

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Summary of Key Suggested Changes to the
California MLPA Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas
August 20, 2007

This document summarizes non-editorial changes suggested in April 2007 and July 2007 to the *California MLPA Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas*. A basic description of each change is listed below along with the corresponding page number (where applicable).

Summary of Changes from the April 23, 2007 Document

Global Changes

Changes the word "package" to "proposal" to be consistent with nomenclature currently in use.

Changes verb tense and references to specific study regions to make document applicable to all study regions.

Page-Specific Changes to the Master Plan

Page 13: Clarifies information presented in Figure 1 regarding the role of MLPA process players.

Pages 14-15: Revises the description of roles in the process for the California Resources Agency, California Department of Fish and Game, California Fish and Game Commission and MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force.

Page 16: Revises the description of roles in the process for the Master Plan Science Advisory Team and science sub-teams to the regional projects.

Page 17: Revises the description of the roles of the regional stakeholder groups and the MLPA Statewide Interests Group.

Page 17: Adds information about the expanded MLPA Initiative Steering Committee.

Page 17: Adds information on expanded staff capacity within the California Department of Fish and Game.

Page 21: Inserts statement regarding the roles of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and California Department of Fish and Game in recommending a preferred MPA alternative to the California Fish and Game Commission.

Pages 21-22: Clarifies the MPA design process to be used by the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force by revising two steps: "Assembling alternative MPA proposals" and "Evaluating alternative MPA proposals."

Page 23: Adds footnote to Figure 2 identifying the various groups that will provide input in creating MPA proposals.

Pages 24-27: Revises Table 1, which outlines the MPA planning process, by making consistent with the text the steps and roles of various actors. Major edits to sections:

- 1.1 Convene regional process
- 1.2.5 Prepare statement of feasibility criteria
- 1.4 Determine key locations for MPAs to meet the MLPA goals within the region,
- 2.2 Assemble draft alternative proposals for the region
- 3.3 Forward recommended alternative proposals and recommended preferred alternative to the Commission for consideration and action

Page 30: Amends region description/timeline.

Page 30: Adds a new Activity 1.1.2, clarifying the roles of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and California Department of Fish and Game in convening the regional stakeholder groups and the Master Plan Science Advisory Team.

Page 30: Revises Activity 1.2.4, clarifying the roles of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and California Fish and Game Commission in considering additional data in the MPA proposal process.

Page 31: Adds a new Activity 1.2.5, identifying the development of feasibility criteria by the California Department of Fish and Game.

Page 31: Deletes Activity 1.4: "Develop regional ecological and socioeconomic goals, objectives, and design considerations."

Page 32-33: Revises previous Activity 1.5 (now activity 1.4): "Determine key locations for MPAs to meet the MLPA goals within the region," clarifying the steps to be taken by the regional stakeholder groups and science sub-teams relative to marine habitats, marine species likely to benefit, and human activities that may negatively impact marine habitats and populations.

Page 33: Revises Activity 2.2: "Assemble draft alternative MPA proposals for the region" including clarifying how the regional stakeholder group, Master Plan Science Advisory Team, and science sub-teams for each project work to create alternative MPA proposals.

Page 34: Adds the California Fish and Game Commission to the MPA proposal review process.

Page 35: Revises Activity 3.3 and 3.4 to clarify that the California Department of Fish and Game provides input to the California Fish and Game Commission regarding the feasibility of MPA proposals, along with a general management plan for MPAs.

Page 76: Clarifies where the California Department of Fish and Game enforcement patrols operate.

Page 81-82: Revises the background information and explanation of the basic approach to monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management of marine protected areas.

Page 83: Adds language to describe the overall purpose for monitoring and evaluation and that regional monitoring programs will be integrated statewide.

Page 83-84, 87: Adds language to indicated importance of MLPA goals and deletes reference to "governance" indicators.

Page 84: Revises sample indicators for measuring success.

Page 85: Revises flowchart to apply to overall goals and objectives.

Page 86: Revises time frame for monitoring evaluation.

Page 88: Revises sample socioeconomic indicators and deletes governance indicators.

Page 91: Adds information regarding the expanded California Department of Fish and Game marine protected areas staff.

Page 97: Revises the timeline for north coast, north central coast, and San Francisco Bay study regions.

Pages 102-103: Revises goal 1, objective 2 and goal 4, objective 2 to shift the focus to marine life communities and species, rather than geographic areas.

Pages 103-164: Deletes reference to "proposed" areas.

Pages 103-164: Updates the MPA descriptions to reflect regulations adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission.

