

California MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team
Summary of SAT Water and Sediment Quality Evaluations for the MLPA
Blue Ribbon Task Force Options Proposed during the October 25-26, 2010
Meetings

Revised December 13, 2010

During their October 25-26 meeting, the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) adopted seven motions with recommendations related to MPAs and special closures in the MLPA North Coast Study Region. Only two of these motions required attention by the SAT for evaluating water and sediment quality. The two motions considered by this summary include the creation of a second alternative proposal known as the North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal (ECA) (BRTF Motion 4 as proposed on October 26), and a recommendation to retain three existing MPAs with modifications: MacKerricher, Russian Gulch and Van Damme SMCAs (BRTF Motion 6 as proposed on October 26, 2010). In addition to these two motions, the North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG) forwarded minor revisions to the BRTF regarding their final Round 3 NCRSG North Coast Proposal. This revised proposal is now called the Revised NCRSG North Coast Proposal (RNCP).

The motion to create the ECA proposal and the revisions to the RNCP did not change the cross shore boundaries and generally reflect the MPA boundaries designed for the Round 3 MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group MPA proposal (NCRSG MPA Proposal). Therefore, no further water and sediment evaluations are needed for these proposals as any new evaluation performed would be identical to the NCRSG MPA Proposal¹. However, should the three existing SMCAs be added to any of the proposals, as recommended by the BRTF, then the water quality evaluation score for the proposal would be reduced because the MacKerricher SMCA has an urban storm water discharge zone that drains into the MPA (weighted score for both EAC and RNCP would be 0.71). For more details on the water quality evaluation for this MPA please refer to Proposal 0 in the SAT's water and sediment quality evaluation document for the Round 3 NCRSG MPA Proposal¹. The other two existing MPAs (Russian Gulch and Van Damme SMCAs) did not have any water quality concerns associated with them.

¹ The SAT's water and sediment quality evaluation on the NCRSG MPA Proposal is titled "Summary of SAT Water and Sediment Quality Evaluation of Round 3 MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Proposal for the MLPA North Coast Study Region". This evaluation can be found on the MLPA website under the BRTF's October 25-26 meeting.