

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative**  
**Questions to the Master Plan Science Advisory Team from the North**  
**Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group's August 22-23, 2007 Meeting**  
**September 11, 2007**

1. Are the deep water benthic habitats and water column habitat around the Farallon Islands unique as well as worthy of inclusion? <sup>1</sup>
2. Specifically – where does the subtidal start? For MLPA purposes does it only span to the extent of state waters or does it extend to XX depth (and if so what depth)? <sup>1</sup>
3. What level of protection would you assign to marine protected areas (MPAs) that allow take of salmon, abalone, urchin, clams, *halibut*, *white seabass*, and *crab*?
4. What is range and pattern of movement for the various life-stages of yellow-eye rockfish, surfperch, greenling, cabezon, [monkeyfaced prickleback (a.k.a. monkeyfaced eel, *Cebidichthys violaceu*)] and [rock prickleback, (*Xiphister mucosus*)], halibut, and white seabass?
5. In the central coast study region the recommendation to extend MPAs to the three mile state water limit to cover the range of depths and species that utilize the range of depths made sense but the north central coast study region is largely homogenous out to the three mile limit, so does it still require MPA extension to the three mile state water boundary?
6. How do you evaluate proposals relative to Goal 2, Objective 2 for the protection of foraging, nursery and rearing areas?
  - a. Specifically, also considering seabirds, mammals, and sharks.
7. Provide an estimate of number of pinnipeds in the area and an estimate of weight of fish taken.
  - a. Also want to know what impacts range expansion of Humboldt squid has and how that should be considered.
8. Request a finer gradation of the chart Steve Gaines presented on species home range of 10-100 kilometers. [*Is it possible to disaggregate the 10-100 km category for home ranges into a finer set? (they want to know how many species are protected using a finer resolution on home range size and preferred MPA sizes)*].
9. The master plan for MPAs science guidelines suggest that marine assemblages may differ depending on the substrate type, even within the broad 'hard bottom' category. Specifically they suggest there may be differences in assemblages in and over granitic and sedimentary substrate on the central coast. In this regard:
  - a. Does the same hold true for granitic, sedimentary, and Franciscan substrate on the north central coast?
  - b. If so, does the SAT know of some way to predict where these substrates occur given the Rikk Kvitek data or otherwise?
  - c. Can the SAT provide more information on what the composition of the assemblages is likely to be in and over these different substrate types? (*so regional stakeholders know what they're trying to protect, if necessary*)

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<sup>1</sup> Questions 1 and 2 essentially arose out of discussion over Goal 4, Objective 1 (identification of habitats that should be specified), particularly, in reference to the Farallon Islands. *Questions 1 and 2 have been sent to the SAT work group that worked on this goal and objective (Mary Gleason, Pete Raimondi and Dominic Gregorio) for initial response and SAT review on September 17.*