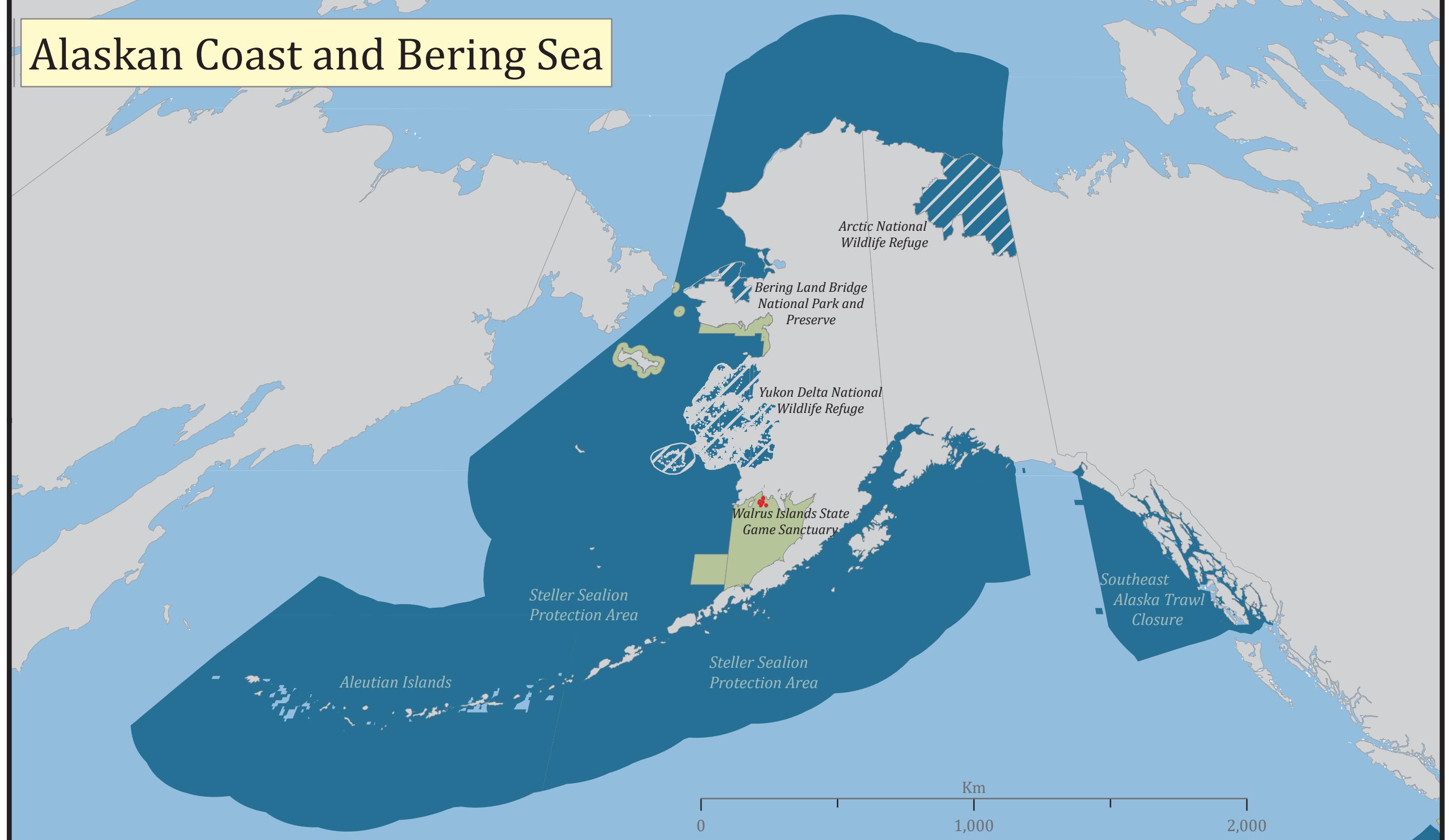
