California MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
Guidance to Work Groups for Developing Marine Protected Area Proposals in the MLPA South Coast Study Region
January 14, 2009

Work Group Charge

Three cross-interest "work groups" of the MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) are charged with developing marine protected area (MPA) proposals for the MLPA South Coast Study Region. This work group approach was used successfully in the north central coast and is supported by lessons learned from the central coast process and other collaborative planning efforts.

Work Group Structure

SCRSG members (primaries and alternates) will participate in one of three work groups (named the lapis, opal, and topaz work groups). Composition of work groups has been pre-assigned to ensure a broad balance across interests, geographic knowledge, and expertise; to help accomplish this, primary SCRSG members and their alternates are in separate work groups. Work group composition is identified on the final page of this document. Facilitation, planning, Department of Fish and Game (DFG), and MarineMap/GIS staff will be assigned to each work group to assist you in your efforts.

Work Group Process

The SCRSG will develop MPA proposals over the course of three "rounds" of work.

In **Round 1**, each SCRSG work group will develop no more than two "draft MPA arrays". By array, we mean a linked group of MPAs that is an early step toward becoming a statewide network component. The purpose of allowing each work group to develop up to two draft arrays is to provide a way of dealing with areas of divergence. Most of the work developing the draft arrays will take place at two full-day work group sessions (or "work sessions") with completion at the full SCRSG meeting in March:

- January 29, 2009 in El Segundo – work session
- February 10, 2009 (location TBD) – work session
- March 3-4, 2009 (location TBD) – SCRSG meeting

Each work session will be supported by I-Team staff (i.e., planning, MarineMap/GIS, facilitation, and DFG). Outside of these staff-supported work sessions, work groups are encouraged to continue coordinating by email, teleconference, or in person to complete their task.

The work groups will complete development of their draft MPA arrays by the end of the SCRSG meeting on March 3-4, 2009. Each work group will be provided with the opportunity to present its draft arrays to the full SCRSG at the beginning of this meeting to encourage idea sharing. Following the March 3-4, 2009 SCRSG meeting, each draft MPA array will be evaluated by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT), DFG, California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), and MLPA Initiative staff using the

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guidelines presented to the SCRSG. The evaluations will be presented to the SCRSG at its next full meeting on April 28, 2009, along with input from the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF).

In **Round 2**, each work group will draw on the results of the Round 1 evaluations, ideas from the other work groups, the results of evaluation of the external proposals, and input from the public to revise and converge their two draft MPA arrays into a single "draft MPA proposal." Each work group's draft MPA proposal then will be evaluated again according to SAT, DFG, State Parks and MLPA Initiative staff guidelines.

- April 28, 2009 – full SCRSG meeting (presentation of SAT/DFG/State Parks/staff evaluations)
- April 29, 2009 – work session (to revise draft MPA arrays)
- May 20, 2009 – work session (to prepare draft MPA proposals)
- May 21, 2009 – SCRSG meeting (to complete draft MPA proposals for evaluation)

In **Round 3**, the entire SCRSG will prepare "final MPA proposals" for evaluation and presentation to the MLPA BRTF. As was the case in the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region, it is expected that the final MPA proposals will be the product of a synthesis of proposals from the individual work groups, external proposals, public comment, and the iterative feedback received from the SAT, DFG, State Parks and the BRTF. Round 3 proposal development also will be informed by a suite of public workshops.

- Weeks of June 29 and July 6 – public workshops
- August 4, 2009 – full SCRSG meeting (presentation of SAT/DFG/State Parks/staff evaluations)
- August 5, 2009 – work session (to revise draft MPA proposals)
- September 9, 2009 – work session (to prepare SCRSG MPA proposals)
- September 10, 2009 – SCRSG meeting (to complete SCRSG MPA proposals for evaluation)

SCRSG members will present their MPA proposals to the BRTF at the BRTF's October 20-22, 2009 meeting.

Work Group Communications

Each work group has a list server to facilitate work group communications. The same ground rules for email communications apply to these new lists as for the full SCRSG listserv. Communications on these listservs will not be moderated.

SCRSG Lapis Work Group:	MLPA_Lapis@lists.resources.ca.gov
SCRSG Opal Work Group:	MLPA_Opal@lists.resources.ca.gov
SCRSG Topaz Work Group:	MLPA_Topaz@lists.resources.ca.gov

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Key Guidance for Developing Draft MPA Arrays (Round 1)

The primary tool for developing draft MPA arrays and subsequent MPA proposals is
MarineMap (our on-line decision support tool: http://www.marinemap.org/marinemap/). MLPA
Initiative staff will use MarineMap during meetings and work sessions to capture information
regarding proposed MPAs. In addition, SCRSG members will have the ability to use
MarineMap outside of meetings to draft MPA concepts and share information with other
stakeholders. While MarineMap is a key way in which information will be captured,
stakeholders will be able to share information in other ways, including during group
discussions using charts, hard copy maps, and other tools.

