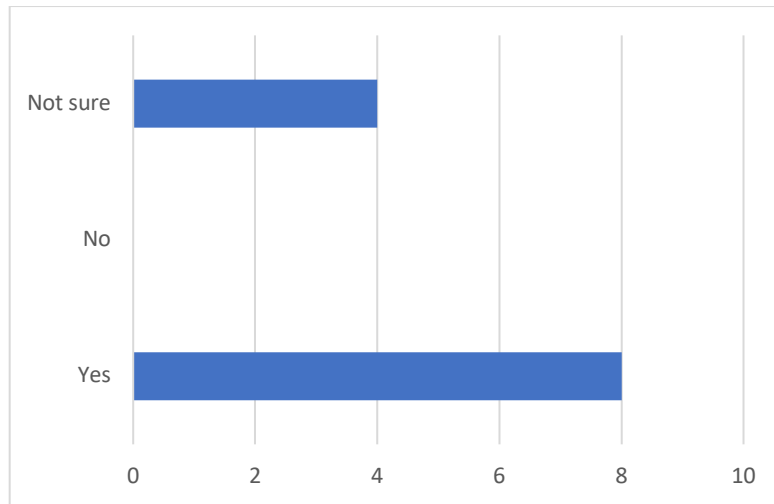
Section 8- Equity

Equitable management is increasingly a focus for protected areas generally, including LSMPAs. Equity can refer to the fairness in distribution of positive and negative impacts among groups, respect for rights and knowledge of all groups in management, and inclusiveness in decision-making processes.

Q33- Is equitable management a priority at this site? (e.g. included in management plan, agency mandate, etc).

Respondents indicated that equitable management is a priority for most sites .

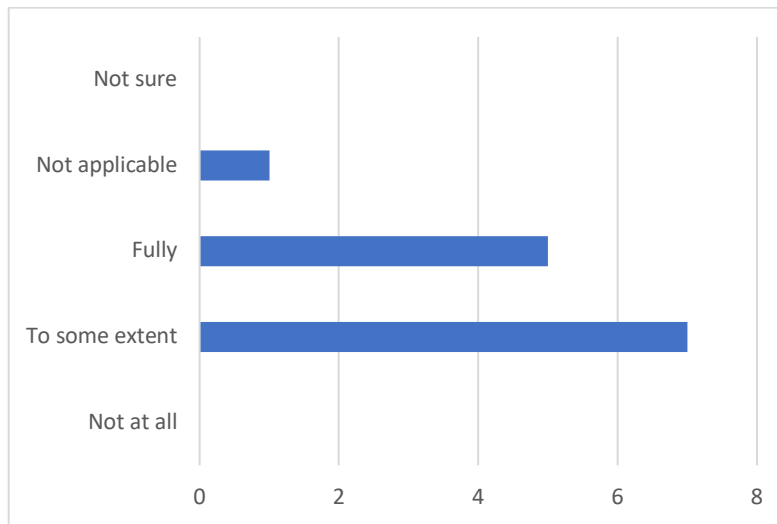
¹⁵ One site with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.



Number of sites represented in each category¹⁶

Q34 – To what extent are the rights and knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local communities respected in the management of this site?

Consistent with answers to Q33, respondents indicated that rights and knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local communities are either “fully” or “to some extent” respected in the management of this site.



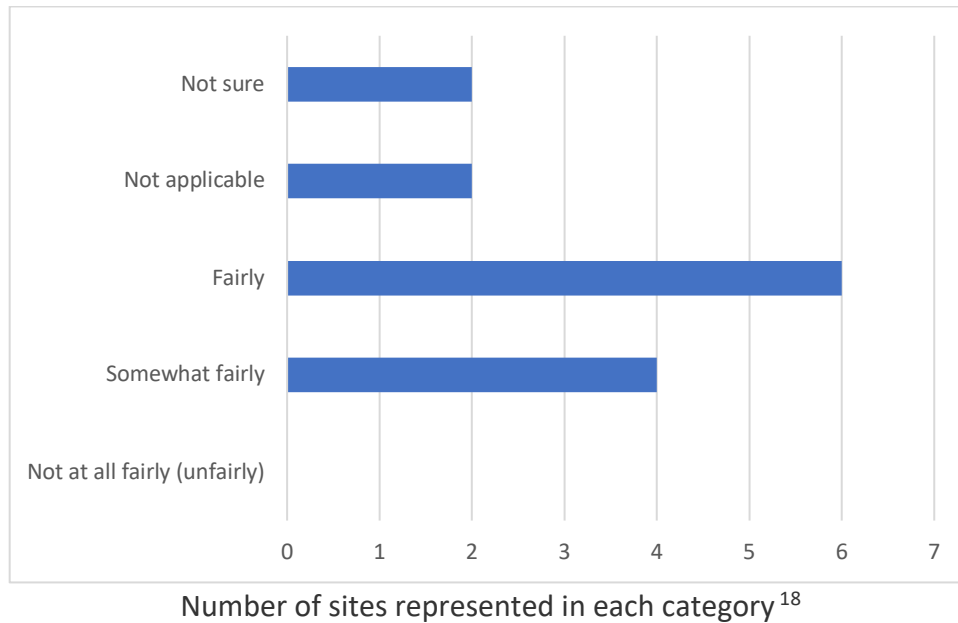
Number of sites represented in each category¹⁷

¹⁶ One site with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

¹⁷ Two sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.

Q35 – When you consider the costs and benefits associated with the LSMPA (e.g. changes in access to resources), how fairly do you think these are distributed among individuals and social groups?

No one said that costs and benefits were distributed unfairly, although some were unsure or described the question as not applicable.