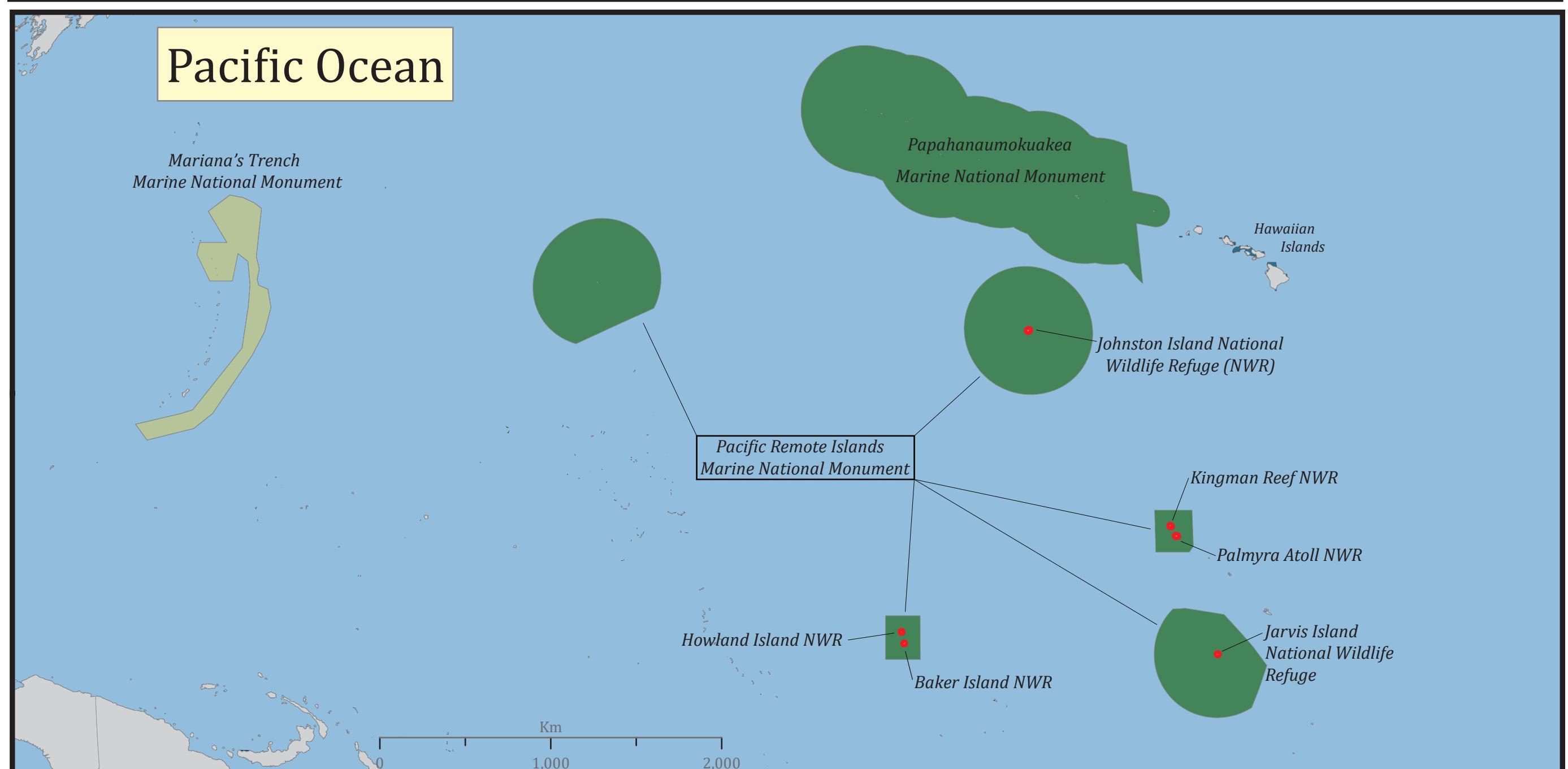


