

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Stakeholder Assessment for the South Coast Study Region

Rebecca Tuden, Associate, CONCUR, Inc.

Presentation to the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

October 6 - 7, 2008 • El Segundo, CA



Stakeholder Assessment

Shared Interests

- MLPA process should acknowledge diversity of large population and many types of uses
- Desire for healthy marine ecosystem for future generations
- Minimize socioeconomic impacts of marine protected areas (MPAs)
- Balance between ecosystem protection and utilization of a resource
- Legitimate and transparent process



Stakeholders' Shared Themes

Overarching Themes

- Process will be challenging
- Importance of respecting fellow stakeholder group members
- Use of good science, accurate information and direct observations and experiences
- Disappointment over Channel Islands process and expectation that this stakeholder effort will be an improvement
- Focus on building trust and positive communication



Potential “Hot Spots”

- Rocky habitats
 - Intensity of use and limited amount
- La Jolla Cove
- Islands - Santa Catalina, San Nicolas, San Clemente
 - High value for fisheries and preservationists
- Complete closures (reserve) vs. restrictions



Related Marine Issues

Potentially Address?

- Water quality
- Fisheries management and regulation
- Intensity of use on remaining “open areas”
- Artificial reefs and decommissioning oil and gas platforms



Implications for Process Design

Keys to Success

- Search for solutions that balance multiple interests
- Give serious consideration to all viewpoints
- Commit to achieving Marine Life Protection Act goals
- Rely on sound science and accurate information
- Involve broader constituencies in process



Discussion of Findings

- Reflections from MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group members on the findings
- Does this assessment resonate?