Update on California Department of Fish and Game Guidance for MPA Proposals

North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group Meeting
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Department Guidance Topics

- Updated Memo on Feasibility Criteria
- Memo on Private Lands and MPAs
- Guidance on Special Conditions
MLPA MOU requires the Department to prepare a statement of the feasibility criteria used in its evaluation of MPA proposals.

Department memo prepared June 11, 2007: “Statement of feasibility criteria for use in analyzing siting alternatives during the second phase of the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative”.
Issues Clarified:

**Floating Corners**
- Optimally - whole minutes of lat/long;
- half minutes are less desirable;
- 1/10th minutes least preferred.

**Diagonal Lines**
- May follow the angle of the coastline
- “Anchored” at whole minute lines of lat/long

**Distance Offshore (Islands)**
- Must extend from shoreline to state waters boundary.
Private Lands and MPAs

• Department Memo to NCCRSR prepared Jan 31, 2008: “Private Land Ownership and Marine Protected Areas.”
  
  ➢ Ownership of land adjacent to MPAs
  ➢ Access
  ➢ Marine stewardship
• **Existing aquaculture leases**
  
  - If proposal includes an SMR where lease exists, change to SMCA designation
  
  - Document future recommendations
Department Guidance - Special Conditions

• Waterfowl hunting

   - If proposal includes an MPA where waterfowl hunting occurs, change proposed designation to SMRMA
• Including Existing MPAs within proposal
  
  - Boundary issues: Many existing shapes do not meet DFG feasibility criteria
  
  - Regulations: Complex regulations should be simplified (DFG can assist)