

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Levels of Protection: Examples from the North Central Coast Study Region

Presentation to the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team
October 30, 2009 • Eureka, California



MLPA Defines Three Types of MPAs

- State Marine Reserve (SMR)
 - Take of all living and non-living marine resources is prohibited
- State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)
 - Allows some recreational or commercial take
- State Marine Park (SMP)
 - Allows some recreational take



Protection in MPAs

Key Question

“How much will the ecosystem differ from a fully protected SMR if a proposed activity is allowed?”

Large Difference

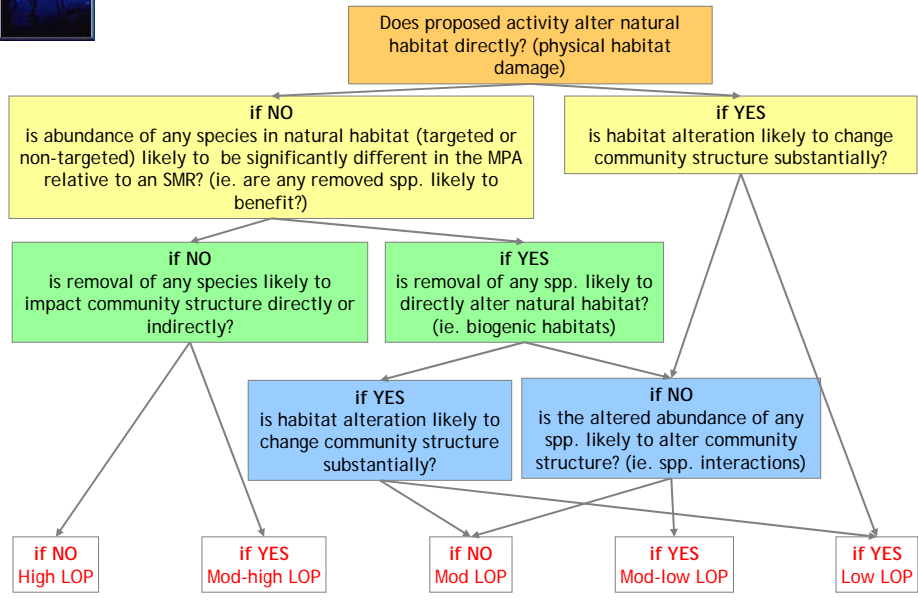
- Habitat is damaged
- Many species are removed
- Ecologically important species are removed

