

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814 916.654.1885

To: MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
From: MLPA I-Team
**Subject: Attached Memo to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Regarding
Military Use Areas in the MLPA South Coast Study Region**
Date: December 29, 2008

MLPA staff provided the attached memo to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) at its December 10, 2008 meeting. The purpose of the memo was to provide for the BRTF's consideration background information and recommended action regarding military use areas in the MLPA South Coast Study Region. During the December 10 meeting, the BRTF also received more detailed input from MLPA Initiative Executive Director Ken Wiseman and heard public comment.

The BRTF indicated that it will take up this matter again at its next meeting on January 22, 2009 and solicit further public comment prior to taking any action on the staff recommendation. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide input to the BRTF in advance of the January 22 meeting.

Questions should be directed to Ken Wiseman (Ken.Wiseman@resources.ca.gov or 916.653.5674) or Program Manager Melissa Miller-Henson (Melissa@resources.ca.gov or 916.654.2506).

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814 916.653.5656

To: MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force
From: MLPA I-Team
Subject: Military Use Areas in the MLPA South Coast Study Region
Date: December 4, 2008

Proposed Action

In coordination with the U.S. Department of Defense, the MLPA Initiative team is recommending your approval of guiding language addressing military operations in the MLPA South Coast Study Region.

Background

A lesson learned from the MLPA Central Coast Project was that having knowledge about areas of potential concern for the United States Department of Defense (DoD) is more helpful in the early stages of the planning process rather than waiting until stakeholders are in the midst of developing alternative marine protected area proposals. To that end, MLPA Initiative and California Department of Fish and Game staff requested a meeting with DoD stakeholder representative Michael Huber, along with his counsel, Mary Kay Faryan. This meeting started a collaborative process of bringing forward a proposal, which was followed by a telephone conference between Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman and Navy Rear Admiral Len Hering, who were both supportive of our efforts for early consultation.

We recommend that you adopt a motion that references the attached map which shows a geographic approximation of military activities in the study region, especially in the San Diego area where some boundaries are shared with the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Detailed GIS maps will be added to the south coast regional profile and online mapping tool so that this information is available to stakeholders in their deliberations.

We propose that you seek public comment and discuss the proposed motion at your December 10, 2008 meeting, with a final decision at your January 22, 2009 meeting.

Recommended Motion

Marine protected areas should not be considered in areas identified by the United States Department of Defense on the map dated December 4, 2008, as live fire, training minefields and amphibious operation areas. Legally permitted fishing will continue to be allowed in the same manner as now in these areas, which is currently estimated at over 80% of the time.

Other areas in the MLPA South Coast Study Region utilized by the military may be appropriate for marine protected areas depending on the missions conducted in those areas. Compelling scientific information will always be given consideration in the process.



Military Live Fire, Training Minefields, Amphibious Operating Areas In The MLPA South Coast Study Region

-  Live Fire, Training Minefields, Amphibious Operating Areas
-  Military Installations

Nautical Miles
0 20 40 60 80

Prepared by the Department of Defense
at the Request of the California Resources Agency

4 December 2008