

California MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
Emerald Work Group Initial MPA Array, "Option A"
For initial review by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team and Blue Ribbon Task Force
October 17, 2007

NAME OF INITIAL MPA ARRAY: *Emerald Work Group Initial MPA Array, "Option A" (Array Option EA)*

FORMAT IN WHICH PROPOSED MPA BOUNDARIES WERE SUBMITTED:

MPA ARRAY IN DORIS HARDCOPY MAP TO STAFF GIS FORMAT

NUMBER AND TYPE OF MPAS IN INITIAL MPA ARRAY:

16 SMR 2 SMP 8 SMCA 26 Total # MPAs

NARRATIVE RATIONALE: *[Please describe how this initial MPA array option meets MLPA goals, the approach used to develop the components, and other comments] – [You don't have to do this yet.]*

Initial MPA Array

Initial MPA Array Name: Emerald Work Group Initial MPA Array, "Option A" (Array Option EA)

Provide ALL the information listed below for each individual MPA included in the initial MPA array option.

| Opt | MPA Name | Type (SMCA, SMP, SMR) | GIS ID # | General MPA Boundaries | Allowed or Disallowed Uses | Goals/Objectives/ Design Criteria this MPA Contributes Toward | Comments, Questions or Important Information |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---|--|---|--|
| A | Pt. Arena- Arena Rock SMR | SMR | 37 | North from point past Arena Rock, west out over the reef. Narrower band follows shore down to above Arena Cove. | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Protect important habitat - Good rock, caves and sand. include Arena Rock in reserve | The Arena Rock area has high diversity of habitat. Leaves open sandy bottom fishing ground off Manchester Beach important for commercial and recreational. |
| A | Pt. Arena- Arena Rock SMCA | SMCA | 235 | Includes seal rocks, and beach north of Pt. Arena | Allows crab, salmon shore fishing | Goals: 2,4 Protects habitat and reef | |
| A | Del Mar Landing SMP | SMP | 265 | Existing MPA | Take of all living marine resources is prohibited except the recreational take of finfish by hook and line or spear. | | Retain existing MPA. |
| A | Black Point to Salt Point SMR | SMR | 222 | SMR adjacent to shore from Black Point is an extension of SMP to the south | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 SMR protects complex rocky habitat, kelp (including a series of coves, and off Salt Point, wash | SMR/SMCA is in preferred size range |

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| | | | | | | rocks, shelves, walls, cobble and boulders) and dependent species in an area that gets deeper faster than many parts of the region. | |
| A | Black Point to Salt Point SMCA | SMCA | 221 | Offshore of SMR | Allows salmon trolling, crab | Goals: 1,2,4 Protection of rockfish in deeper areas and habitat | |
| A | Salt Point SMP | SMP | 50 | Extension of SMR | SMP rec only Allows finfish and abalone | Goals: 2,3,4 Protect habitat | Purpose of SMP is to offer a park experience in waters adjacent to a popular coastal state park. |
| A | Fort Ross SMCA | SMCA | 266 | Existing MPA | No recreational take of living or non-living marine resources is allowed except: finfish, red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobsters, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels and marine worms except that no worms may be taken in any mussel bed | | Retain existing MPA. |

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| | | | | | <p>unless taken incidentally to the take of mussels.</p> <p>Commercial take of species other than giant kelp and bull kelp is allowed.</p> | | |
| A | Russian River SMR | SMR | 248 | West boundary is line due south from point at west end of Russian River Rocks and southern boundary is line due west from point just south of Arched Rock. Extent to north south line in estuary west of Penny Island. | No take | Goals: 2,4 Includes portion of the Russian river plume and lower Russian River Estuary. Protect Coho, Chinook, and steelhead as they gather to enter the Russian River. Protects harbor seal colony and Russian River Rocks and Arched Rock seabird colonies | Water quality issues and impaired habitat upstream. |
| A | Russian River Estuary SMR | SMR | 264 | Estuary only | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 | Includes portion of the Russian river plume and lower Russian River Estuary. Protect Coho, Chinook, and steelhead as they gather to enter the |

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| | | | | | | | Russian River. Protects harbor seal colony and Russian River Rocks and Arched Rock seabird colonies |
| A | Bodega Head SMR | SMR | 241 | From 38° 22'N south to a SW corner at 38° 14.8'N Then a diagonal back to the Head SMR to about 1 mile off shore | No take | Goals: 1,2,3,4 Protect an entire reef that extends to the state water boundary | |
| A | Bodega Head SMCA | SMCA | 239 | From 38° 22'N south to a SW corner at 38° 14.8'N Then a diagonal back to the Head SMCA starts about 1 mile off shore | No take of ground fish | Goals: 2,4 Protect ground fish pops, entire rocky reef extend to State water | Interest in allowing squid fishing north of mussel point. How does this affect the SAT protection level? |
| A | Estero de Americano SMR | SMR | 208 | Across mouth of estero | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, and high biodiversity. The area is prime for ASBS, with little | The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary recommends establishing reserve here. |

