

Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) Master Plan Amendment Process



Overview

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and its partners are amending the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) Master Plan. The current Master Plan was adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission in 2001. Since then, priorities have evolved and new tools and approaches have become available that can improve fisheries management in California. The MLMA Master Plan amendment process will occur through 2018.

Goals

The MLMA Master Plan amendment is expected to:

- Enhance the sustainability of the state's ocean fisheries.
- Help ensure fisheries management is more efficient, effective, and streamlined.
- Establish a clear pathway detailing the management approach for each fishery.
- Foster transparency and flexibility in fisheries management with stakeholders and interested members of the public.

2015

2016

2017

2018

Engagement with California Tribal Governments

Stakeholder Engagement

Phase I: Build Knowledge

Gather Information

Resources are reviewed to help develop priorities, products, and tools for potential integration into the amended Master Plan:

- Fisheries Management Plans
- Lessons Learned from the MLMA
- "Information Gathering Projects" are launched to collect and consider socioeconomics, risk assessments, status of fisheries, monitoring programs, etc.

Tribal Engagement

Outreach to tribes and native communities is formally initiated.

Stakeholder Engagement

Initial outreach to community leadership is conducted to share information and build communication networks.

Draft Amendment Framework for MLMA-Based Management

A "Draft Amendment Framework for MLMA-Based Management" is made available for stakeholder review and input.

Phase II: Amend Master Plan

Stakeholder Input

There are multiple opportunities and platforms for stakeholders to provide feedback and guidance on key components of the amended Master Plan, including:

- "Stakeholder discussion" webinars
- Community workshops and meetings
- Web-based surveys

Prepare Initial Draft of Amended Master Plan

CDFW will prepare an initial draft of the amended Master Plan that will be available for tribal and stakeholder review.

Prepare Final Draft of Amended Master Plan

CDFW will consider tribal and stakeholder input and develop a final draft for submission to the Fish and Game Commission.

Phase III: Review and Possible Adoption by California Fish and Game Commission

Early 2018: Submit Draft Amended Master Plan

CDFW will present a final draft amended Master Plan to the Fish and Game Commission and initiate a 3-meeting process for review and discussion. Opportunities for tribes and stakeholders to provide input will continue.

Mid 2018: Possible Adoption of Amended Master Plan

The goal is for an amended Master Plan to be adopted that reflects the interests and priorities of tribes and stakeholders invested in a sustainable future for California's fisheries.