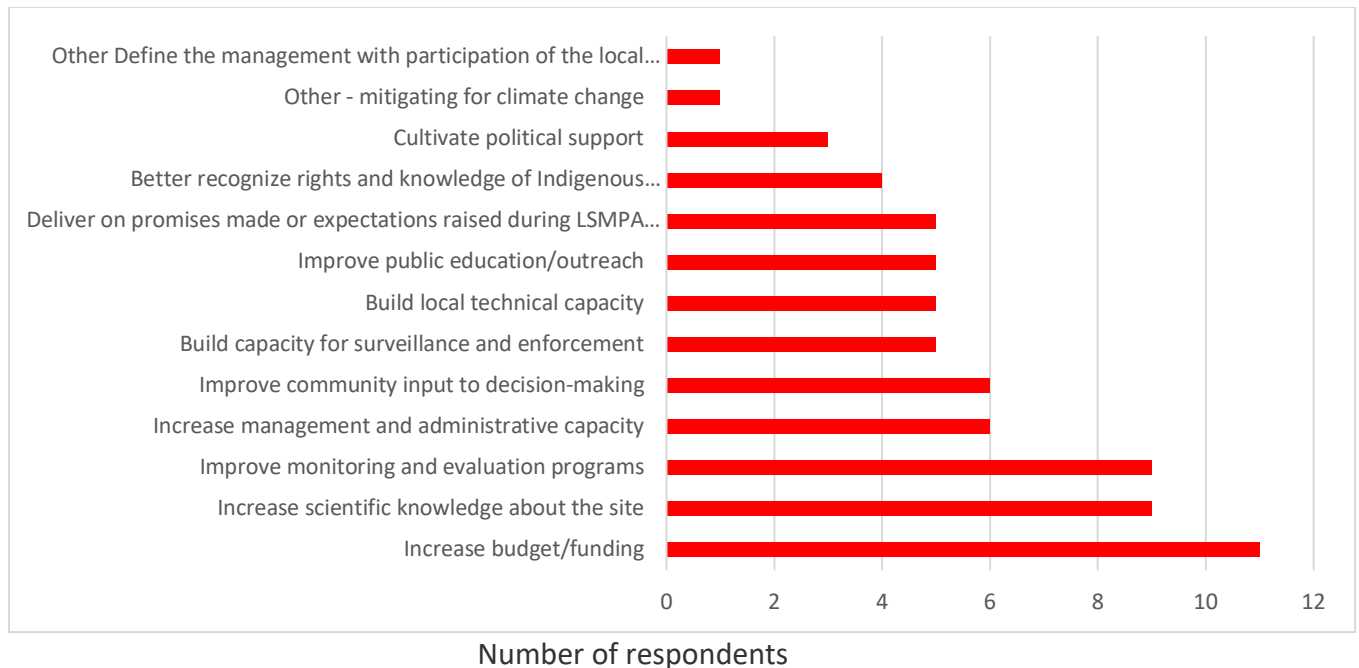
Section 9 - Key Management Priorities

Q36 – In your opinion, what are the three most important priorities at this site over the next 5 years?

The three priorities identified by the most respondents include:

- 1) Increase budget/funding
- 2) Increase scientific knowledge about the site
- 3) Improve monitoring and evaluation programs

¹⁸ Three sites with multiple respondents did not have consistent responses. This table reports the number of sites where at least one respondent indicated the corresponding response.



Q37 – For the priorities you indicated above, what ideas do you have for how the site can best make progress on these?

This was an open-ended question. Participants had many ideas about how to make progress on the priorities they identified.

Summary of themes in detailed responses:

- **Increase government support and commitment**
- **Increasing management/governance knowledge and experience**
- **Increase and diversify budget**
 - Raise profile of budget issues with high level governments and politicians
 - Increase government funding
 - Attract and leverage funding from private and NGO sources, including trust funds
 - Broaden scope for fundraising and train staff to align with international standards of finance scrutiny.
 - Establish collaboration agreements with donors
 - Develop sustainable financing plan that allow long term planning
- **Increase scientific knowledge & research**
 - Identify more inexpensive ways of doing research and collecting data, and with an ability to do it on a continuous basis. Important to always look for opportunities to collaborate
- **Learning community**

- Create community of MPA “inspectors” to share experiences, training and best practice
- Learn best practices from other sites (particularly in relation to joint governance with Indigenous peoples)
- **Clarify administration – roles, responsibilities, and budgets**
- **Strengthen involvement of Indigenous and local communities in management**
 - Strengthen co-management
 - Reform laws and LSMPA governance to formalize involvement
- **Hire more staff**
- **Monitor outcomes and clear & transparent communication about them**
 - Provide regular feedback on progress and rectify misconceptions
 - Review and revisit what promises were made and outline tangible actions in how these will be achieved. An honest review of if these promises are in fact deliverable should be done.
 - Develop a clear understanding of some of the easier, low hanging fruit aspects that can be focused on first.

Verbatim responses:

<i>Knowledge and experience with governance and management of the MPA</i>
<i>We hope to continue undertaking scientific research as described in the newly published management strategy – this can be demonstrated by the establishment of 12 monitoring sites within our MPA. We also plan to better integrate community engagement in the development of the inshore fisheries strategy. Through the establishment of our Youth Committee, we are focusing outreach activities on the next generation of school children! We hope they will foster a pride of the MPA and motivate others towards conservation.</i>
<i>Greater commitment of the state of Chile</i>
<i>Community members, especially Native Hawaiians, should be part of the management planning and evaluation to improve input to decision making.</i>
<i>1. Review and revisit what promises were made and outline tangible actions in how these will be achieved. An honest review of if these promises are in fact deliverable should be done. 2. Develop a clear understanding of some of the easier, low hanging fruit aspects that can be focused on first. In addition, I think it is important to ID ways in doing the research and collecting the data cheaper with an ability to do it on a continuous basis. Important to always look for opportunities to collaborated. 3. I think it is very important to develop honest and clear outreach and educational messages - and providing regular feedback on progress. Important to try and rectify misperceptions through education and outreach.</i>

<i>Development of a sustainable financing plan that allow long term planning</i>
<p>1) Hire more staff and provision appropriate government budget for it ;</p> <p>2) Start implementing the roadmap already prepared for selecting Indicators and building a dashboard ;</p> <p>3) reform country law on MPAs, increase capacity of the Customary authorities to engage in management committee and reform Governance structure to acknowledge Customary authorities at same level as national and sub-national authorities</p> <p>4) Broaden scope for fundraising and train staff to align with international standards of finance scrutiny.</p>
<i>- Develop research and dissemination of results</i>
<p><i>- Establish collaboration agreements with donors. Generate line of state funds for the management of MPAs.</i></p> <p><i>- Permanent work programs and generation of local capacities.</i></p> <p><i>- Integrate the community as suitable managers of the MPA. Strengthen co-management instances.</i></p>
<i>The different institutions of the State that are competent in the activities that are required to be carried out, should request and obtain a budget to carry out said activities, which must be planned over time (years). The administration of the area needs to be well organized between the State and the community, and an agreement on how it will work and decisions will be made.</i>
<i>Increase the budget not only by the State, but also open to trust funds, between private, NGO and Government. Thanks to the use of technologies, it is possible to control with satellite positioners, but it is always necessary in a preventive way in addition to having boats, but it must go hand in hand with port development. Open funds for direct private financing to relevant marine protected areas in the country. Scientific knowledge is relevant to see advances or setbacks in biodiversity, or to generate larger areas of protection with associated measures or laws for particular species, or areas or objects of conservation such as seamounts. International experiences in trust fund financing could be learned. In relation to fulfilling the promises, it is related in the case of indigenous peoples, where their expectations are in relation to joint governance, experiences or good practices of other states could be known. There are budget issues that are the most critical, I think it is important to highlight the issues at the international level with high-level, as presidents of the republic, as well as the national congress, that the necessary budget is transformed into law. Generate a community of inspectors and inspectors of marine protected areas to share experiences, training and good practices.</i>

Section 10 – Role of Big Ocean

Q38 – Is this site a member of Big Ocean?

