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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Tools to Support MPA Planning in the North Coast Study Region

Presented to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
February 8, 2010 • Eureka, California

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Joint Fact-Finding Process

What is joint fact-finding?

- Sharing of information to support informed decision-making
- Information may include:
  - Peer reviewed studies
  - Field knowledge from scientists
  - First-hand knowledge from resource users
- Stakeholders help identify information needs and questions

Joint Fact-Finding Process

Why is it important?

- Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) says rely on the best readily available scientific information

What does it involve?

- Stakeholders, MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) members and staff work together to contribute knowledge and information to the process

Joint Fact-Finding Process

How does it happen?

- A large amount of information from the public is being incorporated into the revised regional profile (the comment period is now complete)
- Spatial data may be incorporated into MarineMap
- Additional information and reports may be provided to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG)
- Comments and information may be shared during science presentations
- Key questions may be raised for the SAT to address

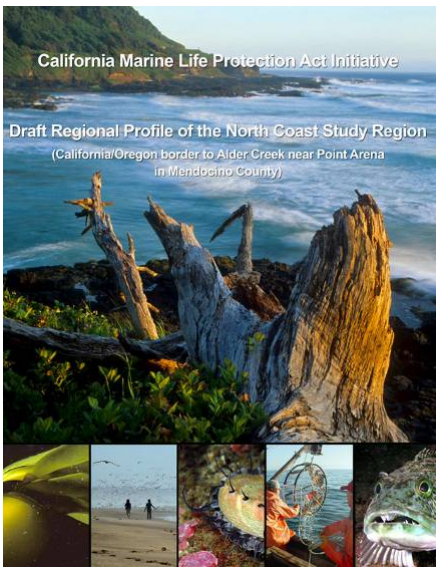
Best Readily Available Information

Resources Available for MPA Planning

- North coast regional profile and atlases
- MarineMap
- Print copy charts/maps
- Assistance from planning staff and GIS team
- Presentations from the SAT, I-Team, and invited experts
- Fellow NCRSG members

Regional Profile: Purpose

- Provides background information for marine protected area planning in the north coast study region
- Gives a broad overview of a variety of information sources
- Integrates 'best readily available science'



Regional Profile: Components

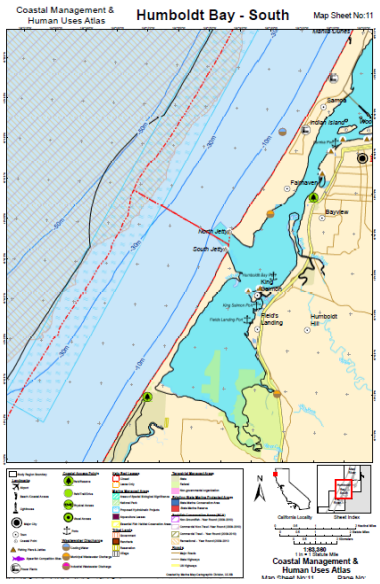
- **Main Document**
  - Executive summary and nine sections on a wide range of topics
- **Appendices**
  - Additional statistical information
- **Map Atlases**
  - Display some spatial data layers
- **Web Links**
  - Other tools, information and resources

Regional Profile: Main Document

Chapter	Section
1	Introduction
2	Description of the North Coast Study Region
3	Ecological Setting
4	Land-Sea Interactions
5	Coastal Communities and Human Use of the Marine Environment
6	Academic Institutions, Research, Public Outreach, and Education
7	Jurisdiction and Management
8	Existing Marine Protected Areas and Coastal Protected Areas
9	Conclusion

Regional Profile: Atlases

- Series of detailed maps for the entire study region
- Two atlases, each with 23 maps
  1. Habitat and Species
  2. Coastal Management and Human Uses
- Display some data layers



