

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Contract Position Description: Assistant Marine Planner
Posted August 2, 2007

Expressions of interest due no later than August 15, 2007

Background: The MLPA Initiative is seeking an assistant marine planner to provide technical planning support to the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative to help ensure the development of sound draft proposals for marine protected areas in the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region (Pigeon Point in San Mateo County to Alder Creek in Mendocino County just north of Point Arena, California; see www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa for more details)

The Marine Life Protection Act was signed into law in 1999 and directs the state to redesign California's system of marine protected areas to increase its coherence and effectiveness in protecting the state's marine life and habitats, marine ecosystems, and marine natural heritage, as well as to improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems. The MLPA Initiative is a public-private partnership among the California Resources Agency, California Department of Fish and Game, and Resources Legacy Fund Foundation, to help the State of California implement the statutory objectives of the MLPA.

Job Description: The assistant marine planner will support the principal planner in providing (1) information and support to the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group in developing alternative proposals for marine protected areas (MPAs) in state waters, and (2) support to the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team in evaluating MPA proposals.

The assistant marine planner will work directly with the principal planner in all aspects of the MLPA North Central Coast Project planning effort including:

- ***Assisting with data collection*** – work with state and federal agencies, academic institutions, and stakeholder groups to assemble ecological, socioeconomic, and other baseline data in a regional profile and in GIS format for MPA planning.
- ***Assisting in the analysis and presentation of information to various project participants*** – work with principal planner and other project staff to analyze and present information to the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group, Master Plan Science Advisory Team, and Blue Ribbon Task Force.
- ***Supporting the development and evaluation of alternative MPA proposals*** – work with the principal planner and other staff to support (1) the regional stakeholder group in developing alternative MPA proposals and (2) the science team in the scientific evaluation of alternative proposals.
- ***Assisting in the production of documents for public review*** – work with other MLPA staff in developing planning documents such as a regional profile, evaluation of existing MPAs, and presentation and evaluation of alternative MPA proposals.

Qualifications: B.S. plus three years work experience or M.S. in marine science or geography. Experience in public policy processes, conservation planning, marine protected areas, or marine GIS a benefit. Experience working in multi-disciplinary teams and with stakeholder groups also a benefit. Strong written/oral communication and computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint) are essential.

Contract Period: Will vary from 75-100% time from August 15, 2007 to April 30, 2008, with contract extension possible

Location: Position to be located in Monterey, Santa Cruz, or the San Francisco Bay Area

Compensation: Negotiable, plus expenses; no benefits. The assistant planner will be an independent contractor to the MLPA Initiative.

Send CV (or resume) and cover letter no later 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2007 to:

***Mary Gleason, Principal Planner
California MLPA Initiative
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