

MPA Network 2022 Decadal Management Review Outreach and Engagement Stakeholder Steering Committee Charter

Approved June 22, 2021; updated October 25, 2021

I. Background

California's network of marine protected areas (MPAs) - the first of its kind - was implemented following the passage of the [Marine Life Protection Act](#) (MLPA) in 1999. The State will conduct a management review of the MPA network every 10 years, following its implementation in 2012, to inform the adaptive management process at the core of the MPA Management Program. The upcoming MPA Network Decadal Management Review (the Review) presented to the Fish and Game Commission (FGC) in December 2022, will utilize all available sources of information about the MPA network, including scientific assessments of ecological and socioeconomic monitoring results, MPA enforcement and compliance data, and input from Tribes and the broader ocean community. The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will work with Key Communicators (e.g., Tribal representatives, MPA Collaborative Network leads, fishermen) to establish the MPA 2022 Decadal Management Review Outreach and Engagement Stakeholder Steering Committee (Steering Committee) to help inform the design and support the implementation of stakeholder outreach and engagement. This document serves as the Steering Committee's charter, outlining the committee's purpose, roles, and procedures.

More Information about the Review is available on the [MPA webpage](#).

II. Steering Committee Purpose

The Steering Committee is an informal advisory group that was established to help inform the design and support the implementation of CDFW and OPC's Outreach Work Plan and outreach materials. The Steering Committee will help identify communications channels, strategies, target audiences, known barriers, etc., to inform the Outreach Work Plan. The Steering Committee will:

- Advise on and inform the development of the Review's draft Outreach Work Plan
- Preview and inform/advise on outreach materials prepared by Strategic Earth, OPC, and CDFW
- Share information about the MPA 2022 Decadal Management Review with their existing networks

III. Composition and Roles

A. Composition - Steering Committee Membership

Participation on the Steering Committee is open to those contacted by the facilitators and includes members of the ocean community, Tribal members, non-governmental organizations, scientists, resource managers, as well as staff of state agencies (i.e., CDFW, OPC, FGC). The Steering Committee, with the assistance of the facilitation team, will leverage the experiences, expertise, and insights of all participants committed to an inclusive and effective Outreach Work Plan.

A Tribal Steering Committee consisting solely of Tribal representatives will be convened as a subcommittee (see Appendix A). Tribal Steering Committee members are requested to participate in both full Steering Committee and Tribal Steering Committee meetings.

Primary Steering Committee Members

Name	Affiliation(s)	Alternate (optional)
Calla Allison	MPA Collaboratives	Nicole Palma
Angela Mooney D'Arcy	Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples	
Erika Delemarre	State Parks Outreach and Education	
Rikki Eriksen	California Marine Sanctuary Foundation	
Lori French	Central Coast Women for Fisheries	
Tim Gillespe	Sea Hawk, Fort Bragg	
Louie Guassac	Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA)	
Wayne Kotow	Coastal Conservation Association	
Ken Kurtis	Reef Seekers Dive Co.	
Rosa Laucci	Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation	Councilmember Jaytuk Steinruck
John Mellor	San Francisco Commercial Fisherman	
Zach Plopper	WILDCOAST	
Teresa Romero	Tribal Representative, Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	
Nathan Rosser	Paradise Cove Seafood	
Emily Saarman	PISCO/UCSB	
Tanner Saraspe	Saraspe Seafoods, Local Fish Initiative Project	
Lauren Wenzel	NOAA National MPAs Center	

B. Roles

- Steering Committee Members: Members are “key communicators,” meaning they each have an area of expertise relating to MPAs, as well as a connection to a broader community or network deemed by the agencies as a high priority audience for the Review. Prospective Members were selected at the discretion of the agencies. Members will advise on the Outreach Work Plan and share information with their existing networks as available and appropriate.
- Agencies: CDFW and OPC will listen, provide support and guidance, and help to implement the Outreach Work Plan developed by Strategic Earth and informed by the Steering Committee Members. CDFW and OPC will approve the final Outreach Work Plan. CDFW will be the face of public outreach and engagement efforts for the Review.
- Facilitator: Strategic Earth is supporting the agencies as a third party, neutral facilitator. Strategic Earth will:
 - Facilitate and coordinate Steering Committee meetings, develop agendas, take notes, and track next steps from meetings.

- Work with the Steering Committee and agencies to refine the draft Outreach Work Plan and outreach materials.
- Support the agencies in the implementation of the Outreach Work Plan including planning and facilitating engagement events in Fall 2021 - December 2022.
- Develop an Outreach Reflections and Recommendations report in 2023 identifying lessons learned and the outcomes of the Outreach Work Plan and identify best practices for future outreach.

IV. Procedures

A. Procedures

All Steering Committee meetings will be under third-party, neutral facilitation provided by Strategic Earth Consulting, and funded by OPC. Steering Committee meetings will be informed by an agenda as put forth by the facilitator in consultation with the agencies.

