Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Overview of the MLPA Process and Participants

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Tom Mason, Biologist • Marine Region, California Department of Fish and Game

Marine Life Protection Act Background California's MPAs created over decades without a coherent plan, scientific guidelines or overall goals MacKerricher SMCA Legislation passed in 1999 · Directs that California's MPAs be reexamined and redesigned to function as a network int Cabrillo SMCA larine Life Protection Act Initiative 🧃 ussian Gulch SMCA North Coast Study Region Existing Marine Protected Areas Study Region Boundary Existing State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) Existing State Marine Reserve (SMR)



Six Goals of the MLPA

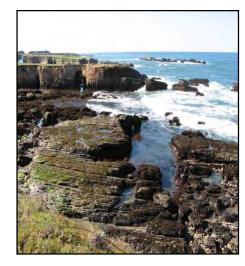
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- Protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function and integrity of marine ecosystems.
- 2. Help sustain, conserve and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
- Improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
- **4. Protect marine natural heritage**, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic values
- Ensure California's MPAs have clearly defined objectives, effective mgmt. measures and adequate enforcement and are based on sound scientific guidelines.
- 6. Ensure the State's MPAs are designed and managed, to the extent possible, as a network.

MPA Designations

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- SMR State Marine Reserve
- **SMP** State Marine Park
- SMCA State Marine Conservation Area



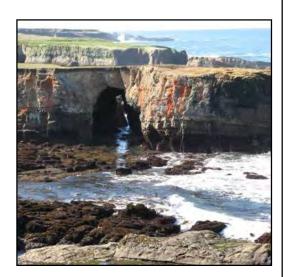


State Marine Reserve (SMR)

State Marine Reserve-

Prohibits all extractive activities.

North Coast Study Region example: Punta Gorda <u>SMR</u> -No take



State Marine Park (SMP)

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State Marine Park-Prohibits all commercial extractive activities and potentially some recreational activities.

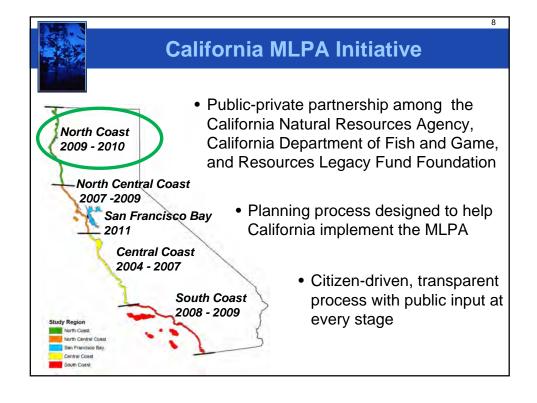




State Marine
Conservation Area Limits recreational and/or
commercial extractive

activities.

North Coast Study Region example: Point Cabrillo SMCA





MLPA Initiative Participants

California Fish and Game Commission: Ultimate decision-making authority.

MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force: Oversees and provides policy advice on the development of MPA proposals.

Master Plan Science Advisory Team: Evaluates MPA proposals and addresses scientific questions raised by the Blue Ribbon Task Force or stakeholders.

MLPA Regional Stakeholder Group: Develops MPA proposals with feedback and outreach to constituent groups.

MLPA Statewide Interest Group: Advises the task force and Initiative staff with statewide perspective on overall process.

California Department of Fish and Game: Lead agency for design & implementation of master plan, provides biological and management expertise. Evaluates feasibility and appropriateness of goals and objectives for MPA proposals.

MLPA Initiative Staff: Includes Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Resource agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, and contractors that provide support for the planning process.

Creation of MPA Proposals

Iterative Process:



It is anticipated that there will be multiple versions of several alternative MPA proposals. 9