Pages 103-164: Revises objectives to focus on marine life communities and species, rather than geographic areas and changes language from "protect" to "include."

Page 104: Changes Ano Nuevo State Marine Reserve to Ano Nuevo State Marine Conservation Area and changes allowed activity to commercial take of giant kelp by hand only.

Pages 107-109: Adds Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve.

Pages 112-113: Changes Elkhorn Slough State Marine Park to Elkhorn Slough State Marine Conservation Area; regulations remain consistent with the state marine park classification.

Pages 115-116: Removes the take of spot prawns by trap from the Soquel Canyon State Marine Conservation Area.

Pages 120-124: Changes name of Hopkins State Marine Reserve to Lovers Point State Marine Reserve and adds Asilomar State Marine Reserve.

Page 129: Deletes the objective for maintaining the size and shape of Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area.

Page 131: Deletes the objective for minimizing socioeconomic impacts in Point Lobos State Marine Reserve.

Pages 133-134: Deletes the objectives for allowing harvest of some species and providing a fished replicate in Point Lobos State Marine Conservation Area.

Page 139: Adds the harvest of salmon and albacore to objective.

Page 140: Revises the map of Big Creek State Marine Conservation Area and Big Creek State Marine Reserve.

Page 144: Deletes the objective of establishing an MPA adjacent to a terrestrial state park for Piedras Blancas State Marine Reserve.

Page 146-154: Changes Cambria State Marine Reserve to Cambria State Marine Conservation Area and adds White Rock (Cambria) State Marine Conservation Area.

Pages 154-156: Adds Morro Bay State Marine Reserve.

Page 159: Adds the objective of creating a state marine reserve adjacent to a terrestrial state park for Point Buchon State Marine Reserve.

Page 162: Deletes language indicating that mission operations do not include take for recreational purposes by base personnel or others within Vandenberg State Marine Reserve

Pages 164-167: Revises the introduction to the baseline monitoring and research plan.

Page 167-168: Adds potential biophysical baseline data collection programs.

Page 169-171: Adds potential human use baseline data collection programs.

Pages 171 – 177: Adds language to the section on long term monitoring, including description of biophysical, population, habitat, socioeconomic, management and enforcement, and network monitoring.

Pages 178- 182: Revises Table 5 of central coast MPA objectives that will be met (or mostly met) by adoption and implementation of the MPAs.

Page 182-208: Revises Table 6 of central coast MPA monitoring activities based upon MLPA goals and general individual MPA objectives.

Pages 209-226: Adds section on performance determination, including:

- monitoring of fishing effort;
- monitoring by habitat" for deep water hard bottom, shallow water hard bottom, deep water soft bottom, rocky intertidal, marine mammal and seabird, coastal marsh and estuary monitoring programs;
- socioeconomic monitoring for non-consumptive recreation, education, and research;
- socioeconomic monitoring consumptive uses;
- management and enforcement monitoring; and
- evaluation of network design.

Page 227: Adds a section regarding data management, assessment and communication.

Page 227: Adds a section regarding an outreach, interpretation and education plan.

Pages 227-232: Adds a section regarding an enforcement plan, including a table outlining enforcement concerns for central coast MPAs, a section on enforcement personnel and training, and a plan for years one and two of MPA implementation.

Pages 232-234: Adds a section regarding operations, including discussions of staffing and potential collaborative efforts.

Page 235: Adds information about potential funding sources.

Page 235: Adds information regarding the timeline and criteria for implementation and revises the timeline for the south coast study region.

Pages 236-245: Updates literature cited.

Summary of Changes from the August 2007 Document

Page-Specific Changes to the Master Plan

Pg vii: Clarifies how often the results of monitoring programs will be reviewed (including what happens on a one-, three-, and five-year basis)

Pages 11-12: Clarifies the definition of "marine reserves," "marine protected areas," and "no-take reserves," and inserts appropriate terms.

Page 11: Adds a statement that most research to date has not focused on state marine parks or state marine conservation areas.

Pages 64-65: Clarifies how the review and adaptive management of MPAs will take place, including annual monitoring reports and updates, triannual MPA proposal hearings, and comprehensive reviews of monitoring results.

Section 8: Moves the regional management plans to appendices without change (new Appendix O).

Page-Specific Changes to the Appendices

F-3: Deletes a statement on prioritization of hard bottom habitats.

G-18: Adds four pages of information regarding the list of "some key species likely to benefit from marine protected areas in the central coast study region," including legislative mandate, description, and analysis.

G-22: Adds the updated list of some key species likely to benefit from marine protected areas in the MLPA Central Coast Study Region.