

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Request for Nominations to the
North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
October 30, 2009

Through Monday, **November 30, 2009** the California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative is accepting nominations for appointments to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. The MLPA North Coast Study Region extends from the California border with Oregon to Alder Creek near Point Arena in Mendocino County. The MLPA Initiative seeks individuals committed to successfully completing the regional stakeholder group process in the north coast by November 2010.

Charge of the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

The MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG) will provide a forum for:

- Providing local expertise and knowledge of the north coast study region for informing the MLPA planning process,
- Evaluating existing marine protected areas within the north coast study region with relation to the goals of the MLPA,
- Developing alternative proposals for marine protected areas within the north coast study region that meet the requirements of the MLPA,
- Conducting outreach to constituent groups for involvement in the MLPA North Coast Project,
- Identifying potential speakers to present regional stakeholder group recommendations and commentary at MLPA public meetings, and
- Striving for a high degree of cross-interest involvement and support in crafting marine protected area proposals.

To address these and other issues in a collaborative manner, the regional stakeholder group will work with a facilitation team, a science advisory team, and staff from the MLPA Initiative, California Department of Fish and Game, and California Department of Parks and Recreation. The primary focus of deliberations will be the public meetings and work sessions of the group. The NCRSG will not finalize any proposals outside the public meetings of the group.

From February to November 2010 the SCRSR will meet approximately five times in two-day plenary meetings, and will also meet in three to four additional one- or two-day work sessions. The first meeting of the NCRSG will be held **February 8-9, 2010** at a location within the study region (Crescent City to Fort Bragg).

Most NCRSG meetings will be held in centrally located areas, but some will be held in the northern and southern parts of the study region to accommodate all stakeholder group members and the public. The time commitment necessary to prepare for and actively participate in the meetings and on work teams is likely to be substantial. Upon request, NCRSG members will be reimbursed for travel expenses; for those members who are not otherwise compensated to participate, a small stipend will be available.

Criteria for Selection

Members of the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group are expected to have the following attributes:

1. Able to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA North Coast Study Region,
2. Able to balance a north coast regional perspective with localized knowledge,

3. Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more stakeholder groups,
4. Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies,
5. Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings, and
6. Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group.

Note: Knowledge or experience with web-based software is helpful but not required.

Taken together, selections will be made to achieve a diversity of stakeholder perspectives, expertise, and geography. Efforts by multiple stakeholder groups to nominate a single individual are encouraged. The chair of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and director of the California Department of Fish and Game will appoint members to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. The list of nominees appointed to the NCRSG will be announced on or before February 1, 2010.

Format of Nominations

Nominations should include the following information:

- Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address (if applicable),
- A short statement to confirm how the applicant meets **each** of the selection criteria listed above,
- Where appropriate, identify current and past affiliations with stakeholder groups active in marine resource management,
- A brief summary of past involvement in the MLPA or similar collaborative public processes to provide advice on natural resource policy or planning,
- Willingness to commit the time for full participation,
- Descriptions of the organizations and individuals with which the nominee will communicate,
- Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples), and
- Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project.

Nominations must be *received* no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, November 30, 2009** via one of the following:

Email: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

Fax: 916.653.8102 (Attention: NCRSG nominations)

Mail: Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attention: NCRSG nominations

Questions may be submitted to MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov or to any MLPA staff member.