

Governing Marine Protected Areas

Resilience through Diversity

By **Peter J.S. Jones**

Series: *Earthscan Oceans*

“There are many books on how to design and create marine protected areas (MPAs), so vital for ocean conservation, but few on how to make them successful. This book plugs that crucial gap, distilling experience from across the world into sound and creative advice.” – *Callum Roberts, Professor of Marine Conservation, University of York, UK.*

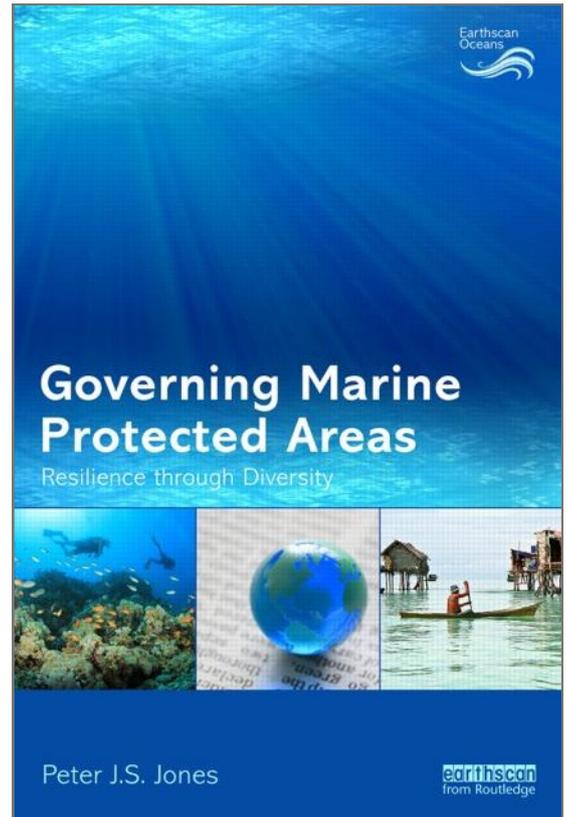
“The issue of governance is addressed in this book in a novel and important way. Through the lens of his review of a large number of MPA case studies, Jones makes the case for diversity and complexity in the governance of MPAs, which are themselves ecologically diverse and complex. This is a signal achievement which should greatly advance both policy and practice.” – *Bonnie J. McKay, Distinguished Professor, Rutgers University, USA.*

In this innovative volume, the author addresses some important challenges related to the effective and equitable governance of marine protected areas (MPAs). These challenges are explored through a study of twenty MPA case studies from around the world. A novel governance analysis framework is employed to address some key questions: How can top-down and bottom-up approaches to MPA governance be combined? What does this mean, in reality, in different contexts? How can we develop and implement governance approaches that are both effective in achieving conservation objectives and equitable in fairly sharing associated costs and benefits?

The author explores the many issues that these questions raise, as well as exploring options for addressing them. A key theme is that MPA governance needs to combine people, state and market approaches, rather than being based on one approach and its related ideals. Building on a critique of the governance analysis framework developed for common-pool resources, the author puts forward a more holistic and less prescriptive framework for deconstructing and analyzing the governance of MPAs. This transdisciplinary analysis is aimed at supporting the development of MPA governance approaches that build social-ecological resilience through both institutional and biological diversity. It will also make a significant contribution to wider debates on natural resource governance, as it poses some critical questions for contemporary approaches to related research and offers an alternative theoretical and empirical approach.

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About the Author

Peter Jones is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography, University College London (UCL). He has spent more than 20 years undertaking inter-disciplinary and applied research on the governance of human uses of marine resources, particularly in relation to marine protected areas (MPAs) and marine spatial planning (MSP).

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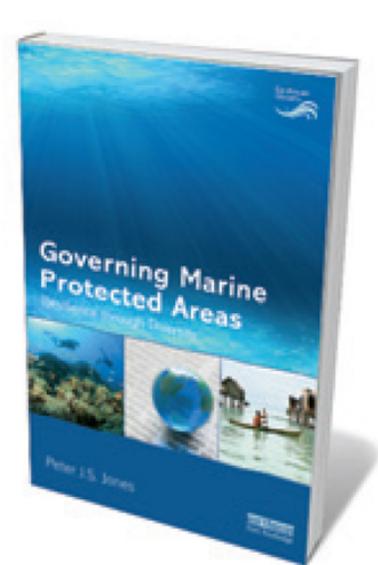
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Books in brief

**Governing Marine Protected Areas:
Resilience through Diversity**

Peter J. S. Jones ROUTLEDGE (2014)

Marine Protected Areas, or MPAs — ocean zones limiting human activity — cover little more than 2% of the world's oceans, despite an internationally agreed target of 10% by 2020. And thousands of those that do exist are little more than 'paper parks', many scientists have found. Entering these choppy waters is geographer Peter Jones, who shows, through some 20 case studies, how and how not to govern MPAs effectively. Jones compellingly concludes that a diversity of incentives, from economic to social, is as essential as the diversity of the ecosystems MPAs are designed to protect.

Barbara Kiser - www.nature.com/nature/journal/v507/n7492/full/507305a.html