Update on Marine Biodiversity Planning

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on behalf of SANBI Marine Programme
Background

- KZN Symposium – November 2013
  - Marine biodiversity planning workshop held
  - This is a reportback from that workshop session
Questions

1. Do we want a marine CBA map?

2. What’s the “so what” for a marine CBA map?
   – What are we trying to influence? (sectors, policy and legal tools)

3. What existing products can we use to develop an interim marine CBA map?
   – Process to develop interim CBA map

4. Longer term way forward for coastal and marine biodiversity planning
1. Do we want a marine CBA map?

- Are CBA maps useful in the terrestrial environment?
  - **Yes!** e.g. for focusing use of limited resources, for informing land-use decision making

- Do we want a marine CBA map?
  - **Yes!** Need to know marine biodiversity priority areas to feed into multi-sectoral marine spatial planning and reporting
  - Critical because of pressures in the marine environment

- NB: don’t confuse CBAs with MPAs (MPAs are one tool to implement CBAs)

- Marine CBAs could move in time and space! (unlike terrestrial CBAs)
2. The “so what” for a marine CBA map

• To inform **expansion of MPA network**

• To inform **marine spatial planning** (zoning the ocean for all activities)
  – In support of NEMO
  – Areas where we want to exclude certain activities
  – Both benthic and pelagic

• To inform **better management** of areas that are not MPAs but that are NB for biodiversity
  – To inform pipelines and discharge of waste into marine environment
  – To inform land-use zoning on the landward side
2. The “so what” cont.

- To feed into **state of oceans reporting**
- At the moment we don’t have guidelines for commenting on impact in marine priority areas – map needs to be accompanied by **sea-use guidelines**
- Who would be the implementing agency?
  - DEA
  - Several other departments
3a. Existing products that can feed into an interim “stitched together” marine CBA map

- KZN Seaplan (2 categories of CBAs)
- National sandy beach plan (CBAs and ESAs but used in a slightly different sense)
- Recent national analyses based on NBA 2011 data
  - Including West Coast plan
- EBSAs
- OMPA focus areas
- National Estuary Biodiversity Plan + 3 additional estuaries from KZN plan
- Prince Edward Islands plan
- Lombard et al 2010 by-catch management areas for hake fisheries
- Agulhas bioregional plan (19 priority areas)
- NSBA 2004 marine priorities
- Terrestrial PAs and CBAs close to the coast
3b. Process for developing an interim marine CBA map

- **Complex technical discussion**
  - Look in-depth at the existing plans – technical workshop over several days
  - Consider developing a standard planning unit based on NBA units, to use as building blocks for CBAs

- **SANBI requested to convene a workshop**
  - Involving the people who led the various existing plans that would feed into the interim CBA map
4. Longer term way forward for coastal & marine biodiversity planning

- Resolve and formalise habitat classification
  - Starting with the coast

- National Coastal Biodiversity Plan
  - First step: what is the coast?

- National Marine Biodiversity Plan
  - Incorporate feedback on use of the interim CBA map