



Legal Frameworks for MPA Enforcement in the Caribbean

March 25th, 2015. The Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute is pleased to announce the launch of a new report about legislation underpinning marine protected area enforcement in eight Caribbean countries and territories.

Entitled *Legal Frameworks for MPA Enforcement in the Caribbean: Challenges and Opportunities*, the report was prepared in response to a request originally made by participants at the GCFI/ NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program Peer-to-Peer Workshop on Building Compliance and Enhancing Enforcement for Marine Protected Areas in the Caribbean.

“Enforcement is a critical element of effective marine protected area management that requires explicit legal authority,” commented ELI senior attorney Mr. Read Porter. “Key areas addressed by legislation include regulated activities, powers of officers, adjudication of violations, and available penalties.”

The report presents a comparative assessment of enforcement provisions in fisheries and marine protected area legislation in:

- Antigua & Barbuda
- The Bahamas
- The British Virgin Islands
- The Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- The Turks & Caicos Islands

“Based on this country-by-country legal review we found that legislation across the region establishes a patchwork of enforcement authority,” said Mr. Porter. “The study identifies similarities and differences in the region and highlights model approaches that may assist enforcement reform in this area.”

ELI presented highlights from the report to participants in the first of a series of GCFI webinars. Thanks to those who joined us and contributed to discussion during the webinar.

Download the full report at www.gcfi.org. A recording of the webinar is also available online at www.gcfi.org For more information please contact webinars@gcfi.org.