Regional Profile: Public Comments

- Staff created first draft of the north coast regional profile; released early Dec. 2009
- Received comments from a wide range of individuals
  - Over 600 individual comments
  - Submitted by 34 individuals and groups
  - Ecological and socioeconomic sections received most comments
- Staff incorporated comments, to the extent possible
- Revised profile to be released in coming week
- Regional profile is one way to bring information into the planning process – there are other ways

Regional Profile: Key Revisions

- Updated information
- Corrected errors
- Added data layers
- Examples:
  - Additional hard and soft substrate data
  - Expanded information on Native American tribes
  - Additional fishery statistics

Regional Profile: Where to Find

- Online
  http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/regionalprofile_nc.asp
- Print copy
  - Mailed to NCRSG members next week
  - Available in California Department of Fish and Game offices
  - Available in public libraries
- Electronic CD copy
- To request a CD copy, contact the MLPA Office at MLPAOffice@resources.ca.gov or 916.654.1885

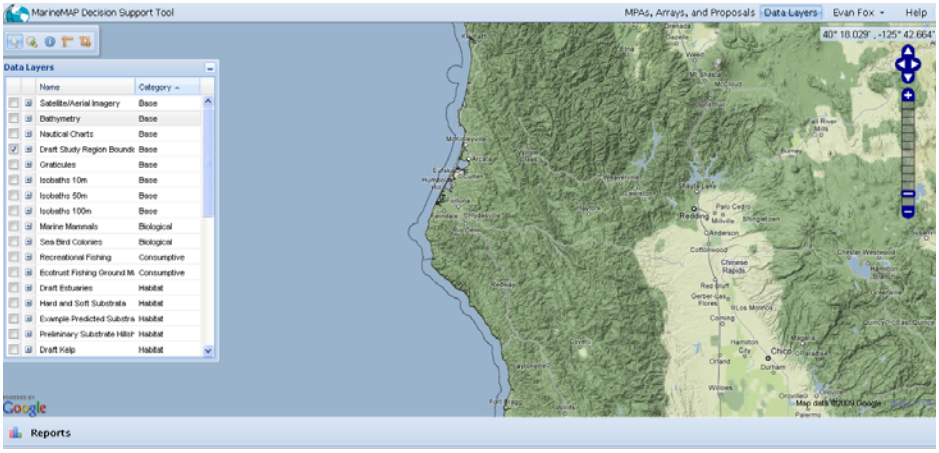
MarineMap: Overview

- Online decision-support tool that provides spatial information
- Interactive mapping tool that offers multiple capabilities
  - View data layers
  - Develop, store and share marine protected area (MPA) concepts
  - Generate preliminary reports relative to science guidelines
- Visit online at http://northcoast.marinemap.org/marinemap/

MarineMap: Technical Requirements

- MarineMap is used through a web browser (not a program you download to your computer)
- Anyone can use MarineMap to view information; having an account allows you to draw MPAs
- MarineMap works best with Firefox, Chrome, and Safari (it does not work with Internet Explorer versions before 7.0)
- The new version of MarineMap will require a small download to use Google Earth functions

MarineMap: Viewing Data Layers

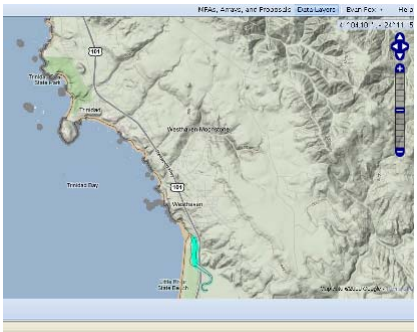


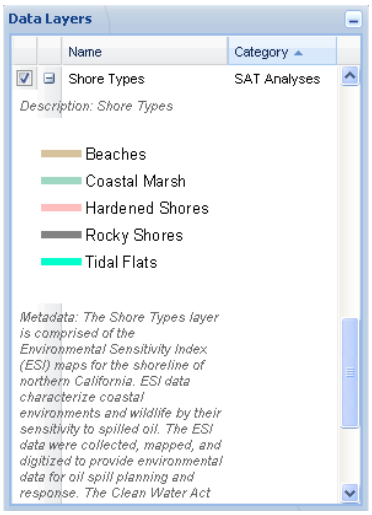
Go to the website: http://northcoast.marinemap.org/marinemap/

