

# California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

## Request for Nominations to the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

The California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative is accepting through **April 11, 2007** nominations for appointments to the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. The north central coast study region extends from Alder Creek (Mendocino County) south to Pigeon Point (San Mateo County). The MLPA Initiative seeks individuals committed to successfully completing the MLPA regional stakeholder group process on the north central coast by June 2008.

### Charge of the Regional Stakeholder Group

The regional stakeholder group will provide a forum for:

- Providing local knowledge of the north central coast region for refining a regional profile and informing the MLPA planning process
- Evaluating existing marine protected areas within the north central coast study region in relation to the goals of the MLPA
- Developing alternative proposals for marine protected areas within the north central coast study region that meet the requirements of the MLPA for consideration by the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and the California Fish and Game Commission
- Conducting outreach to constituent groups for involvement in the MLPA North Central Coast Project; and
- Identifying potential panel speakers to present stakeholder group recommendations and commentary at meetings of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and other public meetings

To address these and other issues in a collaborative manner, the regional stakeholder group will work with a facilitation team, a science advisory team, and California Department of Fish and Game and MLPA Initiative staff. The primary focus of deliberations will be the public sessions of the group. The regional stakeholder group will not finalize any proposals outside the public sessions of the group.

The group will meet approximately seven times in two-day plenary meetings, and in work teams between plenary meetings, from May 2007 to June 2008. The first meeting of the regional stakeholder group will be held **May 22-23, 2007**. Because the north central coast encompasses such a large area, subgroups may meet in the northern and southern portions of the study region. The time commitment necessary to prepare for and actively participate in the meetings and on work teams is likely to be substantial. Upon request, regional stakeholder group members will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

### Criteria for Selection

Members of the regional stakeholder group are expected to have the following attributes:

- Able to bring first hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region
- Able to balance a north central coast regional perspective with localized knowledge
- Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more important stakeholder groups
- Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of a broad range of constituencies

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- Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings
- Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group

Taken together, selections will be made to achieve a diversity of stakeholder perspectives, expertise and geography. Efforts by multiple stakeholder groups to nominate a single individual are encouraged. The chair of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and director of the California Department of Fish and Game will appoint members to the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group.

### **Format of Nominations**

Nominations should include the following information:

- Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address
- A short statement to confirm how the applicant meets the selection criteria
- Where appropriate, identify current and past affiliations with stakeholder groups active in marine resource management
- A brief summary of past involvement in the MLPA or similar public processes to provide advice on natural resource policy or planning
- Willingness to commit the time for full participation
- Descriptions of the organizations and individuals with which the nominee will communicate
- Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples)
- Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project

Nominations must be *received* by 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 11, 2007** at one of the following:

Email: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

Fax: 916.653.8102 (Attn: Melissa Miller-Henson)

Mail: Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
c/o California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Attn: Melissa Miller-Henson