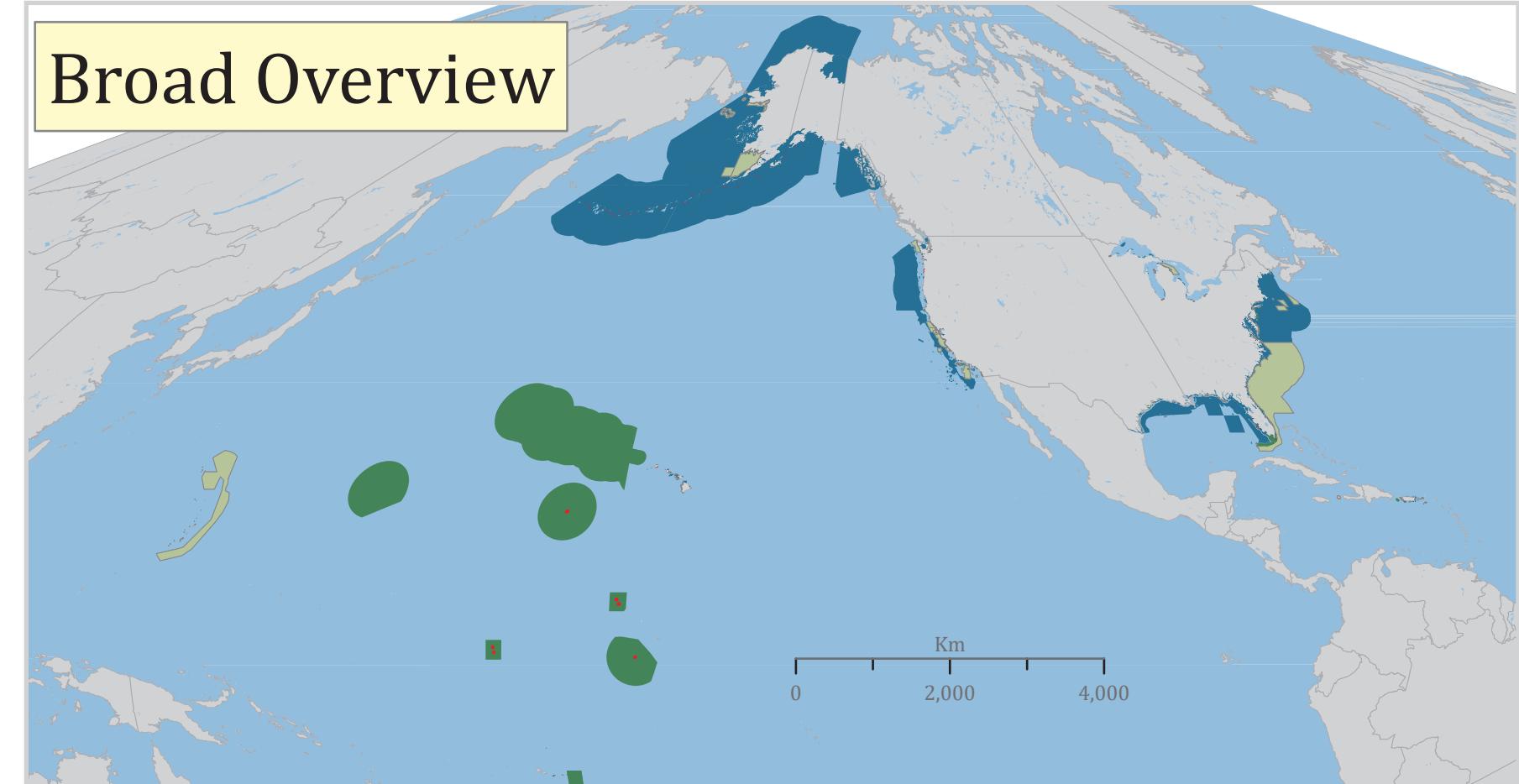
Alaskan Coast and Bering Sea



Pacific Ocean



MARINE PROTECTED AREAS Governed by