Most of the sites represented in this survey are members of Big Ocean.

Q39 – For the following list of Big Ocean activities, please indicate which ones you think are most helpful for you/this site.

All of the listed activities were perceived as ‘most helpful’ by at least some respondents. Three activities rose to the top for the largest number of respondents:

- (1) Advocate for managers and management needs at LSMPAs generally
- (2) Facilitate communication among the global LSMPA management community
- (3) Provide resources and information to individual sites



Q40 – In the next five years, are there any specific activities that Big Ocean could facilitate that would be most helpful for you/your site?

This was an open-ended question.

Summary of themes in detailed responses:

- **Public engagement and outreach – global level**
- **Support peer-to-peer learning, coordination, and collaboration**
 - Online conferences/workshops with LSMPA managers
 - Coordination with other LSMPAs - especially offshore sites - with a focus on management, research and outreach/education approaches used by these sites (what works and what doesn't).
- **Share resources**
 - Share technical protocols to standardize MPA data collection
 - Share resources of interest to LSMPAs
- **Provide support for newly creates LSMPAs**
- **Manager training**
- **Funding**
 - Establish ties with donors
 - Support in financing management plan activities
 - How to develop a financing portfolio or plan
- **Management plan – development and implementation**
 - Support in the process of agreeing with the community on the management plan for the area, and especially support in making the local community understand the difficulties in this, in order to have a truly executable plan.
 - Advise on implementation of management plan
- **Convening**
 - IMPAC5 meeting
 - Meetings, summits and every instance in which knowledge is shared
- **Adaptive management**
 - Strengthen the role and function of the LSMPAs in a context of climate change and sustainability of the oceans, considering a protection goal of 30% post-2020. Analyze management and governance models, in a changing world, for LSMPAs.

Verbatim responses:

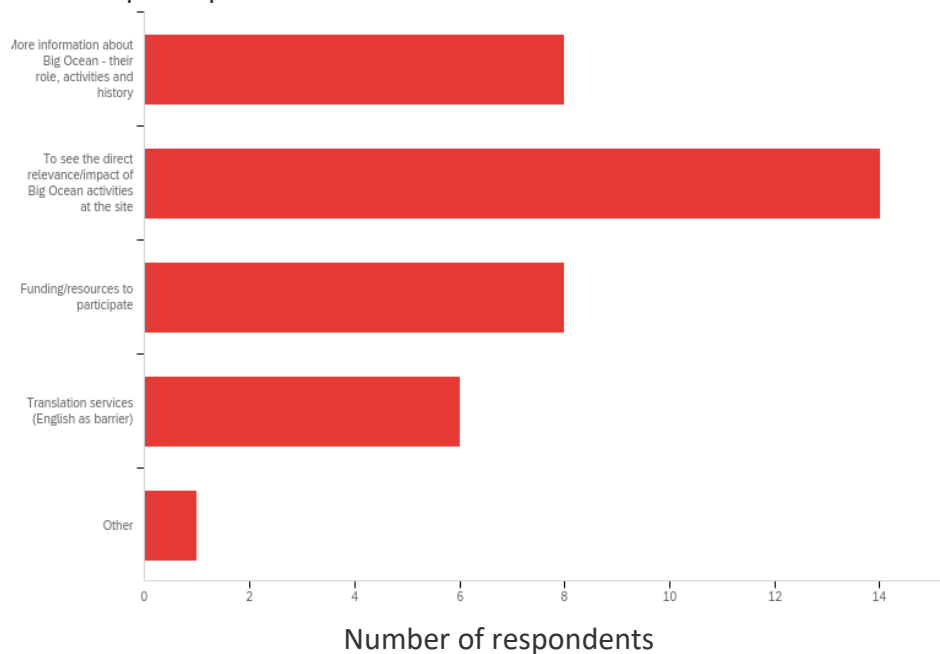
- *Public engagement and outreach with the global community*
- *Online conferences/workshops with other LSMPA managers*
- *Share technical protocols to standardise MPA data collection*
- *Share resources of interest to LSMPA*
- *Provide support for newly created LSMPA's*

<i>Establish ties with donors, and also train those who administer local areas, either from the government or from the communities themselves.</i>
<i>Support in the process of agreeing with the community on the management plan for the area, and especially support in making the local community understand the difficulties in this, in order to have a truly executable plan. Support in the financing of some activities of the plan, for example in research and management, or other that is feasible.</i>
<i>Coordination with other LSMPAs - especially offshore sites - with a focus on management, research and outreach/education approaches used by these sites (what works and what doesn't). Through this coordination, be able to develop additional collaborations.</i>
<i>accompany and advise on the implementation of management plans</i>
<i>IMPAC5 meeting, support sanctuary designation,</i>
<i>Strengthen the role and function of the LSMPA in a context of climate change and sustainability of the oceans, considering a protection goal of 30% post-2020. Analyze management and governance models, in a changing world, for LSMPAs.</i>
<i>Any guidance on how to develop a financing portfolio or financing plan</i>
<i>Meetings, summits and every instance in which knowledge is shared</i>

Q41 – In order to actively participate in Big Ocean activities, what do managers and others who work at this site need? Please check all that apply.

The most common response is the need to “see the direct relevance/impact of Big Ocean activities at the site”, followed by more information about Big Ocean and funding/resources to participate.

Under “other” one participant noted “better internet”.



Q42 – Big Ocean requires resources in order to further its aims and support the LSMPA community. Is there anything this site (and people affiliated with it) could do to support Big Ocean?

