

**CALIFORNIA MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT INITIATIVE
STATUS OF TASKS FROM OCTOBER 2004 BRTF MEETING**

TASK	STATUS AND NOTES
<u>Master Plan Framework</u>	
1. Confirm that the master plan framework does not require a CEQA analysis.	Legal counsel indicates that the framework does not require a full CEQA analysis.
2. Begin identifying literature and other sources of information relevant to developing specific elements of the master plan.	Necessary sources of information identified and first set of contracts for services signed in December. Several products due in January.
3. Circulate the table of contents to stakeholders, requesting comments, questions that should be addressed under each item, and sources of information. Revise and provide update to BRTF in January.	Posted document to the website with request for comments no later than December 6, 2004. Revised and expanded table of contents submitted to task force.
4. Provide stakeholders with the draft outline of information required for MPA network proposals, with an introduction, definitions and annotations. Revise the outline in response to comments and submit to the BRTF in January for action.	Added introduction and posted document to the website with request for comments no later than December 6, 2004. Revised and sent to BRTF for action at January meeting.
<u>Central Coast Project</u>	
5. Circulate for comment the criteria for selecting the central coast project area. Present the revised criteria to the BRTF for action in January.	Posted document to the website with request for comments no later than December 6, 2004. Revised criteria submitted to task force for action at January meeting.
<u>Science Team</u>	
6. Request nominations and make recommendations to director of Department of Fish and Game.	Nominations solicited and recommendations made to director of DFG. Science Team members selected in December.
7. Set date for and hold first meeting of scientec team.	First meeting to be held January 7, 2005 in Oakland, CA.
<u>Task Force Requests</u>	
8. Prepare a briefing document regarding the relative importance and efficacy of various tools, such as MPAs and traditional fishery management measures (see discussion in the nearshore fishery management plan).	Deferred.
9. Prepare literature reviews on key topics.	List of peer-reviewed literature posted to the MLPA website, as a start. Additional work to be done under contract.
10. Develop an initial description and regular report on other MPA initiatives that may overlap with the MLPA Initiative.	Initial description prepared and submitted to BRTF for January meeting.
11. Develop a description of fishery regulations along with a map.	Brief presentation on statewide regulations to be made at January BRTF meeting, with subsequent and more detailed description at a future meeting with a focus on the central coast
12. Develop maps showing all the restrictions that affect the use of coastal waters.	Brief presentations to be made at January BRTF meeting, with subsequent and more detailed descriptions at a future BRTF meeting with a focus on the central coast project area.
13. Describe the effect of MPAs on allocation of fish between user groups.	To be added to draft master plan framework

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14. Institutionalize relationship between the MLPA Initiative and potential partners for funding and in-kind services.	Outline of agreement with National MPA Science Center developed. Initial discussions have taken place with Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.
15. Develop a mechanism for tracking the number of constituents on initiative mailing lists (electronic and print) and report these to the BRTF.	Staff to provide report at each BRTF meeting on web viewership, number of listserv members and mailing list for print documents. DFG provided from constituent database list of those interested in MLPA, NMFP, abalone RMP.
16. Post to the MLPA website the decision-making process to be used by the Fish and Game Commission for considering the master plan framework and individual regional MPA networks.	Draft prepared. To be posted to MLPA website.
17. Provide to task force members copy of <i>California's Living Marine Resources: A Status Report</i> .	Copies to be provided to task force members at January meeting.
<u>Stakeholder Participation</u>	
18. Develop a process for selecting participants in various stakeholder groups.	Stakeholders to nominate representatives based on identified criteria, from which staff select designated number to
19. Form an interim stakeholder coordinating group at the statewide level to work with staff on the master plan framework.	Statewide Interests Group formed using identified process. First meeting held December 16, 2004. Similar process recommended for forming regional stakeholder group in the central coast region.
20. Develop a mechanism for tracking comments and making them available to all stakeholders.	Comments encouraged to be submitted electronically for ease in posting to MLPA website. To be posted to website in chronological order.
<u>Administration</u>	
21. Develop draft overall budget for submission to BRTF at January meeting	Draft initiative budget to be prepared and submitted to BRTF for action at January meeting.
22. Contracting expenditures – is there a threshold for approval?	Staff recommend \$50,000 as contracting threshold for BRTF chair approval. Staff to report at each NRTF meeting on contracts let and progress of each.
23. Create an e-mail distribution list for BRTF members and staff so that public comment is automatically forwarded to appropriate individuals.	First round of public comments submitted to Melissa Miller-Henson and held for distribution to BRTF members in December as single batch. Future comments to be submitted to public comment e-mail address(es) for immediate distribution to staff, with monthly batch distribution to BRTF members.
24. Amend transparency policy per direction of BRTF and post to the MLPA website.	Policy amended and posted to MLPA website in November.
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
25. Review the recent consensus statement on integration of marine reserves with fisheries produced by the National Fisheries Conservation Center.	Some staff have reviewed.
26. Participate in the Nov 18-19 meeting regarding ocean research priorities being organized by the Resources Agency, California Ocean Science Trust, Sea Grant and the UC Marine Council.	Marine Region Manager Patty Wolf attended.