

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



MLPA North Coast Marine Protected Area Planning Process and Timeline

**Presented at North Coast Educational Workshop I
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Planning Process 2004 to Present

Marine Protected Area (MPA) Planning Processes in Past Study Regions

- Three iterations to develop MPA proposals
- Regional stakeholder group (RSG) process for all three rounds
- External MPA proposals developed in parallel to RSG proposals in first two rounds

Adaptation Made to MLPA North Coast Study Region in Response to Community Needs

- Process for first round will be to develop external proposed MPA arrays from community groups
- RSG process in second and third rounds informed using the external proposed MPA arrays



Internal Versus External Proposals

- “Internal” proposals are developed through the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG)
- External proposed MPA arrays developed external to the NCRSG will be evaluated and shared with the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and NCRSG, informing development of draft and final MPA proposals



External MPA Arrays

Role of External Proposed MPA Arrays in the North Coast Study Region

- “Round 1” of the north coast MPA planning process
- Regional component of a statewide network
- Focus is on complete external proposed MPA arrays for the entire study region
- Individual MPA concepts can be shared, but do not constitute a “complete” regional array for evaluation purposes



Iterative Steps to Process

- **Develop External Proposed MPA Arrays**
 - Community groups and/or individuals, using workshops, MLPA Initiative staff support, online mapping tool, and science and feasibility guidelines
- **Evaluations**
 - Conducted by science advisory team, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation and MLPA Initiative staff
- **Policy Guidance**
 - Blue ribbon task force
- **Inform NCRSG**
 - Using public input, various evaluations, and task force guidance, NCRSG will use external proposed MPA arrays to inform development of draft and final MPA proposals



Developing MPA Arrays

- 1. One page cover sheet (array name, contributors, contact information)**
- 2. One to two page narrative**
- 3. Information for each MPA within the array**
- 4. One page document outlining the consideration of existing MPAs**

Considerations

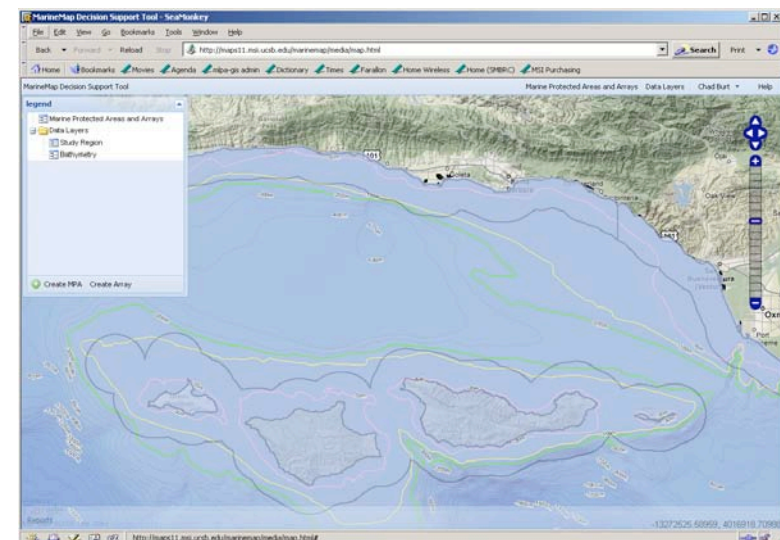
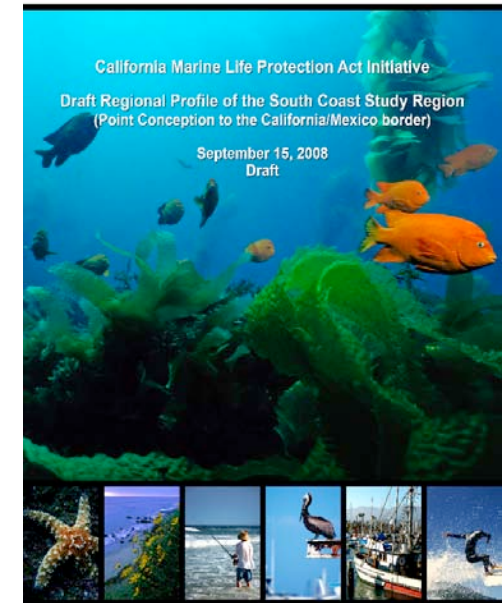
- External proposed MPA arrays should be designed consistent with the Marine Life Protection Act and guidelines in the *California Marine Life Protection Act Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas*
- External proposed MPA arrays should consider additional guidance provided by the science advisory team, blue ribbon task force, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and MLPA Initiative staff



