Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Overview of Round 1 Process and Key Planning Guidance for Round 2

Presentation to the MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
April 28, 2009 • Oxnard, CA

Evan Fox, Principal Planner and
Melissa Miller-Henson, Program Manager • California MLPA Initiative

Iterative Planning Process

Draft arrays and external proposals submitted in Round 1 are the first step in a three part, iterative process:

- Round 1 focus was gathering of information
- Round 2 focus will be incorporating feedback and finding middle ground within SCRSG gem groups
- Round 3 focus will be incorporating feedback and refining ideas within work groups

Three Rounds of Proposal Development

Round 1 - Draft Marine Protected Area (MPA) Arrays

- March 4 – MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) completes draft arrays
- April 28 – SCRSG formally receives evaluations and feedback

You Are Here

Round 2 - Draft MPA Proposals

- May 21 – SCRSG completes draft proposals
- August 4 – SCRSG formally receives evaluations and feedback

Round 3 - Final SCRSG MPA Proposals

- September 10 – SCRSG completes final SCRSG proposals
- October 20-22 – MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and SCRSG formally receive evaluations

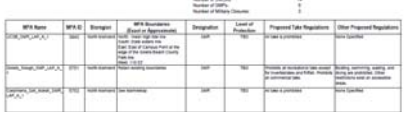
Round 1 Draft Arrays and Proposals

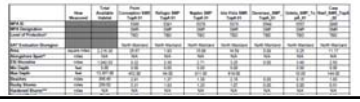
- Proposal 0 (existing MPAs)
  - Represents the "no action" alternative
- 6 Draft MPA Arrays
  - Generated by cross-interest work groups within SCRSG
  - Includes 2 draft arrays from each "gem group" (Lapis, Opal and Topaz)
- 3 Draft External MPA Proposals
  - Generated by groups external to the SCRSG gems work group process

10 total draft arrays/proposals evaluated in Round 1

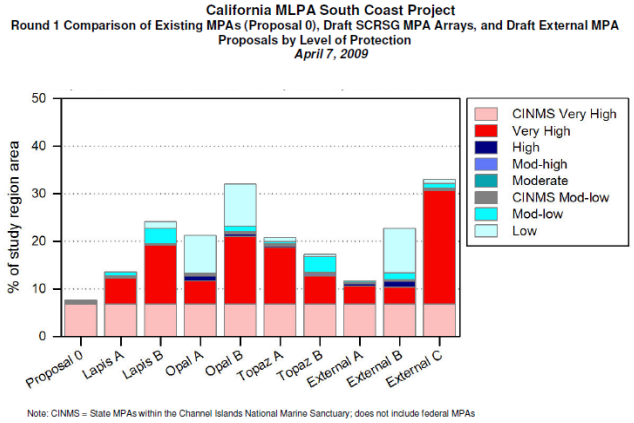
Basic Information Available

- Maps
- Description of MPAs
- Recommendations for Existing MPAs
- Staff Summaries
- Habitat Calculations

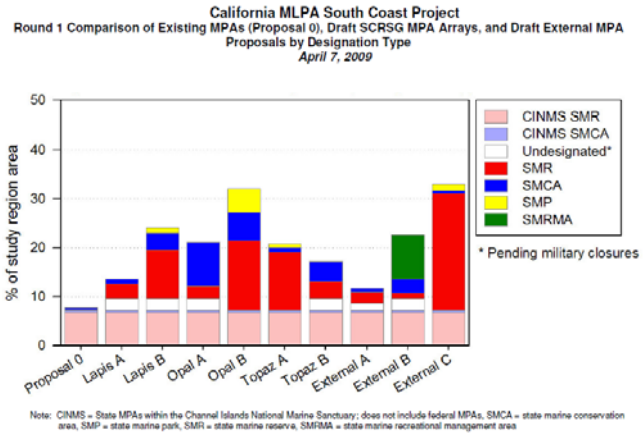




Area in MPAs by Level of Protection



Area in MPAs by Designation Type



Key Feedback from Round 1: SAT

MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) Evaluations:

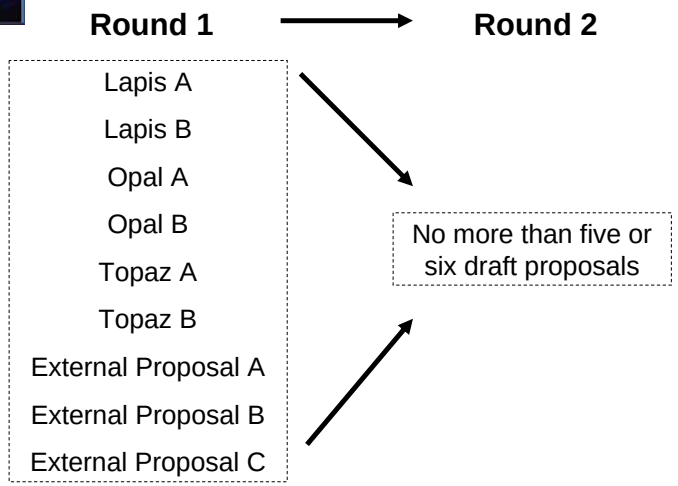
- Habitat Representation
- Habitat Replication
- MPA Size
- MPA Spacing
- Bioeconomic Modeling
- Benefits to Marine Birds and Mammals
- Potential Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries