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| | | | | | | fishing pressure. | |
| A | Estero De San Antonio SMR | SMR | 209 | Across mouth of estero | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, and high biodiversity. The area is prime for ASBS, with little fishing pressure. The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary recommends establishing reserve here. This is the only somewhat undisturbed Mediterranean estuary left with salinity from 10-44ppt. Supports CA freshwater shrimp - Endangered species; Historical robust steelhead | The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary recommends establishing reserve here. |

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| | | | | | | fishery; Downstream component severely impaired | |
| A | Tom's Point SMR | SMR | 249 | | No take except mariculture | Goals: 1,2,4 Excellent eel grass habitat and estuarine flats. Excellent habitat for brandt and shorebirds. Fish nursery area. Conserve over harvested clam beds. Protect harbor seal haulouts and breeding colonies from disturbance. Protects unique intertidal and marsh area and forage and resting space for shorebirds | Will seek no expansion of oyster footprint |
| A | Tomales Bay South SMR | SMR | 59 | Millerton Point in Tomales Bay across, and all area south in bay. Replace existing SMP in south part with the SMR. | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Shallow water eelgrass, tidewater goby, many other species for protection. Shark aggregations. Entry for Coho and Steelhead. Southern end is | Seek regulation change to eliminate duck hunting. |

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| | | | | | | being restored as the Giacomini Marsh Wetland. Olema Marsh | |
| A | Point Reyes Headlands SMR | SMR | 236 | SMR around headland and rocky reef extends up to mouth of Drakes estero on a diagonal SMCA offshore extends to Pt Resistance | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Protect smaller amount of rocky and sand bottom habitat along headland but more along Drake's Beach. | |
| A | Point Reyes Headlands SMCA | SMCA | 224 | SMR around headland and rocky reef extends up to mouth of Drakes estero on a diagonal SMCA offshore extends to Pt Resistance | SMCA – salmon, crab, halibut, squid, and shorebased fin-fishing | Goals: 2 Protects groundfish | |
| A | Drakes - Limantour Estero SMR | SMR | 243 | Across mouth of estero | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Preserves limited eelgrass left in state; Estero may represent ~ 7% of state total. Includes important fish and invertebrate nursery ground, Leopard Shark and | The intent is for this MPA to be an SMR. It may have to be designated as an SMCA allowing mariculture and then become an SMR in 2012 after the oyster reservation of use expires |

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| | | | | | | Bat Ray foraging and possible breeding location, Dungeness crab and halibut nursery area, steelhead trout, likely tidewater goby, large harbor seal haulout and pupping site. | |
| A | Duxbury Reef SMCA | SMCA | 267 | Existing MPA. | <p>Only the following species may be taken recreationally: red abalone, Dungeness crab, rock crabs, rockfish (family Scorpaenidae), lingcod, cabezon, surfperch (family Embiotocidae), halibut, flounder, sole, turbot, salmon, kelp greenling, striped bass, steelhead, monkeyface-eel, wolf-eel, smelt, and silversides.</p> <p>Commercial take of species other than giant kelp and bull kelp is allowed.</p> | | Retain Existing MPA. |

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| A | Bolinas Lagoon SMR | SMR | 201 | Waters inside mouth of lagoon. | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 Protect and preserve unique estuary habitat of Bolinas Lagoon. Include important clamming, fish and invertebrate nursery ground, harbor seal haulout and pupping site, bird feeding and resting areas. Over 600 acres of mudflats | RAMSAR site (The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.) |
| A | Fitzgerald SMR | SMR | 213 | Extend south from Shelter Cove Point to the southern end of current Fitzgerald reserve, to include San Pedro Point, Devil's Slide, Montara Beach and Moss Beach coast. | No take | Goals: 1,2,3,4 Protect depleted near shore fisheries and include a mix of habitat types in one SMR. Includes a mix of shale and granite hard bottom and sand bottom. Upgrade protection at Fitzgerald from park to reserve. | A preferred size MPA |
| A | Fitzgerald SMCA | SMCA | 214 | Extend south from Shelter Cove Point to the southern end of current Fitzgerald reserve, to include San | Allows SMCA-salmon trolling and crabbing | Goals: 1,2,4 Protects rock reefs and depleted nearshore species | |