MarineMap: Viewing Data Layers

Example: Shoretype Data

- Display any data layer
- Select multiple data layers
- Sort data layers



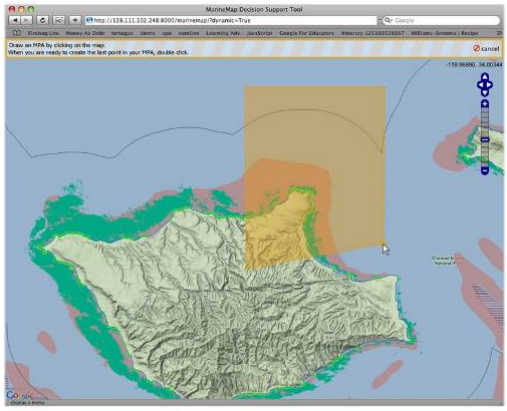


MarineMap: Key Data Layers

- Nautical Charts
- Graticules (latitude and longitude)
- Substrate (hard and soft bottom)
- Ecotrust Fisheries Data
- Existing MPAs

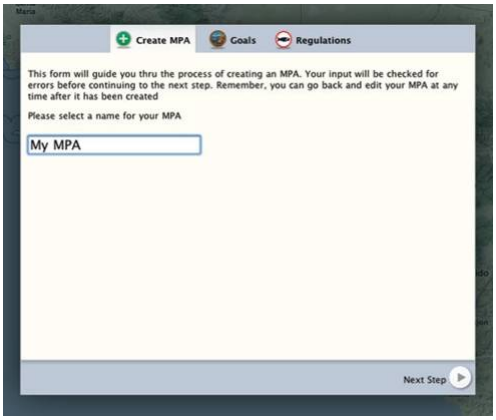
MarineMap: Designing MPAs

- Draw MPA boundaries
- Assign attributes
- Assemble MPAs into arrays



MarineMap: Assigning Attributes

- MPA name
- Proposed designation type (SMR, SMCA, SMP, SMRMA)
- Proposed regulations
- Site-specific rationale
- Goals and objectives
- Design considerations, other regulated activities, and boundaries



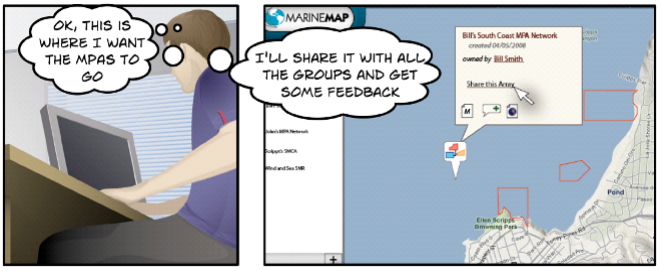
MarineMap: Generate and Share

Generate basic reports on MPAs and arrays

- Area and distances
- Habitat calculations
- Potential fisheries impacts
- Array summary reports