Key Feedback from Round 1: Other

Other Evaluations and Analyses:

- California Department of Fish and Game (DGF) Feasibility Analysis
- California Department of Parks and Recreation Evaluation
- Goal 3 Analysis

Round 2 Will Require Winnowing



Key Guidance from Round 1: BRTF

MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) guidance regarding:

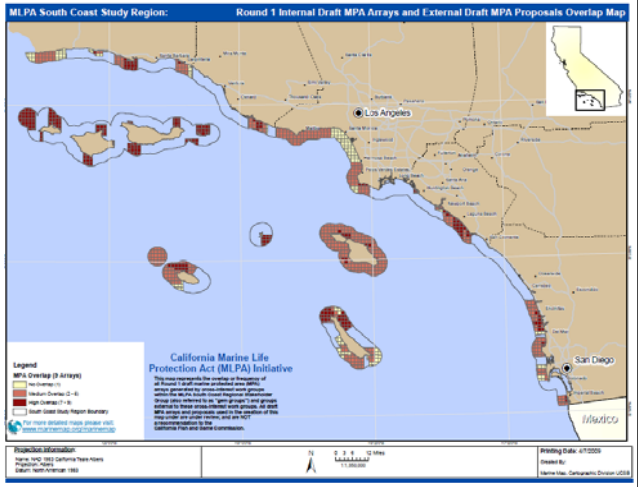
- Emphasizing past guidance, including *cross-interest support, SAT evaluations and DFG feasibility criteria*
- Reducing number of proposals to no more than five or six by end of Round 2
- Water quality
- Funding
- Military use areas and pending military closures
- Use of best available substrate data

Finding Middle Ground

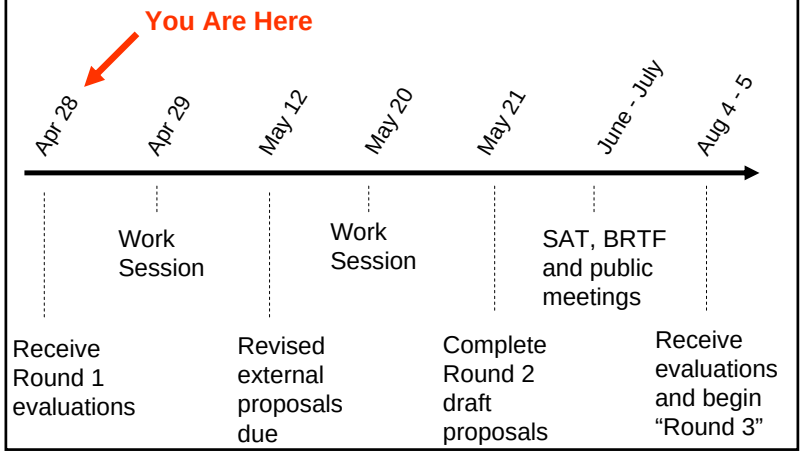
- Round 1 focus was gathering information; Round 2 focus is finding middle ground and cross-interest support
- Many good ideas can be found across range of draft arrays and external proposals; stakeholders encouraged to borrow and share ideas
- Geographic areas of overlap may represent locations where stakeholders can find middle ground solutions
- Focus around cross-interest ideas; that is, ideas that have support from multiple, consumptive and non-consumptive interests

Finding Middle Ground

Overlap Between All Draft Arrays and Draft External Proposals

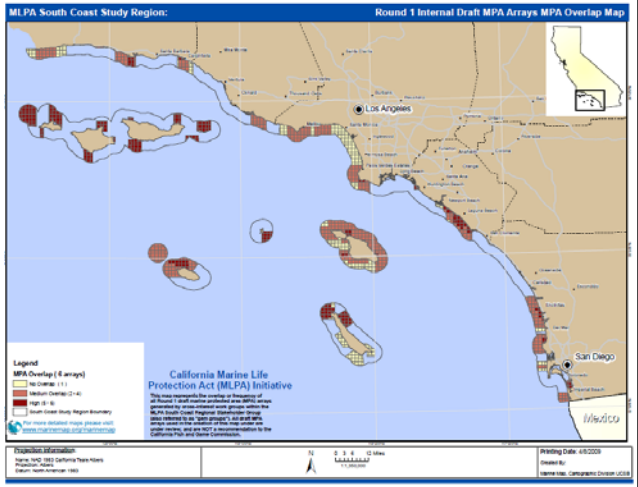


Round 2 Timeline



Finding Middle Ground

Overlap Between SCRSG Draft Arrays



Additional Considerations in Round 2

- Special closures
- Water quality evaluation by the SAT
- Potential additional BRTF guidance on military use areas and pending military closures

Key Planning Guidance for Round 2

- Be clear about the intent of proposed MPAs, including specific goals and objectives
- Clearly state proposed allowed uses and consider intended level of protection
- Look across all Round 1 proposals to see which MPA concepts performed better than others and consider hybrid ideas in difficult geographies
- Utilize the extensive knowledge of other stakeholders
- Use tools available (e.g. MarineMap) to work outside of formal meetings to develop creative, cross-interest solutions