*Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, Bahamas*

The Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park was declared a marine reserve in 1985, making it one of the first marine reserves in the Caribbean. After decades of widespread overfishing in the region, populations of top predators like large groupers were extremely low. In their absence, numbers of their prey, such as mid-level predators like graysbys, increased. However, large groupers rebounded in dramatic fashion when they were protected from fishing inside this reserve, eventually reducing the numbers of their graysby prey. Simlarly, studies have shown that the reserve also benefits herbivorous fishes, which increased in number, ate more algae, and cleared space for coral to settle and begin rebuilding these coral reefs. Additional data from:[Mumby et al (2006) Science](http://www.sciencemag.org/content/311/5757/98.short)

*South El Ghargana, Egypt*

South El Ghargana is a no-take zone in the Nabq Protected Area, a multi-use MPA in the South Sinai area of Egypt. The Nabq Protected Area includes a network of no-take reserves that are protected from fishing as well as areas where the local Bedouin community can fish. Studies have demonstrated that commercially valuable species such as snapper, grouper, and emperors have rebounded inside the marine reserves. This increase inside the reserves also leads to spillover as adult fishes leave the no-take area to supplement the fisheries outside the reserves.

*Soufriere Marine Management Area, St. Lucia*

The Soufriere marine reserves was established in 1995 and protects over 12 kilometres of St. Lucia's considerable marine resources. Since the reserve was established, many parrotfish species have increased both in number and in biomass. Repeated monitoring by a team of multinational scientists has demonstrated similar increases in surgeonfish, snapper, and grunts. By sharing the data with the local community and St. Lucia’s policy makers, the success of St. Lucia's first marine reserve led to the creation of additional reserves, such as those in the Canaries/Anse la Marine Management Area.