

**California MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team for the
MLPA South Coast Study Region
September 10, 2008 Meeting Summary
(revised October 31, 2008)**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2008
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

Via teleconference and web conference, with public access at:

**Resources Building
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1206
Sacramento, CA 95814**

and

**California Department of Fish and Game
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
Los Alamitos, CA 90720**

Meeting Objectives

- *Welcome new MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) members*
- *Receive an introduction to the MLPA Initiative process and players*
- *Receive an introduction to open meeting requirements and how they apply to the SAT*
- *Review SAT charter, operating guidelines and meeting timeline*
- *Receive briefing on the science guidance adopted in the California Marine Life Protection Act Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas*
- *Receive briefing on the marine protected area (MPA) evaluation methods developed in the central coast and north central coast processes of the MLPA Initiative*

Meeting Summary

The first meeting of the Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) for the MLPA South Coast Study Region took place via teleconference and webconference on September 10, 2008.

Welcome, Introductions and Review of Agenda

The purpose of the meeting was for Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative staff to review the administrative policies and procedures of the MLPA Initiative for members of the SAT.

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Process and Players

MLPA staff described the MLPA Initiative process and the other groups that are part of the process and how they interact with the SAT.

Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act

SAT members were informed of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and how it applies to the MLPA process and the SAT.

SAT Operations

MLPA staff members reviewed the charter and operating principles of the SAT, and answered questions about how the SAT operates. Staff also described a potential meeting timeline and the procedures concerning *ex parte* communications.

Science Guidance in the Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas

MLPA staff provided information about how previous MLPA science advisory teams have provided scientific guidance during the planning process, what has been adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission through the *California Marine Life Protection Act Master Plan for MPAs*, and about what types of information SAT members might be expected to comment.

MLPA North Central Coast MPA Evaluation Methods

SAT members were briefed on the MPA evaluation methods developed in the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region, and how those methods might be incorporated into the evaluation of MLPA South Coast Study Region MPA proposals.

Public Comment

Public comment focused on appreciation for the opportunity to observe the process. Some members of the public volunteered to help with community outreach.

Attachments (provided in advance)

- A. Summary of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act
- B. Charter of the 2008-2010 MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team
- C. Draft operating principles for the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team
- D. Excerpts from guiding documents for designing marine protected areas
- E. *Methods Used to Evaluate MPA Proposals in the North Central Coast Study Region (May 30, 2008 Draft)*

Attachments (provided at the meeting)

- A. PowerPoint presentation: *Summary of the MLPA Process and Players* (Lynn Takata, Environmental Specialist, California Department of Fish and Game)
- B. PowerPoint presentation: *Science Advisory Team Charter and Operations* (Jason Vasques, Associate Marine Biologist, California Department of Fish and Game)
- C. PowerPoint presentation: *Science Guidance in the Marine Life Protection Act and Master Plan for MPAs* (Jason Vasques, Associate Marine Biologist, California Department of Fish and Game)
- D. PowerPoint presentation: *MPA Evaluation Methods from the MLPA North Central Coast Process* (Evan W. Fox, Principal Planner, California MLPA Initiative)