Verbatim responses:

<i>Promote Big Ocean as a Living Community, and report donations. Short videos of 3 to 5 min could be made from different countries informing the role of Big Ocean and really seeing a community. Hold guidelines workshops with all members.</i>
<i>I think this site can be a great pilot site to test out various ideas/projects - and as a site we would be able to work together to access funding, collaborations etc.</i>
<i>Share our outcomes from Management strategies Sharing of data in a wider database accessible by LSMPA members e.g. Global Fishing Watch</i>
<i>Make the role of Big Ocean visible at the national level</i>
<i>I do not know</i>
<i>Share our experience</i>

Q43 – At the Big Ocean Summit, what are the 1 or 2 things you would most like to discuss with other participants?

Verbatim responses:

<i>The issue of trust funds and training communities for collaborative work with the different states. Experiences of native peoples and the State</i>
<i>How to get involved with the highest authorities of the country in a real and effective way, to solve the current administration gaps, for example in the real destination of monetary and human resources, and the ordering of regulations and related institutions that are currently dispersed.</i>
<i>Indigenous engagement</i>
<i>How to monitor (long term) LSMPAs - offshore and deep-sea How to link the concept of our LSMPA to the larger regional and global setting - in terms of research questions, monitoring and management.</i>
<i>Governance and finance</i>
<i>Barriers that participants have had to overcome and methods to do so? Suggestions for engaging local communities</i>

<i>Improving co-management of LSMPAs with indigenous communities and providing more equitable, just, and adaptive management inclusive of indigenous forms of management based on native culture, worldview, etc.</i>
<i>State of the art of the LSMPA and projection (goal of 30%). How to strengthen the network, its recognition as a technical body for the exchange of information</i>
<i>Learn from the experience of other managers Learn strategies related to how to overcome current difficulties</i>
<i>1 MPA Management tools 2 opportunities for methodological and practical support of marine protected areas by the world community</i>
<i>Governance and local community participation</i>

Q44 – If there is anything else you would like to tell us about management at this site, please include it here:

Verbatim responses:

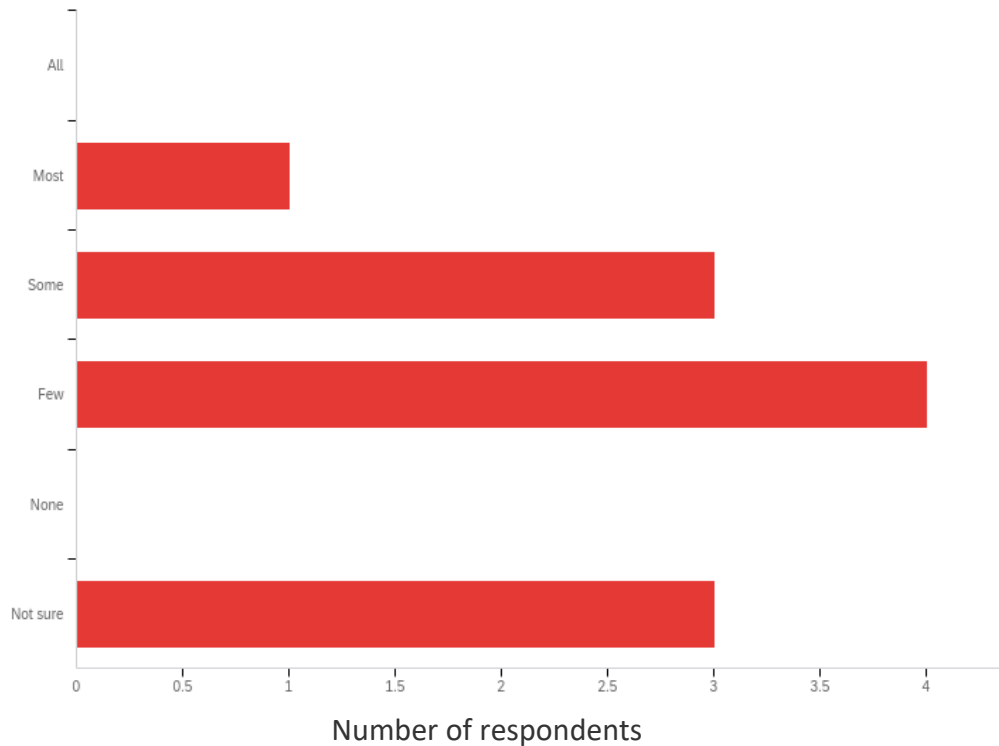
<i>Thank you for this opportunity, hopefully more spaces for conversation will be opened during the year. That would be relevant to feel part of Big Ocean.</i>
<i>For us, the [redacted] belong to the [redacted] people</i>
<i>[Redacted] is a site that has had a lot of successes, and is well-known as being a successful site in many regards, but for me and perhaps others closely related to the site, there is so much more to improve on. This perspective makes me wonder how much more other LSMPAs have to improve if they think we are one of the "best." A little concerning, but I also know we have a lot to do and to learn from other sites.</i>

Survey Results – General Survey

Section 1 – Budgets

Q1 – For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, what proportion are adequately funded, where the available budget is sufficient to meet management needs?

