

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



MLPA Goals and Regional Objectives

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Overview

- Define MLPA goals, regional objectives, and site-specific rationales
- Review NCCSR-adopted regional objectives
- Review and discuss proposed edits for SCSR



What Are Goals?

- A goal is a broad statement of intent:
 - Briefly defines desired long-term vision
 - Simple to understand and communicate.
- From the MLPA
 - Calls for conservation-based goals & guidelines
 - Defines six goals



Six Goals of the MLPA

1. **Protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life**, and the structure, function and integrity of marine ecosystems.
2. **Help sustain, conserve and protect marine life populations**, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
3. **Improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance**, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
4. **Protect marine natural heritage**, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in CA waters for their intrinsic values
5. Ensure CA's MPAs have **clearly defined objectives, effective mgmt. measures and adequate enforcement** and are based on **sound scientific guidelines**
6. Ensure the State's MPAs are **designed and managed**, to the extent possible, **as a network**.



What Are Objectives?

- Objectives are more specific statements of intent that work towards achieving a goal.
- Regional objectives are objectives to achieve MLPA goals within the study region
 - What will be accomplished, not how to go about it
 - Realistically achievable
 - Each MPA should contribute towards regional objectives for MLPA goals
- **The SCRSG will discuss and adopt regional objectives for the south coast study region.**



Site-Specific Rationale

- Site-Specific Rationale
 - Explain why an area is important to protect
 - Should correspond to regional objectives

These will be discussed at later meetings



Example from the North Central Coast

Goal 2 of the MLPA:

“To help sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.”

Regional Objective:

“Sustain or increase reproduction by species most likely to benefit from MPAs through retention of large, mature individuals.”



Next steps by the SCRSG

This meeting:

- Review & revise draft regional objectives for the south coast
- Reach agreement on regional objectives

And beyond...

- Use regional objectives for siting/designing MPAs
- Develop site-specific rationale for MPAs



Overview of SCRSG Review

- Review recommended revisions to regional objectives for the south coast
- Discuss proposed revisions (today and tomorrow)