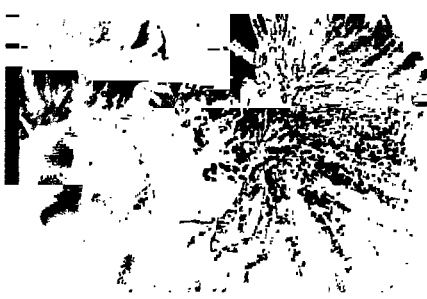
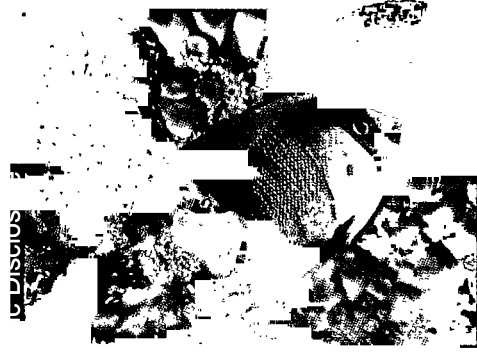


A GLOBAL REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Volume I

Antarctic, Arctic, Mediterranean, Northwest Atlantic, Northeast Atlantic and Baltic

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Volume 1

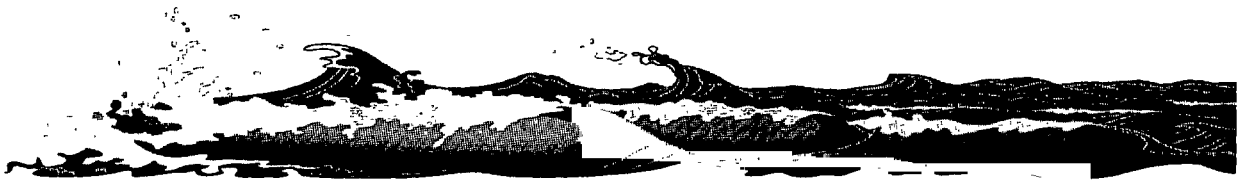


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Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
The World Bank
The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

A Global Representative System of Marine Protected Areas

**Principal Editors
Graeme Kelleher, Chris Bleakley, and Sue Wells**



Volume I

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
The World Bank
The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

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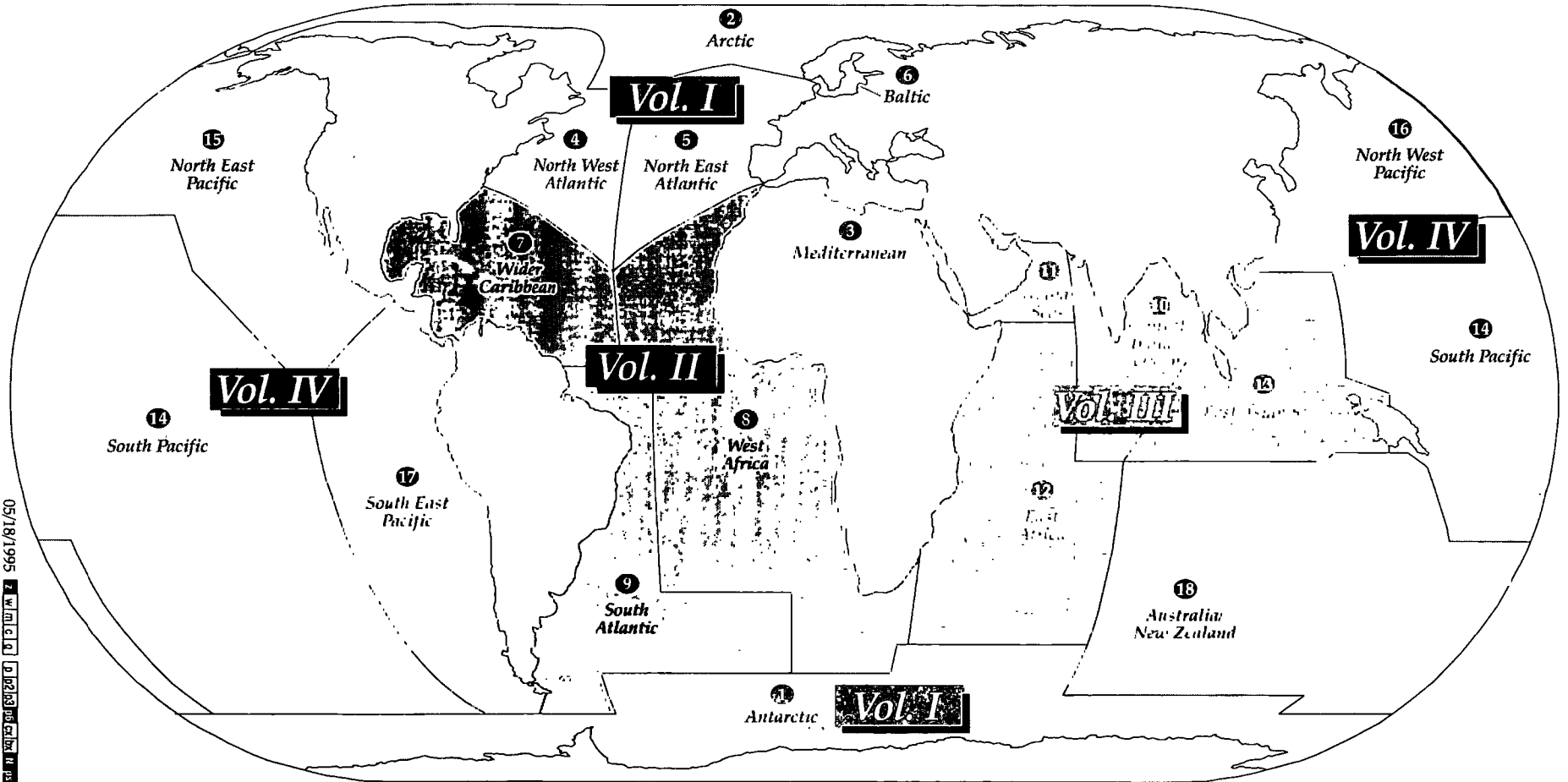
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WORLD
CNPPA MARINE REGIONS