the U.S.A. & Their Levels of Protection



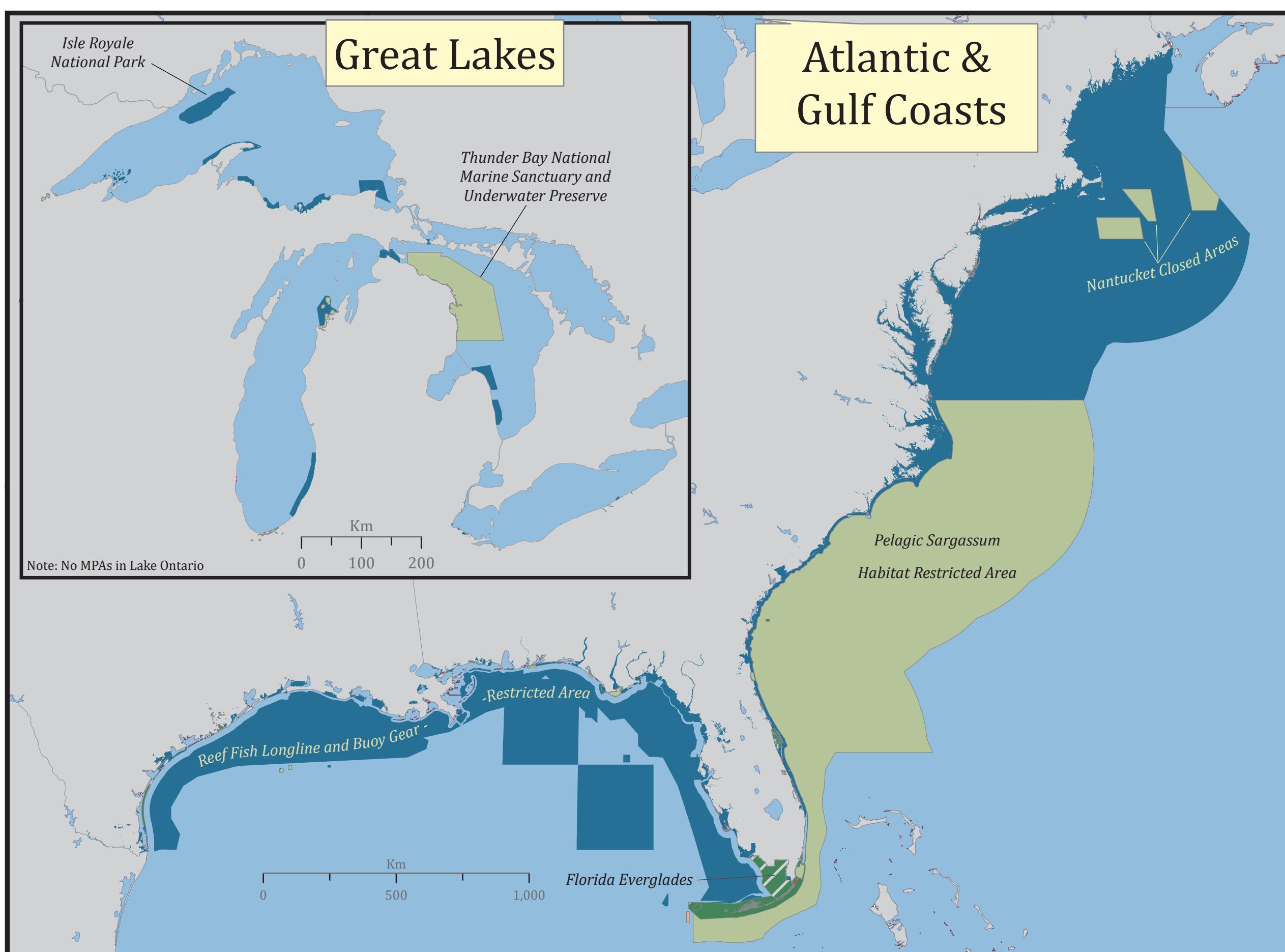
Coastal Washington, Oregon, & California



