

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
Statewide Interests Group  
Draft Meeting Agenda  
July 20, 2005  
2:00 p.m. via conference call**

**Call-in information: *Dial toll free 888.887.0127 and enter 833424 at the prompt***

**Meeting Objectives**

- *Receive update on central coast process*
- *Identify process and ground rules for submitting MPA proposals*
- *Discuss additional science presentations*
- *Debrief July task force meeting*
- *Share other ideas for strengthening stakeholder involvement and process topics not specifically covered on other agenda items*
- *Updates on future meeting dates (BRTF, SIG, SAT and CCRSG)*
- *Summarize next steps*

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| 1. | Welcome, roll call, and logistics for conference call<br><i>Phil Isenberg, MLPA Task Force chair</i><br><i>Gail Bingham, facilitator</i>  | 2:00 – 2:10 p.m. |
| 2. | Update on the Central Coast Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- membership</li><li>- dates and locations of meetings</li><li>- data gathering</li><li>- submitting MPA designs into the MLPA process (see next page)</li><li>- questions?</li></ul> | 2:10 – 2:30 p.m. |
| 3. | Science presentations (see page three) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- at Blue Ribbon Task Force meetings</li><li>- at the Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group meetings</li><li>- stakeholder sponsored workshops?</li></ul>                       | 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. |
| 4. | July task force meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- what went well?</li><li>- suggestions for changes</li></ul>   | 3:00 – 3:15 p.m. |
| 5. | Open discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- what topics would you like to address that haven't been asked?</li></ul>  | 3:15 – 3:30 p.m. |
| 6. | Potential changes to future meeting dates (see last page)   | 3:30 – 3:40 p.m. |
| 7. | Wrap up <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- action items and next steps</li><li>- suggestions for future SIG agenda items</li></ul>   | 3:40 – 3:45 p.m. |

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
Submitting MPA Designs into the MLPA Process  
Taken from Final Ground Rules  
Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group  
(Adopted by the CCRSG on June 9, 2005)**

**Identifying and Valuing Alternatives**

- CRSG members will strive to identify and value alternative MPA proposals. They will be open to proposals from others in the CCRSG or from outside the CCRSG. The valuation process will assess, using best readily available science and information, how each alternative satisfies the goals and objectives established for the MLPA Central Coast Project. The result of this process will allow the Blue Ribbon Task Force, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Fish and Game Commission to understand how the alternatives identified will satisfy the Marine Life Protection Act.
- The CCRSG facilitation team will seek to foster an approach to meeting management and to the identification and valuing of alternative MPA proposals that maximizes joint gains and mutual benefit, and also optimizes efficiency.

## **California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Planned Science Presentations to Inform Decision-Making**

Please note that the unit numbers used below are numbered for ease of reference and do not indicate an order or preference.

### **Unit 1 – Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services (presented Jul 12, 2005)**

Lead: Mark Carr

- What are ecosystems?
- What ecosystems are in the study region for the central coast of California?
- Goods and services from ocean ecosystems, including commercial and recreational opportunities, coastal protection, clean water, clean air, and oxygen, etc.?
- How do we estimate value of ecosystem services, e.g. coastal protection, clean water, clean air and oxygen?
- How do species (including human) interactions affect ecosystem function? [E.g., What happens when predators (including humans) remove keystone species?]
- How will water quality (including sources of pollution and run-off) affect MPA placement, monitoring, and performance?
- What is ecosystem-based management? (And does this necessarily include MPAs?)

### **Unit 2 – Use of Economic Data for the Design and Evaluation of MPAs (Presented Jul 12, 2005)**

Lead: Linwood Pendleton, Astrid Scholz

- Methodology for study of economic value of goods provided by ocean ecosystems
- Commercial consumptive uses of marine ecosystems (quantifiable)
- Non-consumptive uses of marine ecosystems (harder to quantify)
- How can economic data be used to inform design and evaluation of MPAs?

### **Unit 3 – Marine Habitats (presented Jul 12, 2005)**

Lead: Rick Kvittek, Jeff Paduan

- What are the habitats along the central coast of California?
- How dynamic are marine habitats and oceanographic features?
- Can MPAs effectively protect (portions of) marine habitats and oceanographic features?

### **Unit 4 – Population Persistence or The Importance of Big, Old Rockfish (draft due Aug 2, 2005)**

Lead: **Rick Starr**, Steve Berkely (yet to be asked), Loo Botsford

- What are reproductive potentials for species of interest?
- What species have low larval production?
- Larger female fish produce more larvae AND better quality larvae
- Importance of maintaining a non-truncated fish age distribution
- How does larval production vary from year to year? What factors affect larval production?
- How do MPAs contribute to populations of big old rockfish?
- How do MPAs contribute to larval production?