B. Process for Input, Recommendations, and Advancing Ideas

- Members are invited to share ideas, suggestions, comments, and questions regarding the Outreach Work Plan during and between meetings.
- Ideas will be shared with the full Steering Committee and agencies.
- Steering Committee feedback will be carefully considered and evaluated by the agencies and incorporated in the Outreach Work Plan as capacity, resources, etc. allow. Ideas and concepts that are not incorporated in the final Outreach Work Plan will be reflected in the 2023 Outreach Reflections and Recommendations report (see “Roles” section).

C. Attendance, Time Commitment, and Expectations for Steering Committee Members

The Steering Committee meetings will be scheduled to try to accommodate Members’ availability. There will be up to five 1-2 hour calls between May-August 2021, to inform the Outreach Work Plan and bi-monthly meetings from Fall 2021 - Winter 2022 to support implementation of the plan (e.g., outreach and planning for a final public symposium). Members are encouraged to attend all meetings and allocate time prior to each meeting to read materials and prepare for discussions.

Steering Committee Members are expected to serve to their best ability and in the event that a Steering Committee Member misses one or more meetings, Members may be permitted to send an Alternate (upon written approval from Strategic Earth) from their organization to participate in their place. Regardless of attendance, all Members will be expected to arrive at meetings prepared, and with a shared understanding of previous Steering Committee conversations. Meeting time will not be spent providing background on items that have already been discussed. Members and Alternates are expected to be fully educated by each other following each meeting attended.

D. Meeting Agreements

Steering Committee Members agree to:

- Participate in each meeting prepared to constructively discuss agenda items. This includes reviewing materials and information distributed in advance of the meeting/conference call, connecting with the facilitators or agencies to talk through questions or concerns, and soliciting input from constituents between meetings;
- Approach discussions from a place of diversity and inclusion, considering voices and perspectives of each Member’s respective constituencies and/or organizations;

- Focus the discussion on strategies and solutions that move the conversation forward and avoid revisiting agreements and/or topics that have been addressed by the group (or agencies) previously;
- Listen for understanding, acknowledge and seek clarification of others' perspectives and verify assumptions, and openly discuss issues with others who hold diverse views;
- Personal attacks will not be tolerated.

E. Communications: Protocols for Information Sharing

Steering Committee Members and Strategic Earth will co-create protocols for communications and information sharing to include in the draft Outreach Work Plan. Steering Committee Members will also help liaise and share information about the Review from the agencies with their peers and through their networks.

F. Stipends

Stipends will be provided to Steering Committee Members on a per meeting basis. Stipends are intended to provide financial support to show gratitude for participation. All requests for funding will be fulfilled, however stipends are envisioned to support Members who are volunteering their time and/or do not have outside financial support to participate in the Steering Committee. Approximately \$1,000 is available per meeting, and individual stipend amounts will be determined by the number of requests on a per meeting basis. If Members believe their role/responsibilities on the Steering Committee are no longer in alignment with the value you experience on the group (e.g., monetary, information gathering, relationship building, etc), please reach out to rachelle@strategicearth.com with your concerns. Members must submit a request for funding support via email no more than seven (7) days following a scheduled meeting to rachelle@strategicearth.com. Funding will be distributed via mailed check 2 weeks after scheduled meetings.

Appendix A Tribal Steering Committee

The Tribal Steering Committee (TSC) was created at the recommendation of Tribal members on the Stakeholder Steering Committee.

I. Role and Purpose

The TSC is an informal advisory group that was established to help inform the Outreach Work Plan. Working in partnership with the Native Nations Coordinator, the TSC will help identify communications channels, strategies, target audiences, known barriers, etc., to inform the Outreach Work Plan. The TSC will also help the Native Nations Coordinator inform outreach materials, liaise with California Tribes, and, where appropriate, provide guidance on a draft Decadal Management Review report.

The work of the TSC does not replace government-to-government consultation.

II. Membership

Name	Affiliation(s)	Alternate (optional)
Angela Mooney D'Arcy	Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples	
Louie Guassac	Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA)	
Rosa Laucci	Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation	
Teresa Romero	Tribal Representative, Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	
Councilmember Jaytuk Steinruck	Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation	

III. Time Commitment and Schedule

The TSC meetings will be scheduled to try to accommodate Members' availability. There will be up to two 1-2 hour calls between August-September 2021, to inform the Outreach Work Plan, monthly meetings from Fall 2021 - Winter 2021 to help inform the draft Decadal Management Review report, by bi-monthly meetings in 2022 to support implementation of the plan (e.g., outreach and planning for a final public symposium) and coordination of Tribal feedback on the Decadal Management Review. Members are encouraged to attend all meetings and allocate time prior to each meeting to read materials and prepare for discussions.

For additional about the TSC, including opportunities to become a Member, please contact Samara Maxey, CDFW Marine Region Tribal Liaison, at Samara.Maxey@wildlife.ca.gov.

For all other inquiries, including Government-to-Government consultation, please email Chris Stoots, CDFW Tribal Liaison, at tribal.liaison@wildlife.ca.gov.