

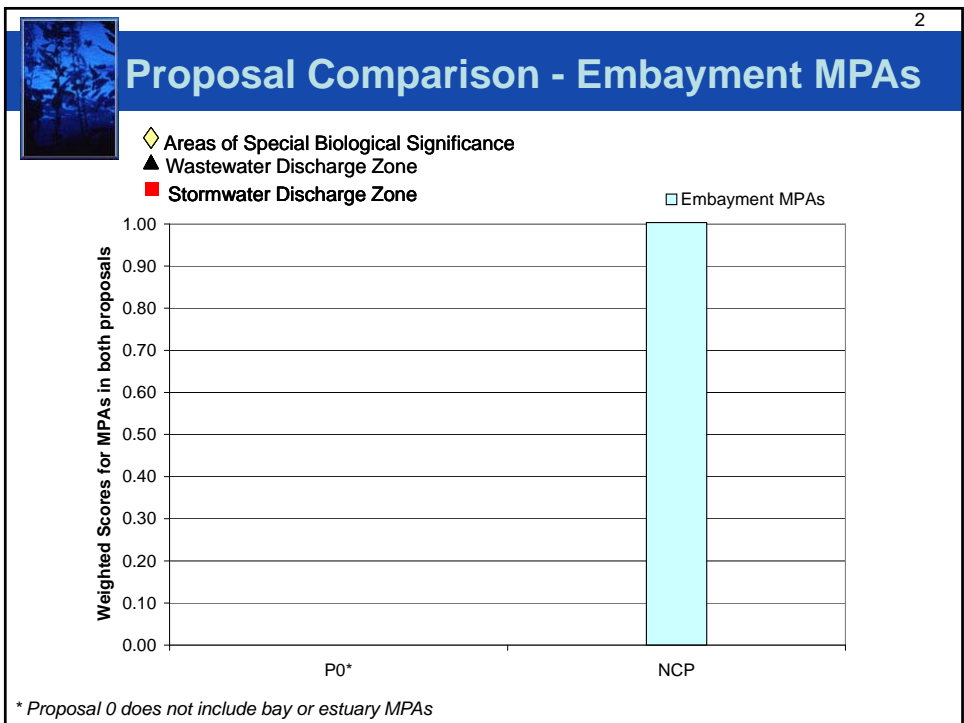
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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Evaluation of Water and Sediment Quality for the Round 3 MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group MPA Proposal

**Presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force
October 25, 2010 • Fortuna, California**

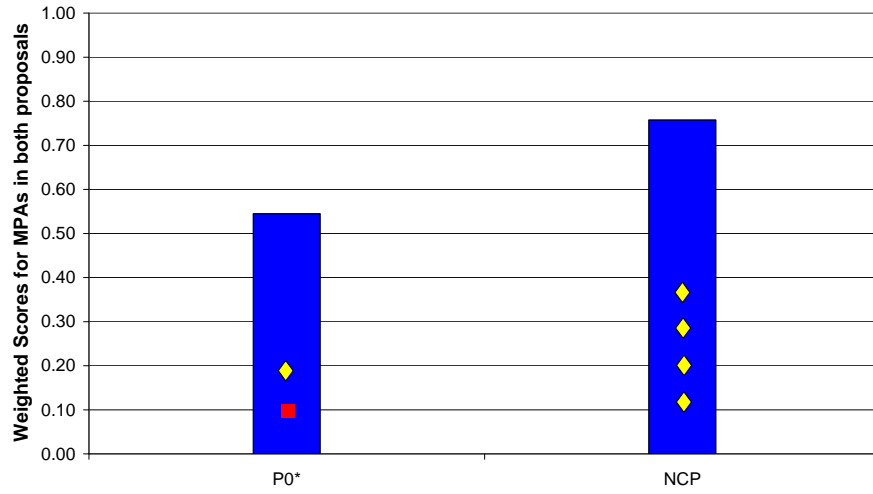
**Dominic Gregorio, Member • SAT Water Quality Work Group and
California State Water Resources Control Board**