**Linked to Unit 4 – Species of Interest and Their Ecological Interactions**

Lead: to be designated by Species Likely to Benefit Subteam of Mary Yoklavich, Rick Starr, Steve Murray, Richard Parrish

- What are the species of interest for the central coast study region? (Particularly species that are likely to be affected by MPAs)
  - Which species are of particular concern (depleted status)?
- What common species are not likely to benefit from MPAs?
- What are the primary interactions among species of interest and their habitats?
- How does a change in predation or competition affect populations?
  - Will sea otters and seal lions eat all the fish?
  - What types of MPAs will most benefit sea otters or other at risk species?
- What does existing management provide? (Are species well managed?)
- How do species respond to existing management, including CCA and RCA?
- What are possible outcomes for biodiversity, abundance, size of individuals and reproductive potential for species of interest in MPAs?

**Unit 5 – Larval Dispersal and Recruitment (draft due Aug 2, 2005)**

Lead: **Steve Palumbi**, Steve Gaines, Jeff Paduan, Loo Botsford

- What are common life history characteristics of species of interest?
- Where do larvae originate and how far do they go in the ocean?
- What are appropriate conditions for larval settlement and recruitment? (E.g. rockfish)
- How does recruitment vary from year to year?
- What are the implications of larval production, dispersal, and recruitment for MPA design?

**Unit 6 – Adult Movement (draft due Aug 2, 2005)**

Lead: **Rick Starr**, Steve Palumbi, Doyle Hanan, Mark Carr

- What is the potential for movement (dispersal) of species of interest during the life cycle? (E.g., rockfish life cycle)
- What are the implications of movement for MPA design, particularly the concept of a network of MPAs?

**Unit 7 – Consumptive and Non-Consumptive Uses in the Central Coast Region (draft due after Aug 2, 2005 once data are collected)**

Lead: **Astrid Scholz**, Linwood Pendleton, Carrie Pomeroy

- Where do fishermen fish? - results of the studies
- Where do non-consumptive uses occur? - results of the studies
- Potential impacts of MPAs on existing fishery management
- Implications of consumptive use patterns for MPA design
- Potential impacts of MPAs on existing non-consumptive uses
- Implications of non-consumptive use patterns for MPA design
- Changes in human population size and demographics and how those relate to changes in use through time

**Unit 8 – MPA and Network Design (draft due Aug 2, 2005)**

Lead: **Steve Gaines**, Mark Carr, Jim Wilen, Ray Hilborn, Loo Botsford, Steve Palumbi (BRTF already heard some information about network design at the meeting in Pasadena; see presentation by Mark Carr.)

- Review of information on network design from case studies worldwide, consider lessons learned in cases where MPAs or MPA networks did not perform as expected
  - Respond to comment that 31% of MPAs have not met their stated objectives (Sale, et al. 2005)
- Description of situations where MPAs are likely and unlikely to increase biodiversity, size and number of various species
- SAT recommendations for network design for central coast study region, including information from previous presentation on ecosystem services, habitats, and water quality.
- Potential impacts of MPAs on neighboring areas (including displacement)
- The role of larval dispersal and ocean neighborhoods for the design of an ecological network of MPAs.
- The implications of consumptive and non-consumptive use patterns for the design of a network of MPAs
  - Can MPAs have a negative impact on adjacent areas through displacement (of fishing activity)?
  - Are there any existing MPAs that show this?
- Consideration of networking MPAs for “management and information sciences”
- Implications of phasing MPAs into a complete network over time

#### **Unit 9 – Monitoring and Evaluation (draft expected later in the process)**

Lead: **Mark Carr**, Jenn Caselle

(BRTF already heard some information about monitoring MPAs at the meeting in Pasadena; see presentation by Jenn Caselle.)

- Importance of monitoring and evaluating MPAs
- Setting realistic expectations for performance of MPAs
- How to distinguish natural variation from MPA effects
  - Do you always need a baseline to determine impacts, or is BACI always the rule?
- Need for replication, historical monitoring sites, and access for monitoring in network design of MPAs.

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative**  
**Master Calendar**  
*Revised July 15, 2005*

Jul 19	F&G Commission hearing on draft MPF in Oakland
Jul 20	SIG conference call, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Aug 2	SAT meeting in Oakland
Aug 4	F&G Commission hearing on draft MPF in Santa Rosa
Aug 9	F&G Commission hearing on draft MPF in Eureka
Aug 10-11	CCRSG meeting in Monterey area
Aug 16	F&G Commission hearing on draft MPF in San Diego
Aug 30	SAT meeting in San Luis Obispo
Sep 6-7 or 7-8	CCRSG meeting in Morro Bay area
Sep 19	SAT meeting in Santa Cruz
Sep 28-29	BRTF meeting in San Luis Obispo
Oct 4	CCRSG meeting in Monterey area
Oct 6	CCRSG meeting in Morro Bay area
Oct 7	SIG conference call, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.
Oct 18	SAT meeting in San Luis Obispo
Nov 9-10	CCRSG meeting in Monterey
Nov 15	SAT meeting in Santa Cruz
Nov 29-30	BRTF meeting in Monterey
Dec 6-7	CCRSG meeting in Morro Bay area
Dec 13	SIG conference call, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.