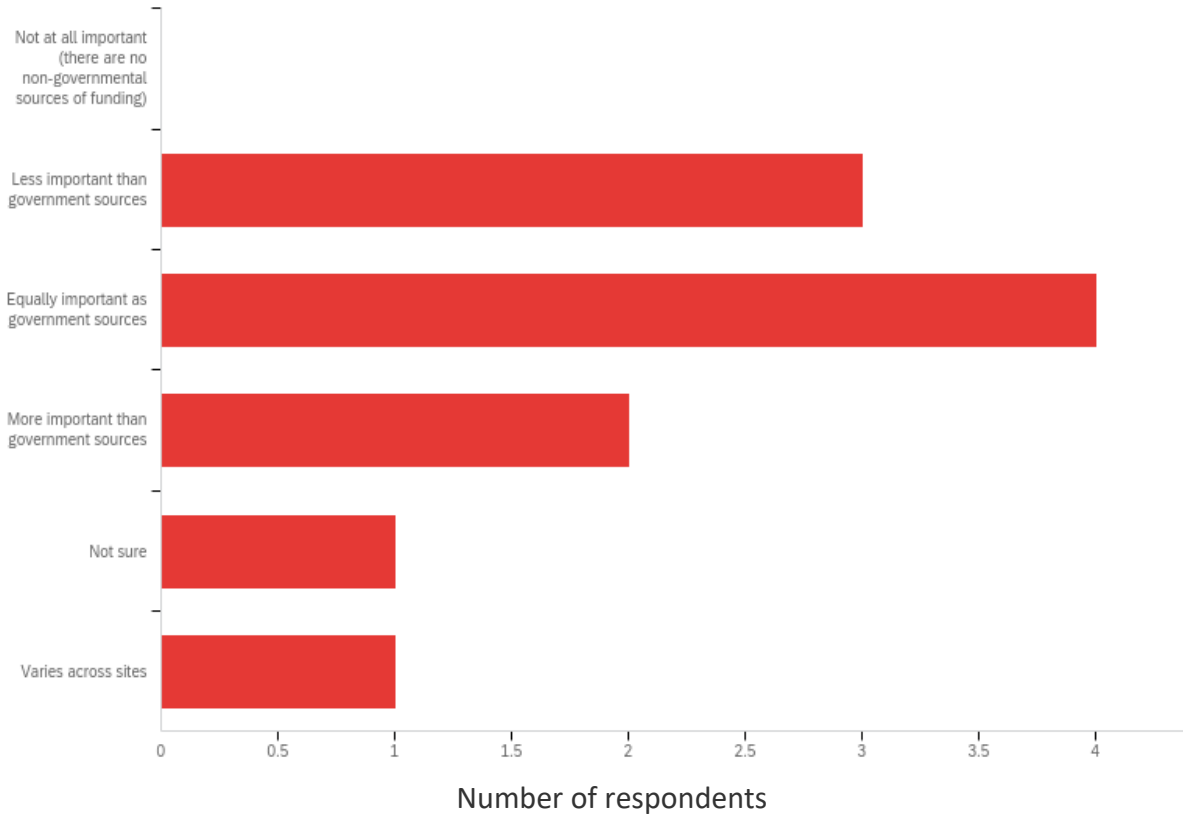
Among those who held knowledge about budgets, the most common response was few or some LSMPAs have budgets that are sufficient to meet management needs.



Q2 – For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, how important are non-governmental sources of funding for site management and related activities? (e.g. grants or donations from non-profit organizations, multi-lateral funding agencies, philanthropic donors, etc.)

Non-government sources of funding are important for LSMPAs.

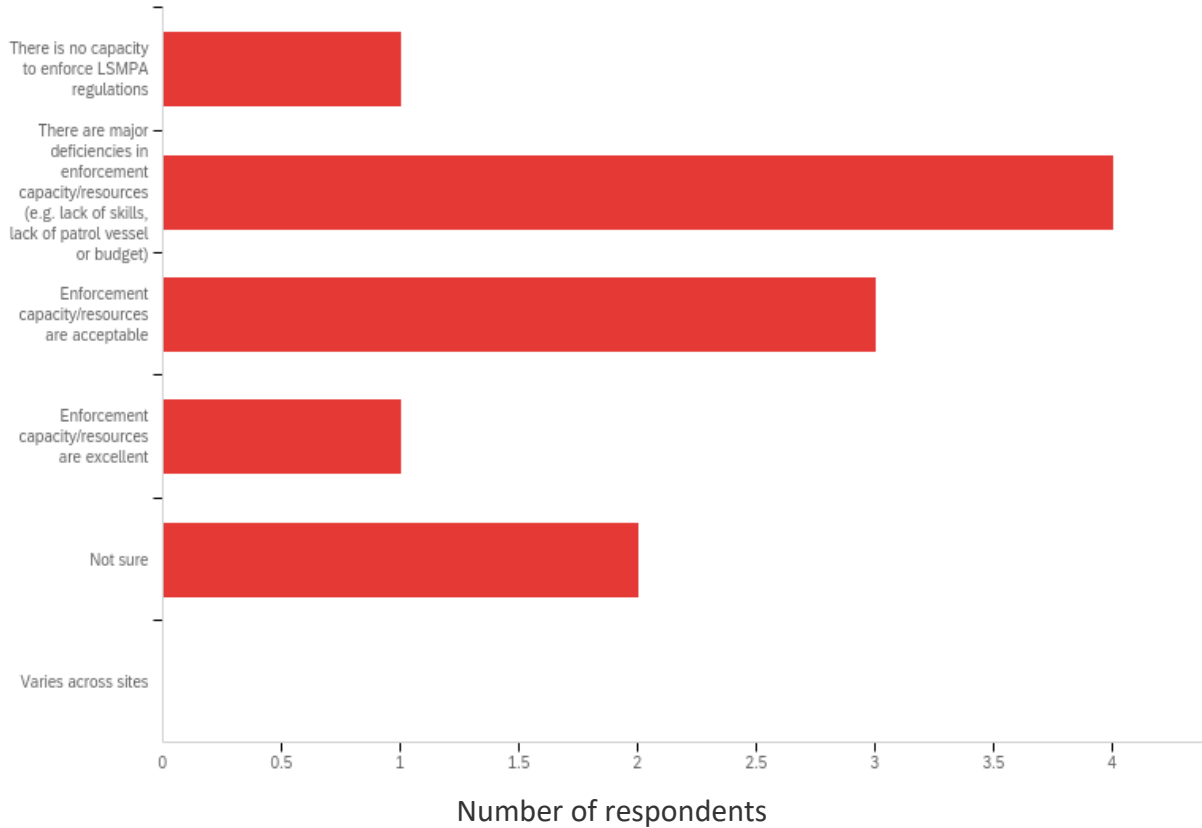
A majority of respondents (6) perceived that non-government sources of funding are equally or more important than government sources.



Section 2 – Surveillance and enforcement capacity

Q3 – Surveillance and enforcement capacity includes the ability and resources to monitor use and enforce all regulations for the LSMPA. For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, how would you characterize the surveillance and enforcement capacity?

Summary: Respondents were divided about this. Among those with knowledge about surveillance and enforcement capacity, about half of the respondents identified major deficiencies or no capacity, while the other half said that current capacity is either acceptable or excellent. A handful weren't sure.

