

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Developing and Using Regional Goals and Objectives

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What Are Goals and Objectives?

- **Goals**
 - Broad statement of intent
 - Desired long-term condition that will result from effective management of marine protected areas (MPAs)
- **Objectives**
 - More specific statement of what must be accomplished to attain a goal
 - Two types of objectives used in this process
 1. Regional
 2. MPA-specific



Regional Goals: Defined by the MLPA

- (1) To protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.
- (2) To help sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
- (3) To 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) To protect marine natural heritage, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic value.
- (5) To ensure that California's MPAs have clearly defined objectives, effective management measures, and adequate enforcement, and are based on sound scientific guidelines.
- (6) To ensure that the state's MPAs are designed and managed, to the extent possible, as a network.



Regional Objectives

- Identify the specific objectives needed to accomplish the MLPA goals in the south coast study region
- Inform the design of MPA-specific objectives
- Drafted by the MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group



Example from North Central Coast

Regional goal:

“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.”



MPA-Specific Objectives

- Tie regional objectives to a specific geography
- Identify the key reasons for placing an MPA in a specific location
- Drafted by the MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group



Example from North Central Coast

Regional objective:

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

MPA-specific objective:

“Enhance reproductive capacity of rockfishes”



Use of Goals and Objectives

- Design MPAs
- Evaluate MPA proposals
- Monitor and evaluate MPA network



Designing MPAs

- How does an MPA proposal as a whole contribute to meeting the goals of the MLPA?
- How do individual MPAs within the proposal contribute to the overall objectives for the region?
- What future change is intended as a result of individual MPAs?



Designing MPAs

Regional objective:

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

- Where might MPAs be placed to accomplish this regional objective?
- What kinds of MPAs (designation, regulations, size, etc.) are needed to accomplish this regional objective?

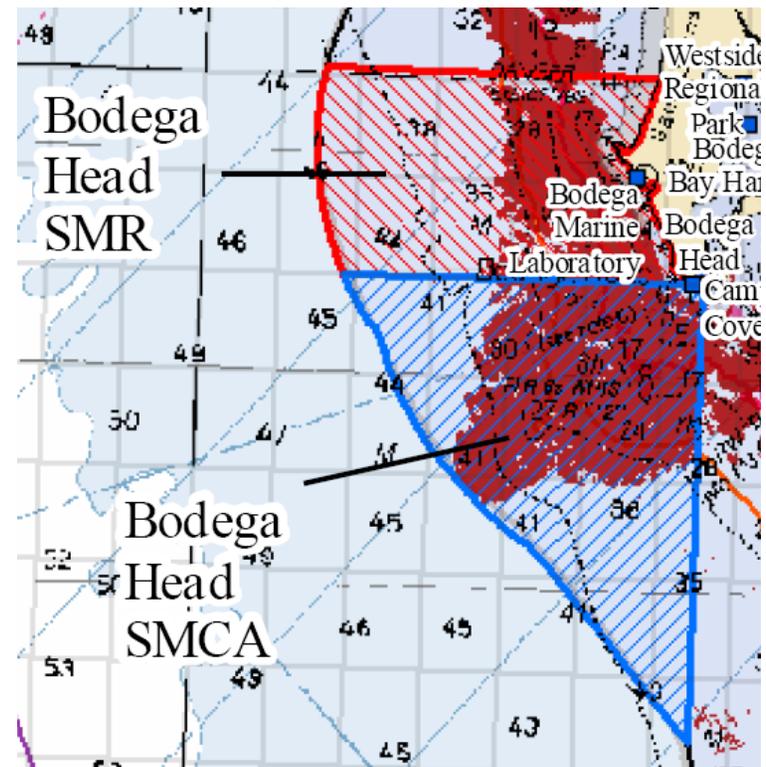


Designing MPAs

MPA-specific objective:

“Enhance reproductive capacity of rockfishes”

- Specific site where rockfish exist
- Design regulations and boundaries to protect rockfish





Evaluating MPA Proposals

- MLPA states that MPAs have “clearly defined objectives”
- The California Department of Fish and Game considers MPA goals and objectives as part of its feasibility analysis



Evaluating MPA Proposals

MPA-Specific Objective:

“Enhance reproductive capacity of rockfishes”

- Is this objective clear?
- Does the design of the MPA reflect this objective?
- Is the objective measurable?



Monitoring and Evaluation

Goals and objectives will:

- Inform design of monitoring and evaluation programs once MPAs are implemented
- Help identify meaningful indicators of effectiveness



Monitoring and Evaluation

Regional Objective:

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

- What sites might be monitored to measure this objective?
- What indicators might be monitored to measure this objective?



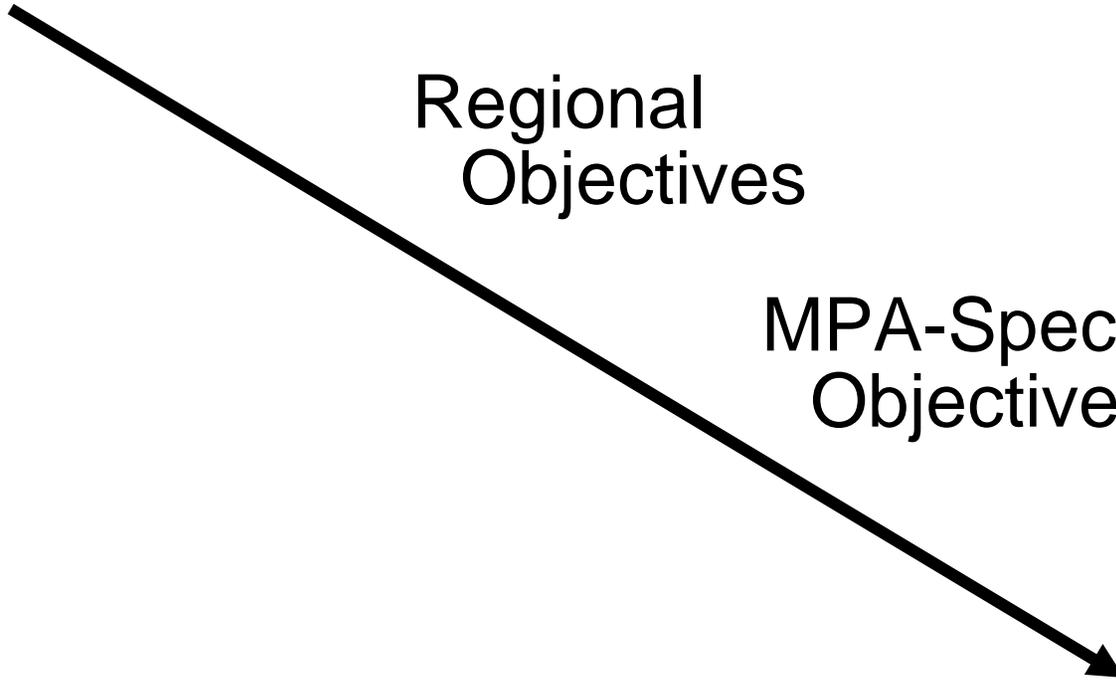
Goals, Objectives and MPA Proposals

MLPA Goals

Regional
Objectives

MPA-Specific
Objectives

Individual
MPA Design





Next Steps

For the next SCRSG meeting:

- Receive further staff guidance for drafting regional objectives
- Draw on staff guidance to begin developing regional objectives for the study region