



SURF PROTECTED AREA NETWORKS

CREATING NETWORKS OF LEGALLY PROTECTED SURF ECOSYSTEMS THAT OVERLAP WITH BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS

A game-changing approach to protecting surf ecosystems on a global scale.

Save The Waves Coalition (STW) is an international nonprofit that works in coalition with like-minded organizations dedicated to protecting surf ecosystems.

We build coalitions to protect, steward and defend surf ecosystems through a unique combination of protected area creation, stewardship, and conservation marketing. Launched in 2003, it is the only organization dedicated to protecting surf ecosystems.

Our Surf Protected Area Networks (SPANs) program is a new approach for marine and coastal conservation that combines legal protection of ecosystems and sustainable community development in areas where high quality surfing waves and priority marine ecosystems overlap.

The goal is to protect surf ecosystems by creating well-managed protected areas that can scale quickly. All of our protected area work is accomplished in partnership with local agencies and individuals.

SPANs will be developed in priority regions such as Indonesia, Fiji, Mexico, Chile, Peru, Costa Rica, Brazil, and Portugal.



SURF ECOSYSTEMS: MORE THAN A WAVE

We define surf ecosystems as “the land to sea interface that create the conditions for breaking, rideable waves, and the flora and fauna and human communities that are dependent upon it.”

We use surfing to create support and momentum for larger coastal conservation efforts and impacts.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE IDENTIFICATION, DESIGNATION, AND MANAGEMENT OF SURF PROTECTED AREAS

The creation of Surf Protected Area Networks provides new opportunities for the conservation of marine and coastal habitats. Save The Waves has developed a six-step process to identify, implement, and effectively manage a network of large-scale Surf Protected Areas around the world.

- 1 Intake and Outreach
- 2 Prioritization of Regions and Sites
- 3 Analysis and Coalition Building
- 4 Community Planning
- 5 Implementation
- 6 Financing



SURF PROTECTED AREA NETWORK PROJECTS

The Surf Conservation Partnership

Save The Waves Coalition and Conservation International have joined forces to create the Surf Conservation Partnership to mobilize surfing communities on a global scale and protect biologically diverse marine and coastal ecosystems with high-quality waves.

Creating the First Surf Protected Area Network In Indonesia

Save The Waves and our partners at Conservation International and A Liquid Future launched our preliminary pilot Surf Protected Area Network Planning in North Maluku province, Indonesia.



PHASE 1
2019-2022

MEXICO
Baja, Baja Sur, Oaxaca, Guerrero, Michoacan

PERU AND CHILE
South, Central, North

INDONESIA
Morotai, Mentawais, Moluccas, Bali

AUSTRALIA
New South Wales, Queensland



PHASE 2
2020-2023

EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC
Costa Rica

BRAZIL
South, Central, North

NORTH AMERICA PACIFIC
California, Hawaii, Canada

**From STW 2020-2025 Strategic Plan
Priority Regions Infographic. Display 2 / 4 Phases*