



California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

c/o Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

July 5, 2005

From: Michael DeLapa, Central Coast Project Manager, MLPA Initiative
To: Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (CCRSG)
Re: Communication Protocols

Members of the Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group:

In response to your comments at the June meeting, we have taken the following steps to improve communications during the Central Coast Project:

Information Requests

To manage requests of the MLPA Initiative for data, scientific, socioeconomic and other information, we have established a web form at:

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/cc_request.html

The form asks for general contact information, a specific description of the information you are requesting, and an explanation of how this information request will support decisions that need to be made for Central Coast Project. MLPA staff will log and prioritize requests and provide regular reports to the CCRSG. For general comments or contributions (e.g., offers of new data or other information), please continue to email MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov.

Process of Bringing CCRSG Science and Policy Questions to SAT/BRTF

During our meetings, scientific and other questions will arise that we can't answer. Two Scientific Advisory Team (SAT) members, Dr. Mark Carr for the north and Dr. Dean Wendt for the south, have accepted roles as primary contacts between the CCRSG and SAT. Their role will be to document questions raised by the CCRSG, pose them to the SAT for discussion, and bring responses back to the CCRSG. Dr. Rick Starr and Dr. Linwood Pendleton have agreed to be their back ups. Graduate Students Carrie Kappel and Heather Galindo will support their efforts. Outside of meetings, please submit requests via the web form or email to MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov.

Protocol for Submitting Alternative Proposals from Non-CCRSG members for MPAs along the Central Coast

The CCRSG is expected to be the primary source of alternative MPA proposals to the MLPA Initiative Blue Ribbon Task Force, but this is an open process and it's possible others will be submitting MPA proposals to the Task Force and the CCRSG. Suggestions for single MPAs and networks of MPAs are welcomed between September 1 and October 15, 2005. Those proposing MPAs or networks of MPAs should make their proposals using the standard format provided in Appendix F "Outline of Information Required for Proposals for Alternative Networks of Marine Protected Areas" in the Master Plan Framework. Providing as much information as possible in this format will assist review of proposals by the CCRSG and SAT. All proposals will be made public. Likewise, all assessments of proposals will be public. At its discretion, the CCRSG and the SAT, working with MLPA Initiative staff, may assess similar proposals jointly and may judge a proposal as sufficiently at variance with the MLPA as to not warrant further assessment.