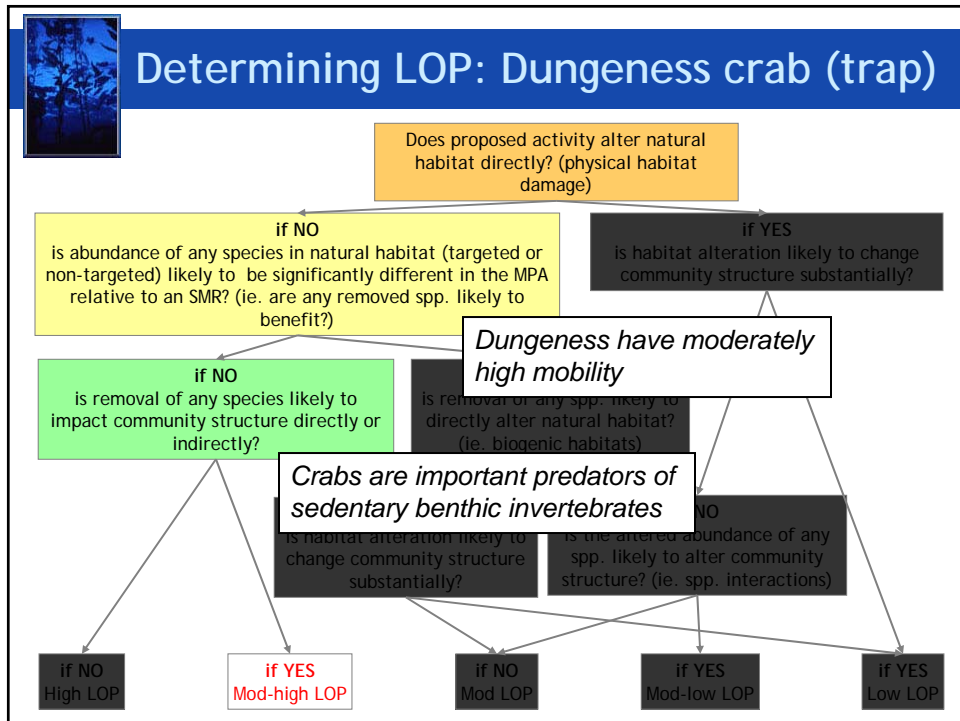
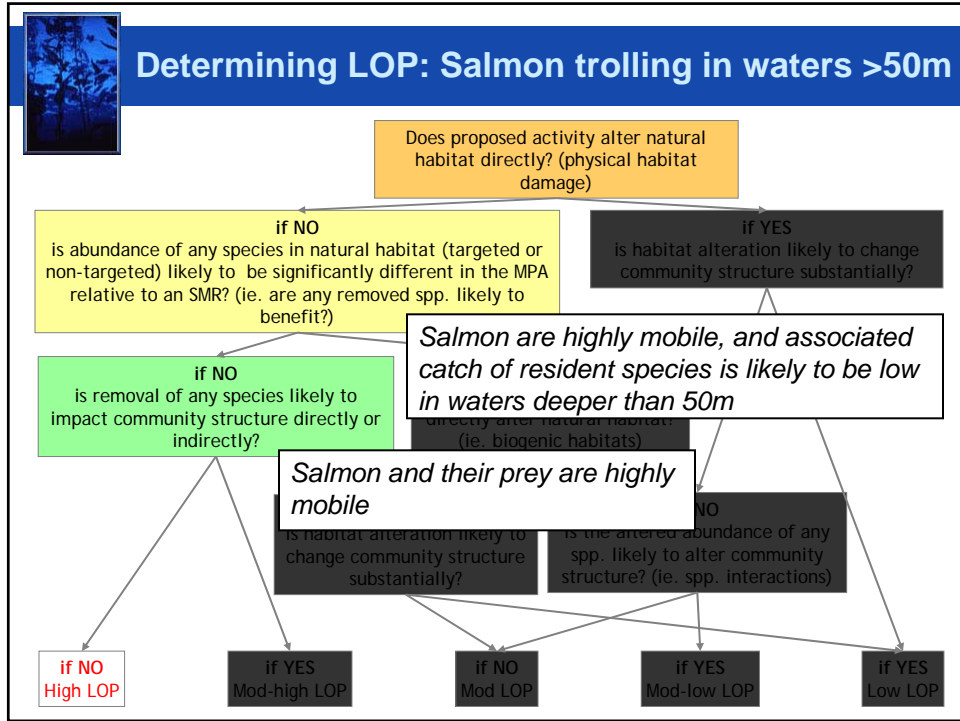
Small Difference