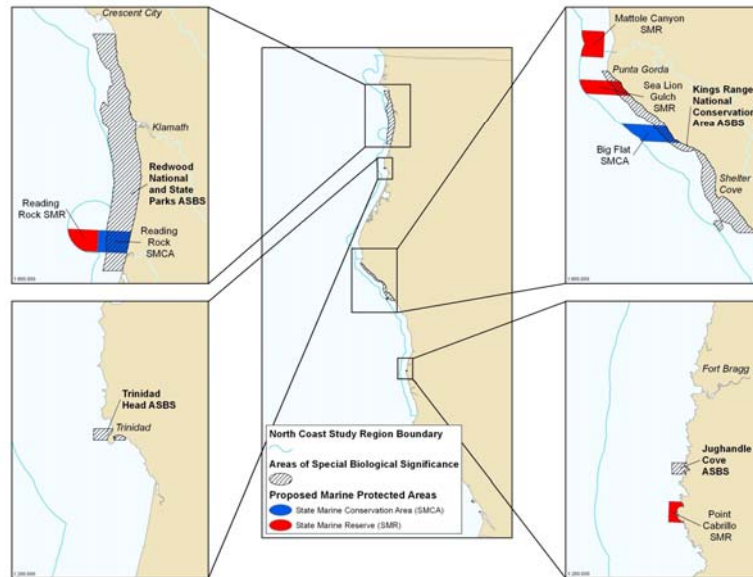


Proposal Comparison - Coastal MPAs

- ◆ Areas of Special Biological Significance
- ▲ Wastewater Discharge Zone
- Stormwater Discharge Zone



ASBSs and MPA Placement





Round 3 Summary

- The MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder (NCRSG) MPA Proposal did very well with all MPAs avoiding water quality concerns
- The NCRSG MPA Proposal did well at co-locating MPAs with ASBSs
- The NCRSG avoided placing nearly all MPAs near harbors, which decreased the likelihood of co-locating MPAs with water quality concern areas but increased the probability of not meeting other SAT guidelines such as size and spacing for certain key habitats



Round 3 Summary, conclusion

- *Water-quality evaluations are not mandated by the master plan for MPAs, and should therefore be considered secondary to other MPA design guidelines. Water-quality considerations should be incorporated if other guidelines and criteria have been met.*



End of Presentation

The Following Slides Were Shown at the
October 13-14, 2010 Meeting of the
MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team



Water Quality Guidance

SAT Recommendations for Water Quality

- Co-location, where possible, with state water quality protection areas (SWQPAs)
 - Areas of special biological significance (ASBSs) are special subset of SWQPAs
- Avoiding, where possible, areas of water quality concern:
 - Urban stormwater, nonpoint sources of pollution (e.g. harbors) and dredge disposal sites
 - Wastewater point sources
 1. Major sources – ½ mile radius buffer
 2. Intermediate sources – ¼ mile radius buffer
 3. Minor sources – avoid outfall point



Evaluation Methods

- Two categories of marine protected areas (MPAs):
 1. Embayment (bay and estuary) MPAs
 - Bays and estuaries are more likely to be associated with storm-water runoff
 - No areas of special biological significance (ASBSs) currently designated in embayments
 2. Coastal MPAs
 - Coast and offshore rocks
 - Large ASBSs provide opportunities for co-location



Evaluation Scoring Methods

- Embayment MPAs
 - 0.25 is the least desirable and has serious water-quality concerns
 - 1.00 is considered the most desirable, with no water-quality concerns
- Coastal MPAs
 - 0.17 is the least desirable and has serious water-quality concerns
 - 0.67 is favorable, indicating no water-quality concerns
 - A score over 0.67 indicates co-location with an ASBS/SWQPA; a score of 1.00 is the most desirable



Coastal MPAs - NCRSG MPA Proposal