Tools for Developing Arrays

Available Tools and Other Information

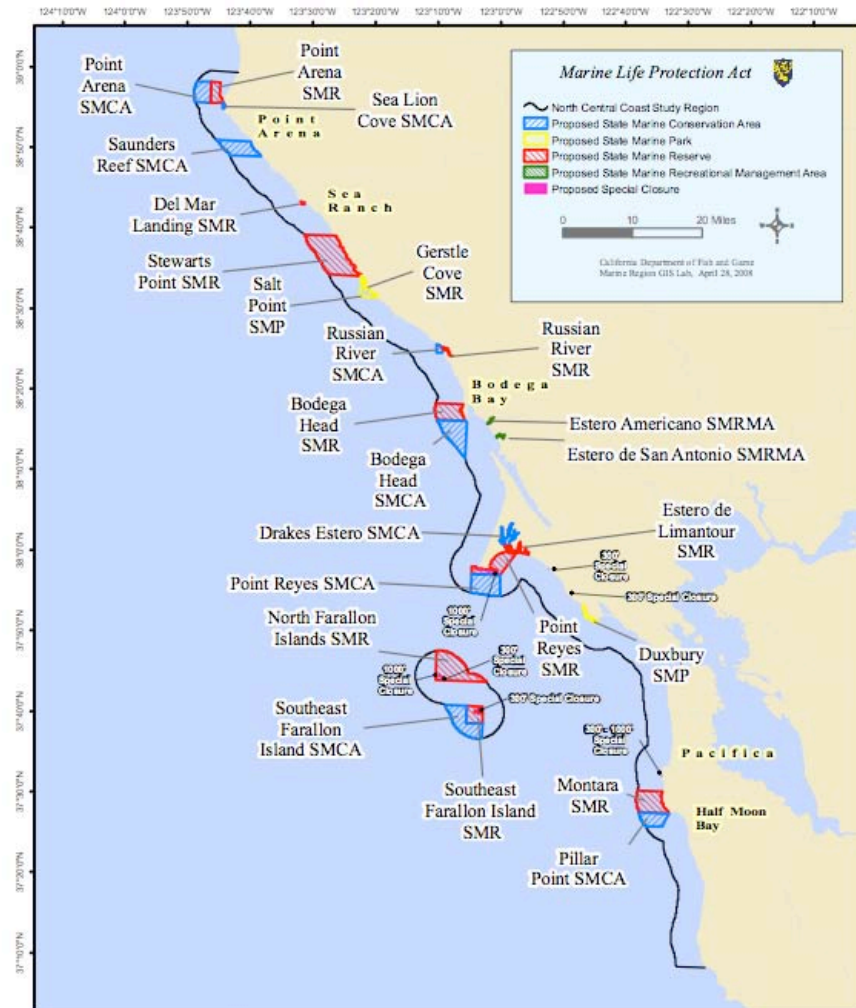
- Regional profile
- Public workshops
- Software (MarineMap)
- Paper charts
- Technical assistance from staff





MPA Proposal Example

North Central Coast Study Region Integrated Preferred Alternative



North Central Coast Study Region *Integrated Preferred Alternative*

This marine protected area (MPA) proposal was unanimously selected on April 23, 2008 by the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) as its preferred alternative and is being submitted to the California Fish and Game Commission (CFG) for consideration. This proposal integrates elements from three proposals developed by the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCCSRG) (proposals 1-3, 2-XA, and 4). These NCCSRG proposals will also be forwarded in their entirety to the CFG for consideration. Further information on each MPA proposal can be found in the associated text document with the same MPA proposal name.





North Coast Timeline

- September 2009: First educational workshop (Sept. 29) and begin process of developing external proposed MPA arrays
- October 2009: Request for nominations to the NCRSG and second educational workshop (Oct. 28)
- November 2009: Intent to prepare an MPA proposal, brief presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force, third workshop (Nov. 17), and submit nominations for the NCRSG
- December 2009: Submit external proposed MPA arrays



North Coast Timeline, Part 2

- January 2010: Evaluations conducted for external proposed MPA arrays
- February 2010: First meeting of the NCRSG
- March-September 2010: MPA proposals developed by the NCRSG
- October 2010: Task force selects preferred alternative
- December 2010: Recommendations to the state