

California MLPA North Coast Project
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in
North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal
November 23, 2010

Table 1. Summary of MPAs by Designation Type for North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal

Type of MPA ^a	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	6	51.17	5.0%
State Marine Recreational Management Area (SMRMA) ^b	3	1.03	0.1%
State Marine Park (SMP)	1	0.12	<0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	11	81.86	8.0%
All MPAs combined	21	134.18	13.1%

a These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designation types, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT).

b This proposal includes state marine recreational management areas, which are not MPAs but rather marine managed areas.

Table 2. Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal

Level of Protection (LOP)	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High ^c	8	52.14	5.1%
High	0	0.00	0.0%
Moderate-High	6	74.09	7.2%
Moderate	2	0.18	<0.1%
Moderate-low	1	0.93	0.1%
Low	4	6.84	0.7%
Total	21	134.18	13.1%

c The "Very High" category includes MPAs with SMR designation type, as well as SMRMA designation types that do not propose any allowed uses.

For more information about this MPA proposal, please visit: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpaproposals_nc.asp or <http://northcoast.marinemap.org/>.

MLPA = Marine Life Protection Act MPA = marine protected area
 NCRSG = MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group SMCA = state marine conservation area
 SMP = state marine park SMR = state marine reserve SMRMA = state marine recreational management area

Table 3. Individual MPAs in North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal

MPA Name	Size ^d (mi ²)	Cluster Alongshore Span ^e (mi)	Depth Range ^f (ft)
Pyramid Point Offshore SMCA	13.13	2.9	12 - 124
Pyramid Point Nearshore SMCA	0.88	2.9	0 - 12
Point St. George Reef Offshore SMCA	9.52	3.5	176 - 399
Reading Rock SMR	9.57	2.9	147 - 253
Reading Rock SMCA	11.84	2.9	0 - 165
Samoa Offshore SMCA	12.08	3.6	8 - 158
Samoa Nearshore SMCA	0.93	3.6	0 - 8
South Humboldt Bay SMRMA	0.79	N/A	Depth data not available
South Cape Mendocino SMR	9.06	1.4	0 - 277
Mattole Canyon SMR	9.76	3.5	82 - 1646
Sea Lion Gulch SMR	10.37	2.0	0 - 375
Big Flat Offshore SMCA	10.73	2.5	26 - 1110
Big Flat Nearshore SMCA	0.78	2.5	0 - 31
Vizcaino Offshore SMCA	16.79	4.9	28 - 391
Vizcaino Nearshore SMCA	1.66	4.9	0 - 69
Skip Wollenberg / Ten Mile SMR	11.97	3.1	0 - 343
Skip Wollenberg / Ten Mile Beach SMCA	3.53	0.9	0 - 288
Skip Wollenberg / Ten Mile Estuary SMRMA	0.18	N/A	Depth data not available
Point Cabrillo SMR	0.44	0.9	0 - 40
Big River Estuary SMP	0.12	N/A	Depth data not available
Navarro River Estuary SMRMA	0.06	N/A	Depth data not available

d Size is measured in square statute miles (mi²).

e The alongshore span for MPA clusters is measured in miles (mi) as a line from the center of the north end of the MPA cluster to the center of the south end, roughly paralleling the coastline. An alongshore span is not calculated for estuarine MPAs.

f Comprehensive bathymetric data for all estuaries is not available. Though bathymetric data do exist in portions of some estuaries, depth ranges in feet (ft) are not provided for estuarine MPAs for consistency in evaluations.

For more information about this MPA proposal, please visit: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpaproposals_nc.asp or <http://northcoast.marinemap.org/>.

Table 4. Habitat Representation in North Coast Enhanced Compliance Alternative MPA Proposal

Habitat ⁹	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal										
Sandy or gravel beach*	2.55	1%	0.41	<1%	0.25	<1%	15.20	8%	18.42	10%
Rocky shores*	12.62	8%	1.21	1%	0.77	<1%	4.96	3%	19.56	12%
Hardened shores*	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
Coastal marsh*	0.00	0%	4.41	5%	1.29	1%	0.00	0%	5.70	6%
Coastal marsh	0.00	0%	0.09	3%	0.02	1%	0.00	0%	0.11	3%
Tidal flats*	0.00	0%	0.36	1%	0.28	<1%	0.00	0%	0.64	1%
Seagrass beds										
Humboldt Eelgrass	0.00	0%	0.23	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.23	3%
Estuarine										
Estuary	0.00	0%	1.03	2%	0.12	<1%	0.00	0%	1.15	3%
Hard bottom										
0-30 meters proxy* ⁱ	2.09	4%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.88	4%	3.97	8%
0-30 meters	0.92	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.54	5%	2.46	8%
30-100 meters	6.91	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.48	1%	7.39	22%
100-200 meters	0.25	36%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	1%	0.26	37%
>200 meters	0.02	28%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	14%	0.03	42%
Soft bottom										
0-30 meters proxy* ^h	5.43	3%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	16.41	9%	21.83	12%
0-30 meters	4.61	2%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	27.54	9%	32.15	11%
30-100 meters	30.94	7%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	37.38	8%	68.32	15%
100-200 meters	3.33	5%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	6.89	11%	10.22	16%
>200 meters	1.61	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.59	8%	2.20	29%
Unknown										
0-30 meters	2.54	2%	1.03	1%	0.12	<1%	7.14	6%	10.83	8%
30-100 meters	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.28	9%	0.29	9%
100-200 meters	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
>200 meters	0.02	10%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.02	10%

For more information about this MPA proposal, please visit: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpaproposals_nc.asp or <http://northcoast.marinemap.org/>.

Habitat ^g	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
	Other									
Offshore rocks*	3.17	6%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	2.12	4%	5.29	10%
Canyon	1.51	20%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.67	9%	2.18	29%
Linear kelp*	3.10	6%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.75	3%	4.85	9%

* See next footnote.

g Habitats are measured as an area (m²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

h A linear measurement of substrate in the 0-30 meter (m) zone, called the 0-30 m proxy line was developed to address the limited fine scale data for the nearshore habitat. The proxy line is drawn roughly parallel to shore at 12-15m depth and is divided into short segments and the estimated proportion of hard and soft bottom in the 0-30m zone is associated with each segment.