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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Overview of MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force North Coast Recommendations

Presentation to the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team

January 13, 2011 • Teleconference/Webinar

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BRTF North Coast Recommendations

In October the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) adopted seven motions, two related to marine protected areas (MPAs) and special closures:

- Revised Round 3 NCRSG MPA Proposal, with NCRSG recommendation to name the Ten Mile MPAs after Skip Wollenberg and staff recommended updates to the recreational take intended to accommodate tribal uses (BRTF motion #1)
- North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal, that builds off the Revised Round 3 NCRSG MPA Proposal with modifications to improve compliance with science guidelines and California Department of Fish and Game feasibility criteria (BRTF motion #4)
- North Coast Special Closures Recommendation, as developed by the NCRSG (part of motions #1 and #4)

NCRSG = MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Enhanced Compliance Alternative

The North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative Marine Protected Area Proposal (ECA) consists of the Revised Round 3 North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group Marine Protected Area Proposal (RNCP), modified as follows:

- Add nearshore “ribbon” state marine conservation areas (SMCAs) in Pyramid Point, Samoa, Big Flat and Vizcaino SMCAs with all recreational uses retained, including those intended to accommodate tribal uses
- Retain in the remaining offshore SMCAs at Pyramid Point, Samoa, Big Flat and Vizcaino only those uses at moderate-high or high levels of protection (LOPs)
- Retain in Reading Rock SMCA only proposed uses at moderate-high or high LOPs

Enhanced Compliance Alternative

ECA modifications, continued:

- Retain at Skip Wollenberg/Ten Mile Beach SMCA all proposed uses at any LOP
- Retain in estuarine MPAs only those uses intended to accommodate tribal uses with a moderate-high or high LOP
- Add a statement regarding restricting proposed recreational uses intended to accommodate tribes and tribal communities to only tribes and tribal communities when appropriate administrative or legislative action is taken
- Add pelagic finfish (spearfishing) to proposed uses for all SMCAs

ECA = North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal

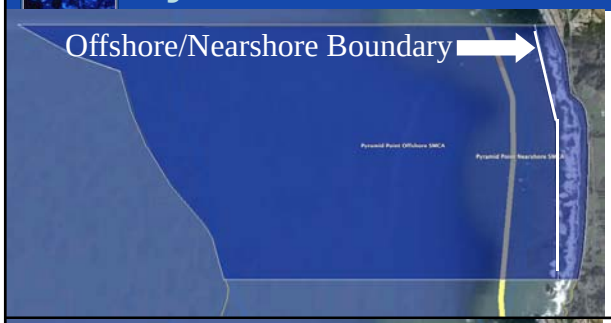
North Coast MPA Proposals

Two MPA Proposals and Proposal 0

	Acronym	Number of MPAs* (SMRs)	Percent of Study Region (SMRs)
Proposal 0 (existing MPAs)	P0	5 (1)	0.3% (0.2%)
Revised NCRSG MPA Proposal	RNCP	17 (6)	13.1% (5%)
North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal	ECA	21 (6)	13.1% (5%)

** Numbers include state marine recreational management areas, a type of marine managed area*

Pyramid Point



ECA

- Offshore LOP = Moderate High
- Nearshore LOP = Low
- Added pelagic finfish by recreational spearfishing to both

RNCP

- LOP = Low

Samoa

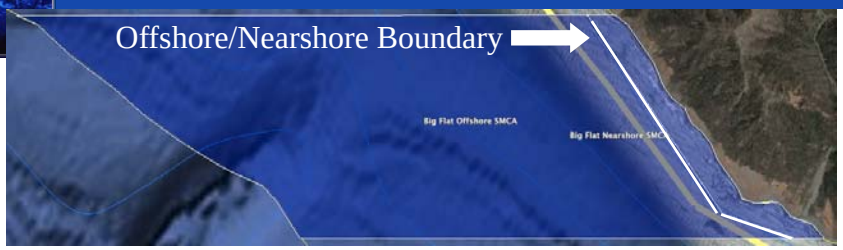
ECA

- Offshore LOP = Moderate High
- Nearshore LOP = Moderate Low
- Added pelagic finfish by recreational spearfishing to both

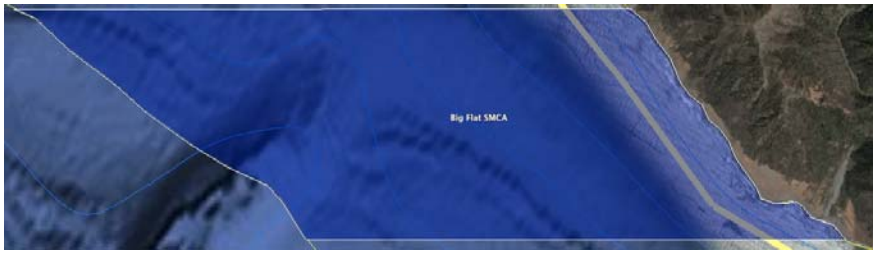
RNCP

- LOP = Moderate Low

Big Flat



ECA: Offshore SMCA LOP = Moderate High; Nearshore SMCA LOP = Low; added pelagic finfish by recreational spearfishing to both



RNCP: SMCA LOP = Low

Vizcaino

ECA
- Offshore LOP = Moderate High
- Nearshore LOP = Low
- Added pelagic finfish by recreational spearfishing to both

RNCP
- LOP = Low

Special Closures

- Seven special closure options
  - –2 focus on marine mammal protection
  - –5 focus on marine bird protection
- All special closures suggested as 300 foot no-entry zones
- 4 of the 7 special closures are seasonal closures, from March 1 - August 31
- Included proposal for an alternative to special closures at Green Rock and Flatiron Rock
- Included language regarding intention to allow access for traditional, non-commercial, tribal activities when it becomes possible within State of California statutory authority