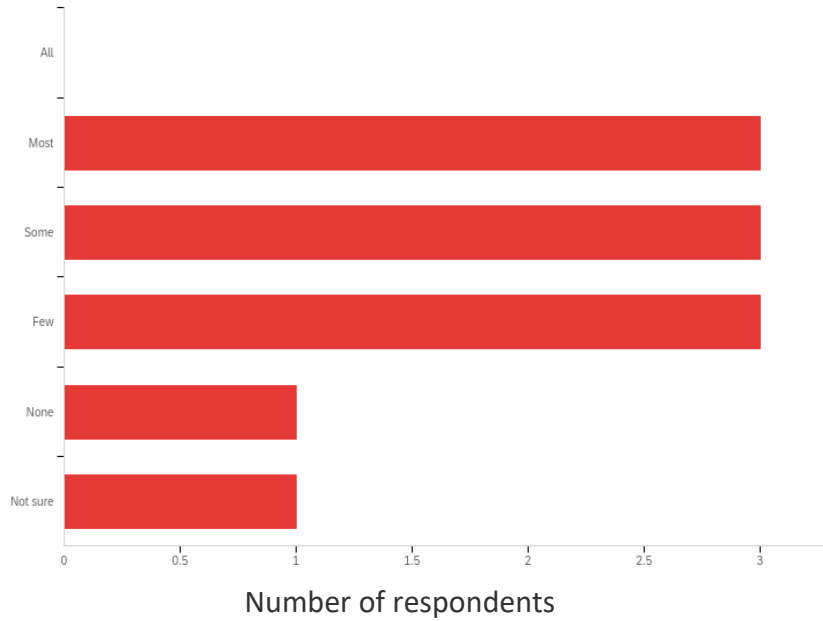


Section 3 – Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Management

Monitoring of biophysical, socio-economic and/or cultural variables is sometimes conducted at MPAs in order to assess progress toward meeting management objectives. For example, this may include monitoring resource conditions or impacts on livelihoods.

Q4 – For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, what proportion have a good monitoring and evaluation strategy that is implemented and used in adaptive management?

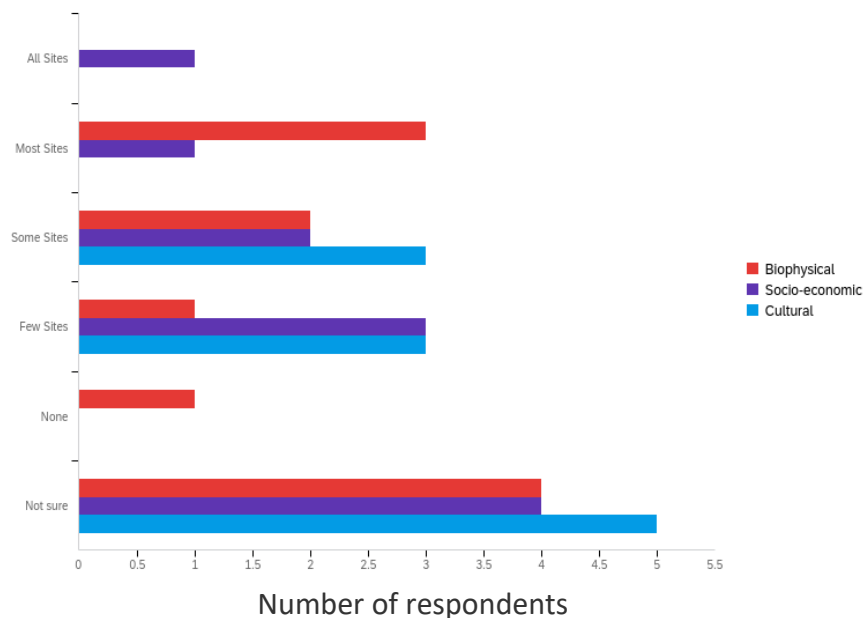
Respondents were divided on this question – evenly split across few, some, and most.

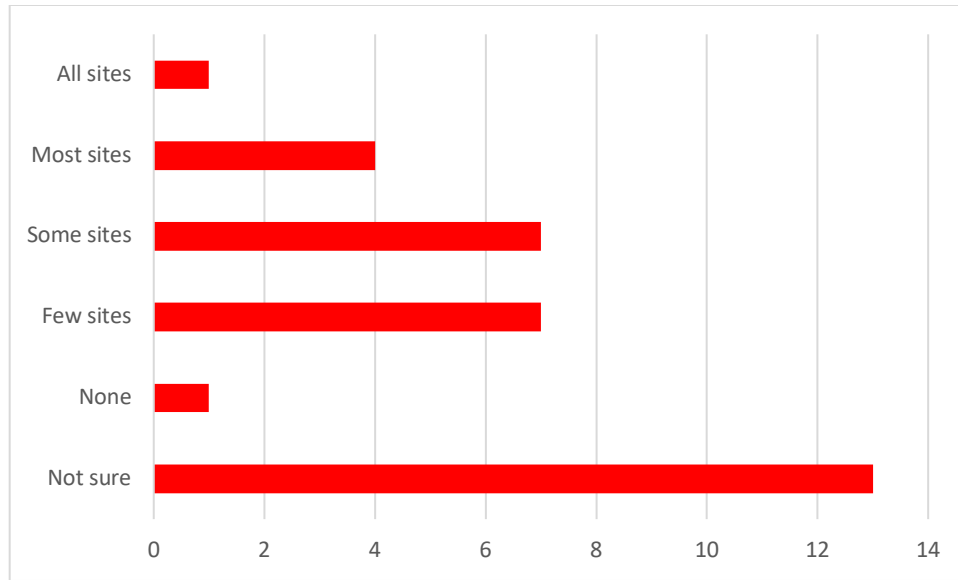


Section 4 – Outcomes

Q5 – For the types of LSMPA objectives listed below, please indicate what proportion of sites have already achieved their objectives and/or are on track to meeting most of their objectives on an appropriate timeline.

No respondents felt that ‘all sites’ they are familiar with had achieved either biophysical or cultural objectives. Many – a third to one half – of respondents were not sure about progress toward meeting the LSMPAs objectives.



