Evaluation of the Potential Impact MPA Proposals May Pose for Recreational Abalone Fisheries and Abalone Management in the North Central Coast Study Region

California Fish and Game Commission / MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

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Describe Potential impact of each Marine Protected Area (MPA) Proposal on:

- Abalone Fishery Management
- Recreational Abalone Fisheries
North Central Coast Study Region has a significant recreational abalone fishery

- 2002-2006: Annual harvest averaged >134,000 abalone
- 24 “Report Card Landing Sites” in the NCCSR
- No commercial fishery in the state
Index Sites = Areas of high or moderate fishing pressure which are used as long-term underwater and intertidal survey sites.

No abalone index sites occur within proposed MPAs prohibiting abalone take.
Recreational Abalone: Evaluation Methodology

- Evaluation provides **MAXIMUM POTENTIAL** impacts to recreational harvest for the study region
  - Evaluation shows proportion of total regional harvest for 2002-2006 that may be impacted by MPAs that prohibit abalone harvest
  - Assumes MPAs covering any portion of report card site have an impact on harvest for the entire site, including the non-MPA portion of the site
  - Assumes harvesters do not move to a new location
  - Based on DFG abalone harvest estimates from report card data for pre-designated landing sites combined with a telephone survey
  - Anglers must report harvested abalone to nearest landing site on the report card
Point Arena Lighthouse

- Point Arena Lighthouse landing site contains Stornetta Ranch
- Public gained access to Stornetta Ranch in mid-2004
  - 2006 abalone harvest was over ten times higher than 2002 and 2003 at the Point Arena Lighthouse report card landing site
Stornetta Ranch (Sea Lion Cove)

Potential impacts from Proposals 1-3 and 2-XA are likely different from Proposal 4 and the BRTF Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA) which include Sea Lion Cove SMCA
Maximum Potential Impact to Abalone Harvest Based on 2002-2006 Abalone Report Card Data

Proposal 1-3

Proposal 2-XA

San Francisco Bay
Southern terminus of abalone fishery

San Francisco Bay
Southern terminus of abalone fishery

Maximum % Reduction in Total Abalone Harvest

Maximum % Reduction in Total Abalone Harvest
Proposal 4

Maximum Potential Impact to Abalone Harvest Based on 2002-2006 Abalone Report Card Data

BRTF IPA

San Francisco Bay
Southern terminus of abalone fishery

(Point Arena SMR/Sea ** 05/06
Lion Cove SMCA ** 02/03
Point Arena SMCA
Saunders Reef SMCA
Del Mar Landing SMR
Stew arts Point SMR
Salt Point SMP
Gerstle Cove SMR
Russian River SMR
Russian River SMCA
Bodega SMR
Bodega SMCA
Estero de Americano SMR
Estero de San Antonio SMR
Tomales Bay SMR
Point Reyes SMR
Point Reyes SMCA
Drakes Estero SMR
Drakes Estero SMCA
Double Point SMCA
Duxbury SMCA
Agate Beach Intertidal SMCA
Devil’s Slide SMCA
Fitzgerald SMR
San Gregorio SMR
North Farallon SMR
Southeast Farallon SMR
Southeast Farallon SMCA

San Francisco Bay
Southern terminus of abalone fishery

(Point Arena SMCA
Saunders Reef SMC
Del Mar Landing SMR
Stew arts Point SMR
Salt Point SMP
Gerstle Cove SMR
Russian River SMR
Russian River SMCA
Bodega Head SMR
Bodega Head SMCA
Estero Americano SMRM
Estero de San Antonio SMRMA
Point Reyes SMR
Point Reyes SMCA
Drakes Estero SMR
Drakes Estero SMCA
Double Point SMCA
Duxbury SMC
San Francisco Bay
Southern terminus of abalone fishery

Montara SMR
Pillar Point SMCA
North Farallon Islands SMR
Southeast Farallon Island SMR
Southeast Farallon Island SMCA

Maximum % Reduction in Total Abalone Harvest

Maximum % Reduction in Total Harvest
## Summary

**MAXIMUM POTENTIAL Impact to Recreational Abalone Harvest**

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The chart above illustrates the potential impact on recreational abalone harvest across different proposals for two time periods: 2002-2003 and 2005-2006.