Share MPA ideas

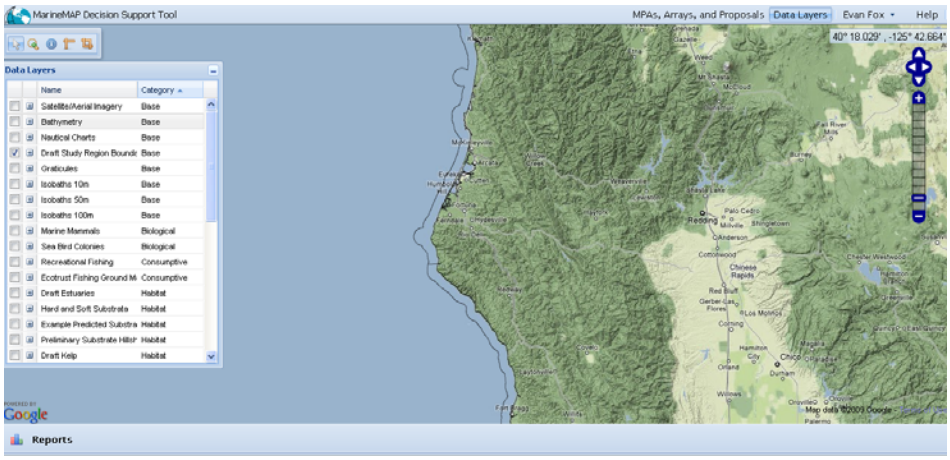
- Draft concepts can be shared with others, or kept private



MarineMap: Use in Planning Process

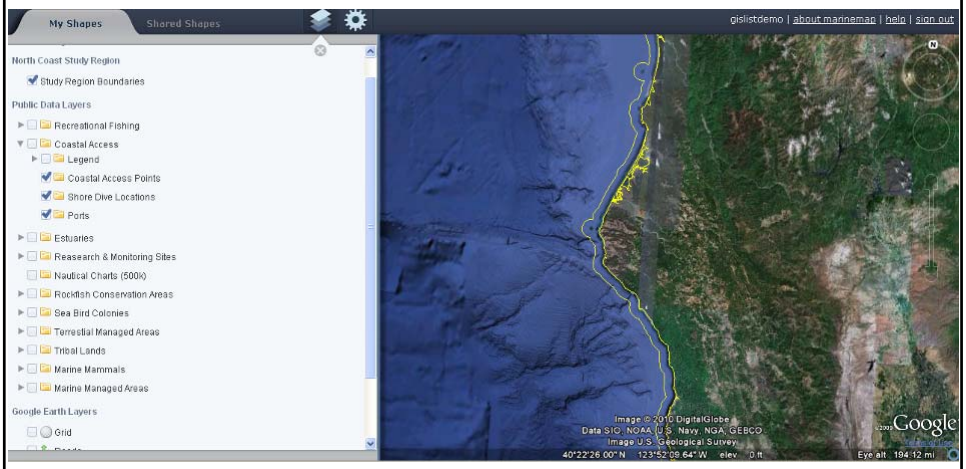
- At NCRSG meetings or work sessions, staff uses MarineMap to display data layers and display and record MPA ideas
- Outside meetings, individual NCRSG members can use MarineMap to brainstorm ideas and concepts to inform meeting discussions
- MarineMap used during meetings where MPA concepts are shared and formalized

MarineMap: Future Updates



Current Version

MarineMap: Future Updates



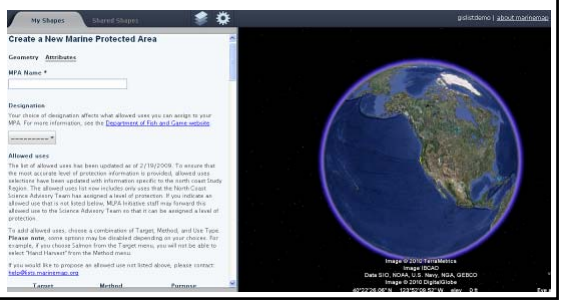
New Version

MarineMap: Key Differences & Changes

Newer Version of MarineMap

- Looks more like Google Earth
- Allows searching for locations
- Has more information on data layers
- Allows viewing the map while adding information about MPAs
- Is more user-friendly

Preview at:
http://demo.marinemap.org/



Using MarineMap

- NCRSG members encouraged to use MarineMap
- Members of the public may use MarineMap to view data layers and arrays
- Opportunity to learn more and preview the new version tonight
- Additional online training session on Thursday, February 25, 12:00 – 1:00 PM
- For comments, questions, or to request an account, send an email to help@marinemap.org