- ⑤ CNPPA MARINE REGION NUMBERS
- CNPPA MARINE REGION BOUNDARIES



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Foreword

Biodiversity is a major prerequisite for a sound sustainable environment.

—*Jacques-Yves Cousteau*

The oceans cover 70 percent of the earth's surface. Within this vast underwater realm and along its coasts is found a tremendous diversity of life. Many people depend on the resources of the sea for food, income and employment. However, with growing numbers converging on the world's coasts and exploiting its seas, profound changes are taking place in the marine environment and in its biodiversity and productivity. Yet despite these alarming trends—reflected in the decline in fisheries, the demise of coral reefs and the periodic mass mortality of marine mammals and shorebirds—actions over the loss of the world's marine biodiversity have not been accorded the deserved priority.

Action is required at all levels to rectify this situation—action involving national and local governments, national and international NGOs and, most importantly, local people. Marine protected areas are a practical way of conserving marine biodiversity, maintaining the productivity of marine ecosystems and contributing to the economic and social welfare of human communities. Realizing these complementary goals will require development of the human capacity and commitment to managing these sites effectively. It will also require the promotion of integrated coastal zone management approaches, of which marine protected areas are a key component.

This publication provides a basis for development and implementation of a global system of marine protected areas to protect and manage representative examples of the world's rich marine biodiversity. It identifies priorities for establishing new marine protected areas and improving manage-

ment of existing ones in each of the world's 18 major marine regions.

Shortly after the establishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Bank identified an urgent need to determine priority areas for biodiversity conservation for which funding could be provided. The Bank initiated a consultative process to identify such priorities and subsequently agreed to collaborate with the World Conservation Union's (IUCN) Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas (CNPPA) and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) who were carrying out a program aimed at establishing a global representative system of marine protected areas.

This joint effort illustrates the process to be followed if the world community is to address the fundamental environmental problems it faces against limited financial and skilled human resources. Expertise must be mobilized from all quarters, using the motivation of communities rather than depending solely on financial reward. The World Bank, IUCN and GBRMPA have supported this publication but much of the credit should go to the numerous individuals and organizations affiliated with the CNPPA who have voluntarily devoted their time and energies.

The real value of this project lies in the recommended actions and their implementation. Consequently, the next step is the formulation of priority regional and national projects and the identification of investment opportunities which contribute to the maintenance of marine biodiversity and sustainable development. Our success therefore, will depend upon the durability of the partnerships forged, and our commitment to demon-