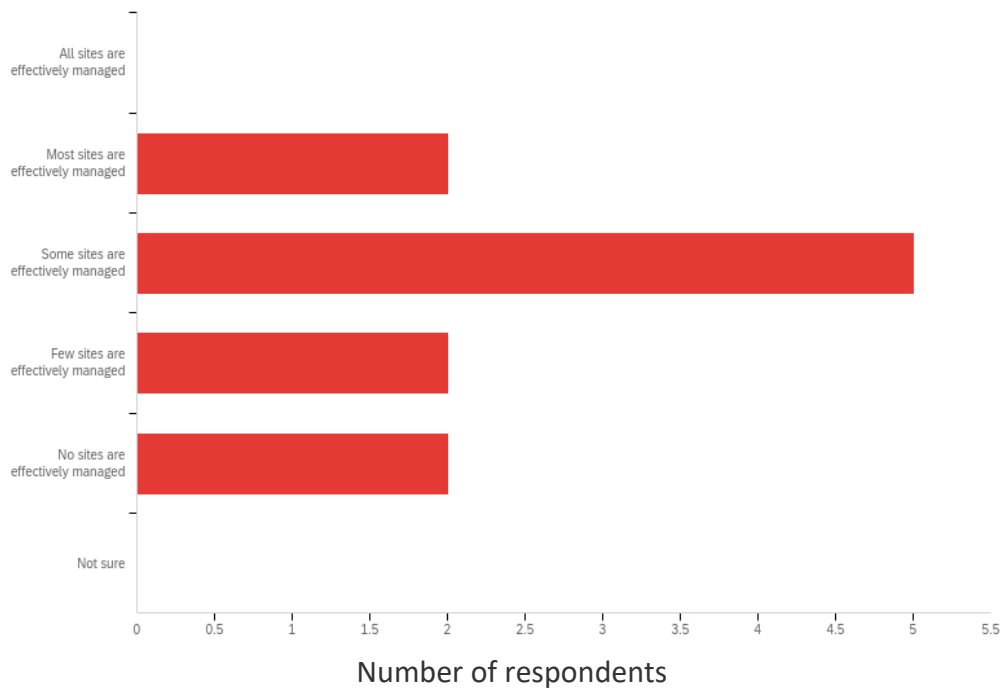


Aggregate number of responses across all management categories

Section 5 – Overall management effectiveness and equity

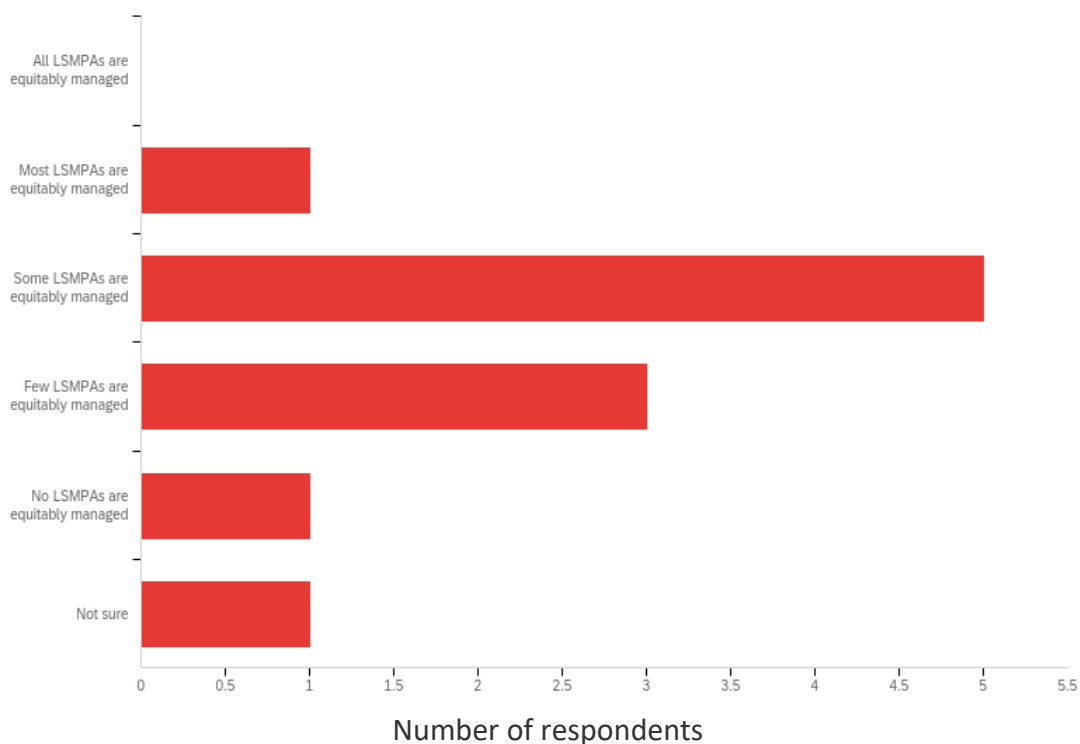
Q6 – For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, which of the following best describes the current state of management effectiveness?

The most common response was that “some sites are effectively managed,” indicating there is perceived variability in the field.



Q7 – Equitable management is increasingly a focus for protected areas generally, including LSMPAs. Equity can refer to the fairness in distribution of positive and negative impacts among groups, respect for rights and knowledge of all groups in management, and inclusiveness in decision-making processes. For the LSMPAs you are familiar with, to what extent are they equitably managed?

Most respondents said that “some” (5 respondents) or “few” (3 respondents) sites are equitably managed.

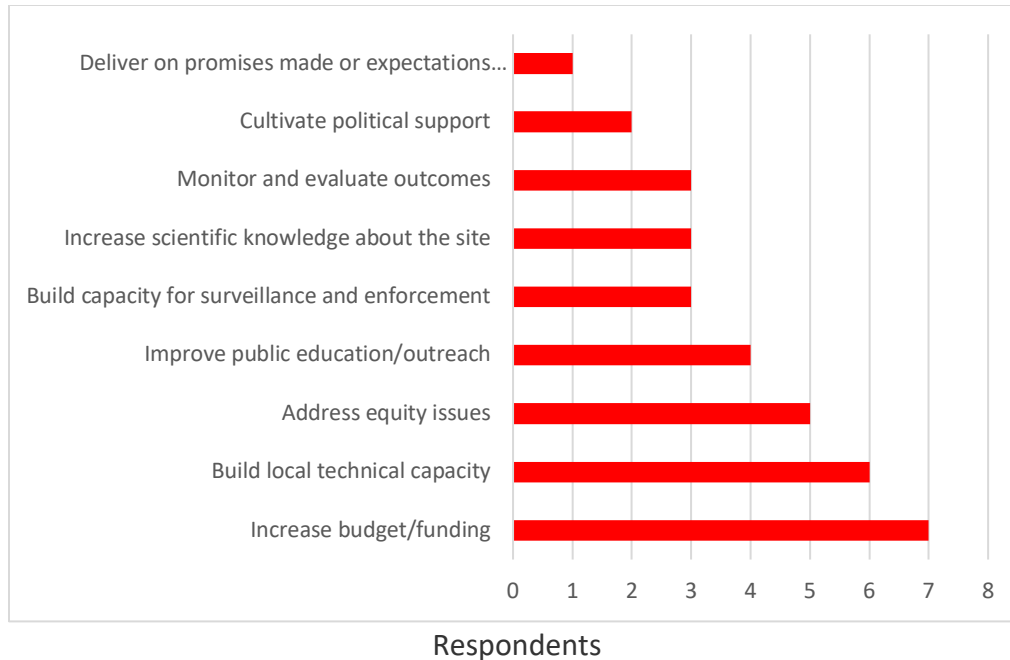


Section 6 – Overall priorities

Q8 – In your opinion, what are the three most important management priorities for advancing LSMPA objectives over the next 5 years? (Please rank the top three by inserting a 1 next to the top priority, a 2 next to the second most important priority, and a 3 next to the third most important priority)

Priorities identified by the largest number of respondents are:

- 1) Increase budget/funding
- 2) Build local technical capacity
- 3) Address equity issues



Q9 – For the priorities you indicated above, what ideas do you have for how sites can best make progress on these?