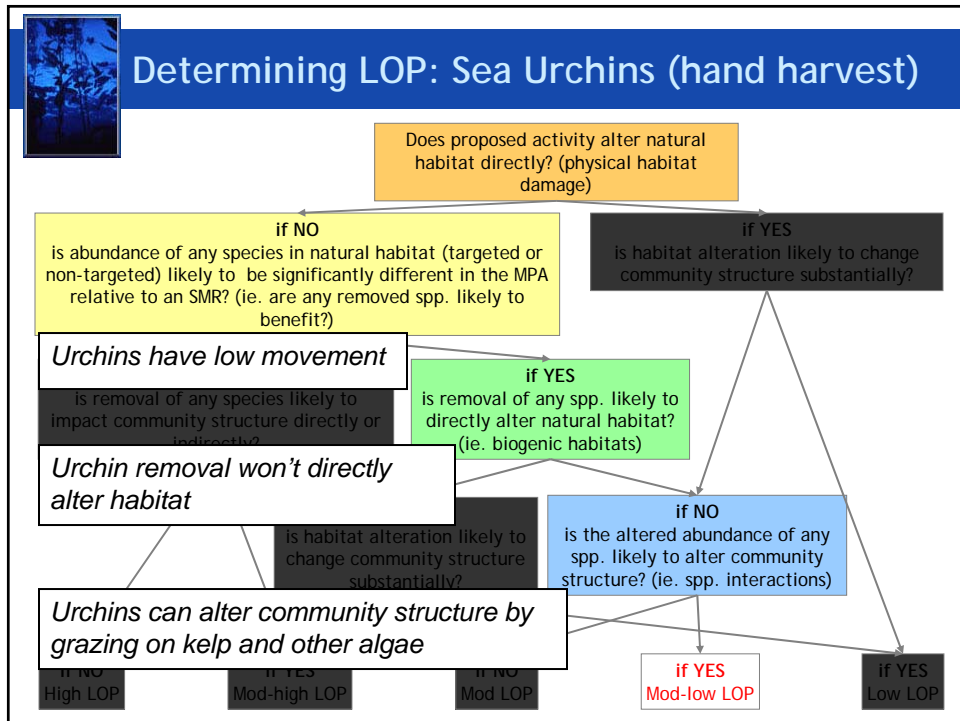
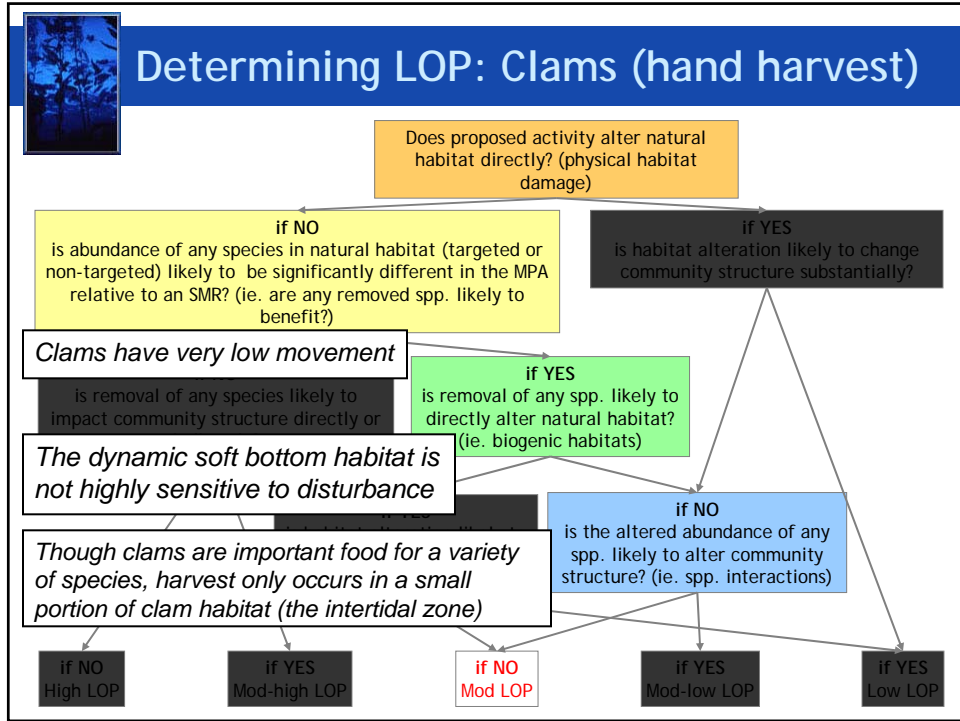
- No habitat damage
- Low associated catch
- Removed species are highly mobile



Conceptual Model for Determining LOP









Next Steps

- Suggest forming work group
- Example LOPs to discuss
 - Salmon troll in water <50m
 - Halibut (hook & line)
 - Abalone (hand harvest)
 - Squid (round haul)