



# Marine Protected Areas: An Effective Tool For Ocean Conservation?

by **Dr. Sarah Lester, PhD**, Assistant Professor,  
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Ocean ecosystems around the world face a myriad of threats, prompting calls for better management and conservation. Marine protected areas (MPAs) - areas where fishing and other extractive activities are prohibited or limited - are one of the most commonly utilized marine conservation tools worldwide. Join us for an introduction to the science of MPAs: Do they work? Can they improve fishery catches outside of their borders? What level of protection is necessary? Are we likely to achieve global protection targets?



  
**Thursday September 13, 2018**

**7 - 8 pm**

**FSUCML Auditorium Free &  
Open to the Public**  
**Refreshments Available Before  
Lecture**

## Speaker Bio:

Dr. Lester is an Assistant Professor in FSU's Department of Geography. Her ongoing research focuses on understanding the effectiveness of marine protected areas, designing ocean zoning and fisheries management around small island states, modeling the benefits from seagrass ecosystems in Florida, and understanding offshore aquaculture siting and development – she applies an interdisciplinary lens to all of her research. She received her PhD in Marine Ecology from the University of California Santa Barbara.

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