Summary of themes in detailed responses:

- **Increase budgets/funding:**
 - Increase public awareness of LSMPAs to garner more political support
 - Securing funds from the Green Climate Fund for the PIPA
 - Draw in more private capital from companies and through innovative mechanisms, in order to reduce reliance on public funding (and thus on political support)
- **Address equity issues:**
 - Community-engaged processes to inform LSMPA governance
 - Collaborative governance/partnerships between grassroots and governments, and large NGOs
 - Dedicate specific resources to facilitate the effective involvement of less advantaged social groups.
- **Deliver on promises**
 - Establish no-take zones
- **Monitor and evaluate**
 - Monitor human dimensions alongside biophysical issues
 - Leverage experiences of other and collaboration

Verbatim responses:

<p><i>Equity issues: Community-engaged processes to weigh different forms of LSMPA governance that can compromise across the wins and losses of MPA designation and management. Support bottom-up, grassroots processes, in partnerships with top-down governments and large NGOs.</i></p>
<p><i>Monitor and evaluate: Consider within-LSMPA actions that can help build resilience to broader-scale pressures. Leverage LSMPA performance/success stories as models of collaboration to address broader-scale challenges (e.g. what can be learned from LSMPA performance that can help guide climate change collective action issues?). Monitor not just biophysical, but also human dimensions of LSMPA.</i></p>
<p><i>Budgets and funding: Increase public awareness of LSMPAs to garner more political support, use LSMPAs as models of collaboration that inspires other environmental management realms.</i></p>
<p><i>Priorities 2 and 3 can be addressed by ensuring LSMPA designation processes are built upon bottom-up conversations/collaborations between key stakeholders and communities most relevant to or likely to be impacted by the designation.</i></p>
<p><i>(This respondent's Priorities 2 and 3 were build local technical capacity and address equity issues)</i></p>
<p><i>Increase budgets/funding: look more at how to draw in more private capital from companies and through innovative mechanisms, in order to reduce reliance on public funding (and thus on political support)</i></p>
<p><i>Sustainable financing mechanisms and learning exchange</i></p>
<p><i>Dedicate specific resources to facilitate the effective involvement of less advantaged social groups.</i></p>
<p><i>Kiribati, in partnership with IUCN, securing funds from the Green Climate Fund for the PIPA, however, this is not entirely locked in yet. That will be a critical step forward .</i></p>
<p><i>establish no-take zones</i></p>
<p><i>(This respondent's top priority is to deliver on promises made during designation processes)</i></p>

Section 7 – Role of Big Ocean

Q10 – For the following list of Big Ocean activities, please indicate which ones you think are most helpful for you/this site. Please rank the top three. (You may rank more if you like)

All of the activities were included as 'most helpful' for at least some respondents.

Three responses that the largest number of respondents included in list of top priorities:

- 1) Facilitate communication among the global LSMPA management community

- 2) Provide resources and information to individual sites
- 3) Advocate for managers and management needs at LSMPAs generally



Q11 – In the next five years, what specific activities could Big Ocean facilitate that would be most helpful for the LSMPA community of practice?

Summary of themes in detailed responses:

- Learning community
- Advice and relationship-building with policy makers
- Coordinate monitoring/data across sites
- Support collaboration and peer-to-peer learning across sites

Verbatim responses

<i>Building learning communities among local stakeholders, facilitate dialogues among LSMPA managers and local community groups and partner organizations.</i>
<i>Building relationships with policymakers to help move towards increased funding and more effective national policy around LSMPAs. Becoming a go-to resource for policymakers as nations consider marine spatial planning, and how to balance ocean development (e.g. offshore wind) with ocean protection. Ensuring that advice to policymakers is rooted in LSMPA manager experience and needs.</i>
<i>Promoting a consistent amount of data reporting across LSMPAs so that data are comparable and helpful in developing more generalizable advice (such as on funding/budgeting needs, etc.).</i>

<i>More site-specific meetings and discussions</i>
<i>Facilitate the establishment of sister-sites agreements. Support sites in prioritization and funding mechanisms</i>
<i>Focused technical meetings and working groups, to address specific issues in common.</i>
<i>There is a lack of learning opportunities in the Rapa Nui community in general. Technical skills and management know how is lacking. Peer learning opportunities such as the meetings Big Ocean coordinates are invaluable. So are opportunities to further train current and future managers. It would be wonderful to create/identify a training pathway for future managers.</i>

Q12 – Big Ocean requires resources in order to further its aims and support the LSMPA community. Is there anything the LSMPA community of practice could do to support Big Ocean?

Verbatim responses:

<i>Coalesce the consistent challenges in LSMPA management so Big Ocean can better communicate that to policymakers, scientific community, NGOs and donors.</i>
<i>Support proposals, signify the existence of a call for projects, contribute.</i>
<i>This needs further discussion and collective brain-storming.</i>

Q13 – At the Big Ocean Summit, what are the 1 or 2 things you would most like to discuss with other participants?

Verbatim responses:

<i>Where the next 10 years of ocean conservation are going; what the needs for managers are given that prediction.</i>
<i>Needs and possible solutions</i>
<i>How to concile NTZ MPA & Fisheries in the wider LSMPA ? Deep Sea Mining ?</i>
<i>The unique support needed by small Pacific SIDS with vast ocean territories.</i>
<i>Everything would be helpful. Currently I am most interested in training pathways for current and future managers.</i>

Q 14 – If there is anything else you would like to tell us about LSMPA management, please include it here:

Verbatim responses:

<i>This initiative is timely and much appreciated.</i>
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