

ARRAY B: Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance

GOALS:

Develop an array of marine protected areas that make **ecological, socioeconomic, cultural, and practical sense**

Achieve a high level of **community consensus** and widespread buy-in

Enable **locally-based stewardship** and active participation in the enforcement, monitoring and evaluation of the MPAs

Recognize and incorporate **existing** protective regulations

Diminish potential negative impacts from **effort shift**

Take into consideration **newly established MPAs in the North Central Coast Study Region**

Ensure the **10-mile safety zone** around our harbors

ARRAY B: Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance

WHO WE ARE:

The Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance (MOCA), with a constituency of over 120 members, is **the largest and most diverse community group** formed in response to the MLPA Initiative in the North Coast Study Region.

85 individuals representing 16 organizations contributed to the MOCA array.

City and County municipalities support the MOCA array.

We estimate that **over 1000 hours** of our time were spent in **achieving consensus** and hammering out the details for Array B.

We participated in the **Tri-County Working Group** headed by Adam Wagschal, and out of respect for the extensive local knowledge possessed by our counterparts in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, we included the MPAs proposed by their representatives in our array.

ARRAY B: Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance

CONCERNS THAT REMAIN TO BE ADDRESSED:

The issue of tribes and tribal community's exemption (or not?) from the MPAs. How will this impact on spacing guidelines for proposed MPAs?

Levels of Protection (LOP) for sea urchin, abalone, and seaweed – we continue to respectfully disagree with the SAT's conclusions.

For sea urchin in particular – due to its invasive tendencies when natural predation is low – concentration of effort could have disastrous ecological impacts, and equally severe economic impacts on local industries.

We want to see adequate data on source and sink locations in the North Coast Study Region on MarineMap so we make the best possible decisions on placement of MPAs.

We are concerned about other ecological impacts – terrestrial pollution, oil and gas drilling and transport, and military exercises that harm ecosystems and marine mammals. Currently this process does not seem to address those issues.

North Central Coast Study Region (NCCSR) MPAs need to be addressed in the spacing and habitat replications for the North Coast Study Region.

NCCSR MPAs determined for the Pt. Arena area in Mendocino County, covering twenty square miles of former fishing, angling, diving, and seaweed harvesting areas, go into effect on April 1, 2010. We expect to see immediate, widespread, and dramatic impacts to areas north of Pt. Arena, including effort shift into the North Coast Study Region.

ARRAY B: Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance

FINAL POINTS:

MLPA GOAL 3: We strongly support a comparative MPA/SMCA grouping in the Pt. Cabrillo region (including a long-term control area) that can support continued scientific study evaluating the interactions of sea urchins, abalone, kelp, and human predation. This site is strategically located for public education and access.

For estuaries, we felt it was important to protect the most critical locations (Navarro River and Ten Mile) that complemented State Parks, did not impinge on a working harbor—as per the Master Plan – (e.g., Albion Harbor), or significantly affect public access (e.g., Big River). The Navarro River is the longest river watershed that is entirely in Mendocino County.

Do you have any questions for us?