Work groups should draw on the following key guidance and information to develop draft MPA
arrays:
- Marine Life Protection Act
- *California Marine Life Protection Act Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas*
- Key guidance received from the SAT, BRTF, DFG, MLPA Initiative staff, and California
  Fish and Game Commission
- SCRSG regional goals and objectives and design and implementation considerations
- SAT evaluation of existing MPAs [Note: the SAT conducted a "preliminary evaluation of
  existing MPAs" in September 2008 using evaluation methods from the north central
  coast study region. The SAT will be discussing its "draft evaluation of existing MPAs" at
  its January 27, 2009 meeting. A full evaluation of existing MPAs will be conducted
  during round 1 analyses (which will include SAT evaluations, as well other analyses by
  MLPA Initiative staff, DFG, State Parks, and contractors) and will be available to inform
  round 2 and 3 planning.]
- Other key information sources, including:
    - Draft regional profile
    - GIS data layers available on MarineMap (www.marinemap.org/mlpa)
    - Ideas from external MPA proposals
    - Information received during joint fact-finding process
    - Responses to questions raised during SCRSG meetings
    - Stakeholder personal knowledge
    - Public input

Subsequent rounds of MPA proposal development will also be informed by the SAT, DFG,
State Parks, MLPA Initiative staff, and contractor evaluations of earlier round arrays/proposals.

Elements of Complete MPA Proposals

As in previous study regions, MPA proposals must include several elements to be considered
"complete." Proposals must be presented as an integrated array of MPAs throughout the
MLPA South Coast Study Region. Thus, proposals for individual MPAs or collections of

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individual MPAs that focus only on a particular geographic area or habitat type do not constitute a complete MPA proposal.

Required elements of a complete MPA proposal are:

1. A no more than two-page narrative that describes the general approach to developing the complete MPA proposal, including a description of how the proposal helps meet the goals of the MLPA, as well as general rationale for MPA design.
2. Specific information for each MPA within the proposal, including:
    a. MPA name
    b. Specific MPA boundaries
    c. Proposed classification: MPA designations include state marine reserve (SMR), state marine conservation area (SMCA), or state marine park (SMP). Proposals also may include state marine recreational management areas (SMRMAs) or special closures.
    d. Specific regulations, outlining the forms of commercial and/or recreational extraction that are allowed within the MPA.
    e. Site-specific rationale for the MPA. This consists of one or two sentences that state the reason for placing an MPA in a particular location with particular regulations.
    f. Identified goals and regional objectives for each MPA. Each proposed MPA should contribute to one or more MLPA goals and regional objectives.
3. A one-page document outlining the fate of existing MPAs. For each MPA that currently exists within the MLPA South Coast Study Region, specify whether the proposal ***retains*** the MPA without change, ***modifies*** the boundaries and/or regulations of the MPA, or ***removes*** the MPA.

Work Group Composition

Lapis Work Group	Opal Work Group	Topaz Work Group
Allison, Calla	Benavides, Steve	Abramson, Sarah
Beede, Ben	Bertelli, Bob	Balotti, John
Beguhl, Phil	Bursek, Julie	Cordero, Roberta
Everingham, Buck	Czarnecki, Lauren	Daigle, Leslie
Gomes, Tommy	Dahl, Jim	Dunn, Scott
Greenberg, Joel	Fields, Ray	Engel, Jonna
Griffin, Wayne	Fisher, Josh	Engle, John "Jack"
Grifman, Phyllis	Forster-Foley, Mary Jane	Feinberg, Jenn
Guassac, Louis	Gauger, Mike	Ferrigno, Ciro
Hanley, Kate	Gutierrez, Marcela	Fletcher, Robert
Ketchum, Kevin	Helms, Greg	Galipeau, Russ
Maas, Terry	Huber, Mike	Hiemstra, Ray
Maassen, Jeff	Kronman, Mick	Kearsley, Ken
Marshall, Jenny	Lebowitz, Paul	Kennedy, MJ

Lapis Work Group	Opal Work Group	Topaz Work Group
Mayhugh, Carl	McCrea, Merit	Kett, Eric
McCoy, Mike	Osborn, Bob	McCorkle, Mike
Mills, Marc	Pister, Benjamin	Peveler, Jack
Murphy, Garth	Richter, Gerry	Rudie, Dave
Protopapadakis, Lia	Sasidharan, Vinod	Scheiwe, Brent
Tapp, Norris	Spacie, Ann	Sepulveda, Chugey
Tochihara, Wendy	Teufel, Cassidy	Steele, Bruce
Weeshoff, David		