Evaluation of the Potential Impact of Draft MPA Proposals on Abalone Recreational Fishery and Abalone Management in the North Central Coast Study Region

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Recreational Abalone Harvest

- Significant recreational abalone fishery in NCCSR
  1. >127,000 abalone harvested in 2005

- Evaluation provides maximum potential impacts to recreational harvest
  - Based on DFG abalone report card data for pre-designated landing sites
  - Anglers must report harvested abalone to nearest landing site on the report card
  - Evaluation shows proportion of total regional harvest for 2005 that may be impacted by MPAs that prohibit abalone harvest

  - *This is worst case scenario*
    - Assumes anglers do not move to a new location
Stornetta Ranch (Sea Lion Cove)

- When public gained access to Stornetta in 2004, landings nearly quadrupled at the Point Arena Lighthouse report card landing site
- Some draft proposals include a large portion of the Stornetta Ranch area (#4) – others avoided it (#3)

Draft Proposal 3

Draft Proposal 4
Maximum Potential Impact to Abalone Harvest Based on 2005 Abalone Report Card Data for the NCCSR

Draft Proposal 1

Draft Proposal 2

Maximum % Reduction in Total Abalone Harvest

San Francisco Bay
(Southern terminus of abalone fishery)
Maximum Potential Impact to Abalone Harvest Based on 2005 Abalone Report Card Data for the NCCSR

Draft Proposal 3

Draft Proposal 4

San Francisco Bay (Southern terminus of abalone fishery)
Maximum Potential Impact to Abalone Harvest Based on 2005 Abalone Report Card Data for the NCCSR

Draft External Proposal A

% Reduction in Total Abalone Harvest

- Arena Rock SMCA
- Arena Rock SMR
- Black Point SMCA
- Black Point SMR
- Gerstle Cove SMR
- Russian River SMR
- Bodega Head SMCA
- Bodega Head SMR
- Estero Americano SMR
- Estero San Antonio SMR
- Tomales Bay SMR
- Drakes Bay SMCA
- Limantour SMR
- Point Reyes SMR
- Point Reyes SMCA
- Bolinas Lagoon SMR
- Fitzgerald SMCA
- Fitzgerald SMR
- Southeast Farallone SMR
- Southeast Farallone SMCA
• Proposals 1 and 2 include part of Stornetta Ranch in SMR

• Proposal 3 has the least potential impact to recreational harvest of abalone (Stornetta not included in SMR)

• Proposal 4 includes Sea Lion Cove at Stornetta in SMR
Potential Impacts to Abalone Management

- **Index sites** = locations of underwater and intertidal survey sites
  - Evaluation shows % of index site area encompassed by a proposed MPA

- Only Draft Proposal 4 includes an index site within a MPA
  - 45% of an index site area lies within proposed Black to Salt Point SMR

- Management Implications
  - This should have no significant impact to management
  - Surveys will continue outside of SMR