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| | | | | Pedro Point, Devil's Slide, Montara Beach and Moss Beach coast. | | | |
| A | Pescadero Marsh SMR | SMR | 263 | Waters inside mouth of Pescadero Creek outlet | No take | Goals: 1,2,4 To protect habitat, steelhead | Has seasonally closed mouth |
| A | Farallon South SMR | SMR | 212 | Roughly southern 1/3 of subregion | No take | Goals: 1 Purpose of SMR is to allow natural ecosystem function in a key portion of the subregion. | This SMR would eliminate the only squid fishing grounds here Need to further discuss no disturbance and anchoring How to expand current no disturbance from 300 – 1000ft and make it year round – also address balance between disturbance issues and anchoring/ safety on SE side |
| A | North Farallon SMR | SMR | 250 | Northern Farallons Southern boundary is below rocks, | No Take | Goals: 1,2,3,4 Protects upper rocks + stellar sealion, bird colonies, | For protection of birds (murre), does extending a no transit zone in the SMR protect both bird colonies and stellar |

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| | | | | | | biodiversity, habitat | <p>sealions? Discussed whether this will affect wildlife viewing. Strong discussion on distances that affect flushing behavior for stellar sealion. Feeling is need to get clarification on this</p> <p>Discussed - year round NO-TRANSIT zone from southern boundary to 300 ft north of the northern rock</p> |
| A | Farallon SMCA | SMCA | 254 | Follows RCA boundaries | Allows current uses and does not change current regulations | <p>Goals: 1,2,4</p> <p>Protects forage base = juvenile rockfish for seabirds (juvenile rockfish are forage for birds)</p> | <p>If existing RCA changes within this SMCA the rockfish regs will not change</p> <p>Not intended to change anything at present but locks it in as an MPA for future</p> <p>This reserves the area to help prioritize future adaptive management and research areas (idea is if it is an MPA, it is a high priority for</p> |

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| | | | | | | | adaptive mgmt and research) because Farallons are such a special place – This SMCA tacks into the Farallon South SMR and North Farallon SMR, areas currently allowing fishing |

Consideration of Marine Bird and Mammal Protection

Initial MPA Array Name: Emerald Work Group Initial MPA Array, "Option A" (Array Option EA)

Within this MPA array, certain areas may warrant increased protection of marine birds and/or marine mammals through the use of "no disturbance" zones or special closures. Detailed design of these areas will be postponed until the California Department of Fish and Game has distributed guidance for creating these areas. Within this MPA array, areas suggested by the proponents for potential consideration are listed below. Note that these areas are identified on the accompanying map, but are not considered in the MLPA Science Advisory Team size and spacing analysis.

| Opt | Area to be Considered | General location/extent | Comments, Questions or Important Information |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|---|
| A | Pt Reyes special closure area | Wraps around headland - 1000 ft off shore | To prevent disturbance to and protect seabirds, No disturbance zone 1000 ft – all year |
| A | Fitzgerald special closure | 1000 ft off shore | To prevent disturbance to and protect seabirds, No disturbance zone 1000 ft – all year |
| A | SE Farallon Special Closure | 100ft around island | To prevent disturbance to and protect seabirds, stellar sealions No disturbance zone 1000 ft – all year |

Consideration of Existing State MPAs

Initial MPA Array Name: Emerald Work Group Initial MPA Array, "Option A" (Array Option EA)

Please indicate how each of the following existing MLPA North Central Coast MPAs is considered within your initial MPA array option.

| Existing MPA | Included Without Changes (proposed to be retained) | Included with Boundary or Regulation Change (proposed to be modified) | Not Included (proposed for elimination) |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Manchester and Arena Rock SMCA | Replaced by Pt. Arena/Arena Rock MPA | Replaced by Pt. Arena/Arena Rock MPA | |
| Del Mar Landing SMP | Included for now | | |
| Salt Point SMCA | Replaced by Black Point to Stumps SMR and Salt Point SMP | Replaced by Black Point to Stumps SMR and Salt Point SMP | |
| Gerstle Cove SMCA | Replaced by Salt Point SMP | Replaced by Salt Point SMP | |
| Fort Ross SMCA | Included for now | | |
| Tomales Bay SMP | Replaced by South Tomales Bay SMR | Replaced by South Tomales bay SMR | |
| Point Reyes SMCA | Replaced by Pt. Reyes MPA or possibly retain | Modified allowable take. | |
| Estero de Limantour SMCA | Replaced by SMR | Replaced by SMR | |
| Duxbury Reef SMCA | Included for now | | |
| Sonoma Coast SMCA | | Modified by Bodega MPAs | |

| Existing MPA | Included Without Changes (proposed to be retained) | Included with Boundary or Regulation Change (proposed to be modified) | Not Included (proposed for elimination) |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| Bodega SMR | Replaced by Bodega Head SMR | Replaced by Bodega Head SMR | |
| Fitzgerald SMP | Modified by Fitzgerald concepts. | Modified by Fitzgerald concepts. | |
| Farallon Islands SMCA | Modified by Farallon Islands concepts. | Modified by Farallon Islands concepts. | |