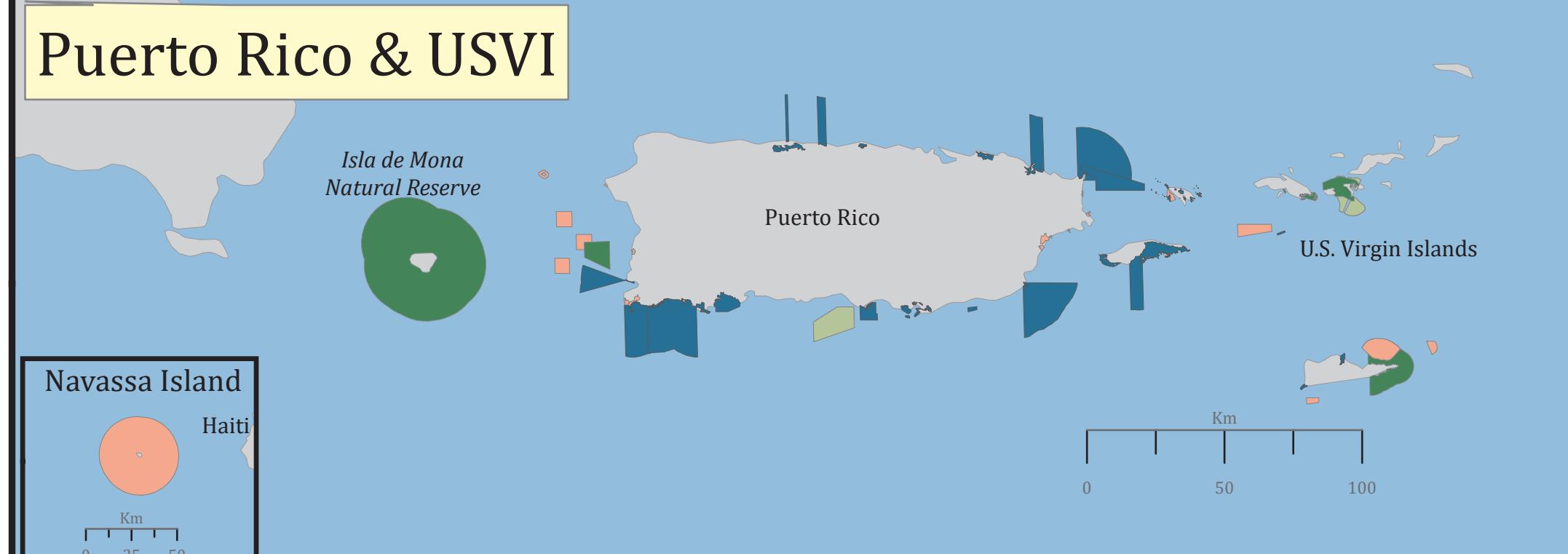
Great Lakes



Atlantic & Gulf Coasts



Puerto Rico & USVI



Marine Protected Area Types

Source: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOAA Ocean Service

No Access

No Access: MPAs that restrict all human access to the area in order to prevent potential ecological disturbance, unless specifically permitted for designated special uses such as research, monitoring or restoration.

Examples: No-access MPAs are extremely rare in the U.S., occurring mainly as small research-only zones within larger multiple-use MPAs. Other common used terms for no access MPAs include wilderness areas or marine preserves.

No Impact

No Impact: MPAs that allow human access, but prohibit activities that could harm a site's resources or disrupt ecological or cultural services. There are only FOUR 'No Impact' zones, and they're tiny. Examples of activities typically prohibited in here include resource extraction of any kind (fishing, collecting, mining); discharge of pollutants; disposal or installation of materials; & alteration or disturbance of submerged cultural, biological, ecological or environmental features, or the natural processes that support them.

No Take

No-take areas prohibit commercial and recreational extraction to provide the highest levels of protection to important and sensitive marine ecosystems. There are only FOUR 'No Impact' zones, and they're tiny. Examples of activities typically prohibited in here include resource extraction of any kind (fishing, collecting, mining); discharge of pollutants; disposal or installation of materials; & alteration or disturbance of submerged cultural, biological, ecological or environmental features, or the natural processes that support them.

Zoned w/ No Take

Zoned Multiple-Use With No-Take Area(s): Multiple-use MPAs that contain at least one legally established management zone in which all resource extraction is prohibited.

Examples: Zoned no-take MPAs are emerging gradually in U.S. waters, primarily in some national marine sanctuaries and national parks.



Zoned Multiple Use

MPAs that allow some extractive activities throughout the entire site, but that use marine zoning to allocate specific uses to compatible places or times in order to reduce user conflicts and adverse impacts.

Examples: Zoned multiple-use MPAs are increasingly common in U.S. waters, including some marine sanctuaries, national parks, national wildlife refuges, and state MPAs.

Uniform Multiple Use

This makes up 80% of US water body MPAs. Some extraction is allowed, although commercial fishing is prohibited in 80% of this area.

Uniform Multiple-Use: MPAs or zones with a consistent level of protection, allowable activities or restrictions throughout the protected area. Extractive uses may be restricted for natural or cultural resources.

Examples: Uniform multiple-use MPAs are among the most common types in the U.S., and include many sanctuaries, national and state parks, and cultural resource MPAs.

