# External Array C

## North Coast Conservation Coalition

- The Conservation Coalition, led by Ocean Conservancy and Humboldt Baykeeper, and representing numerous additional North Coast envir onmental organizations, began this initial attempt at designing Marine Protected Areas by seeking first to meet the science goals of the Marine Life Protection Act and, second, to do so through informed collaboration with consumptive users.

- We met with representatives of commercial, recreational and tribal concerns, then worked from there, encouraging the formation of a cross-interest tri-county community working group, in which we then participated.

- We also incorporated MPAs based on the work the SONAR students – SEA – did, as we understood their efforts to be both science-based and well-researched.

- We addressed the reasoning behind individual MPAs in our external proposal submission, of course, but one of the MPAs we suggested is especially worthy of highlighting: our proposal at False Klamath Cove, a place of extraordinary biodiversity.

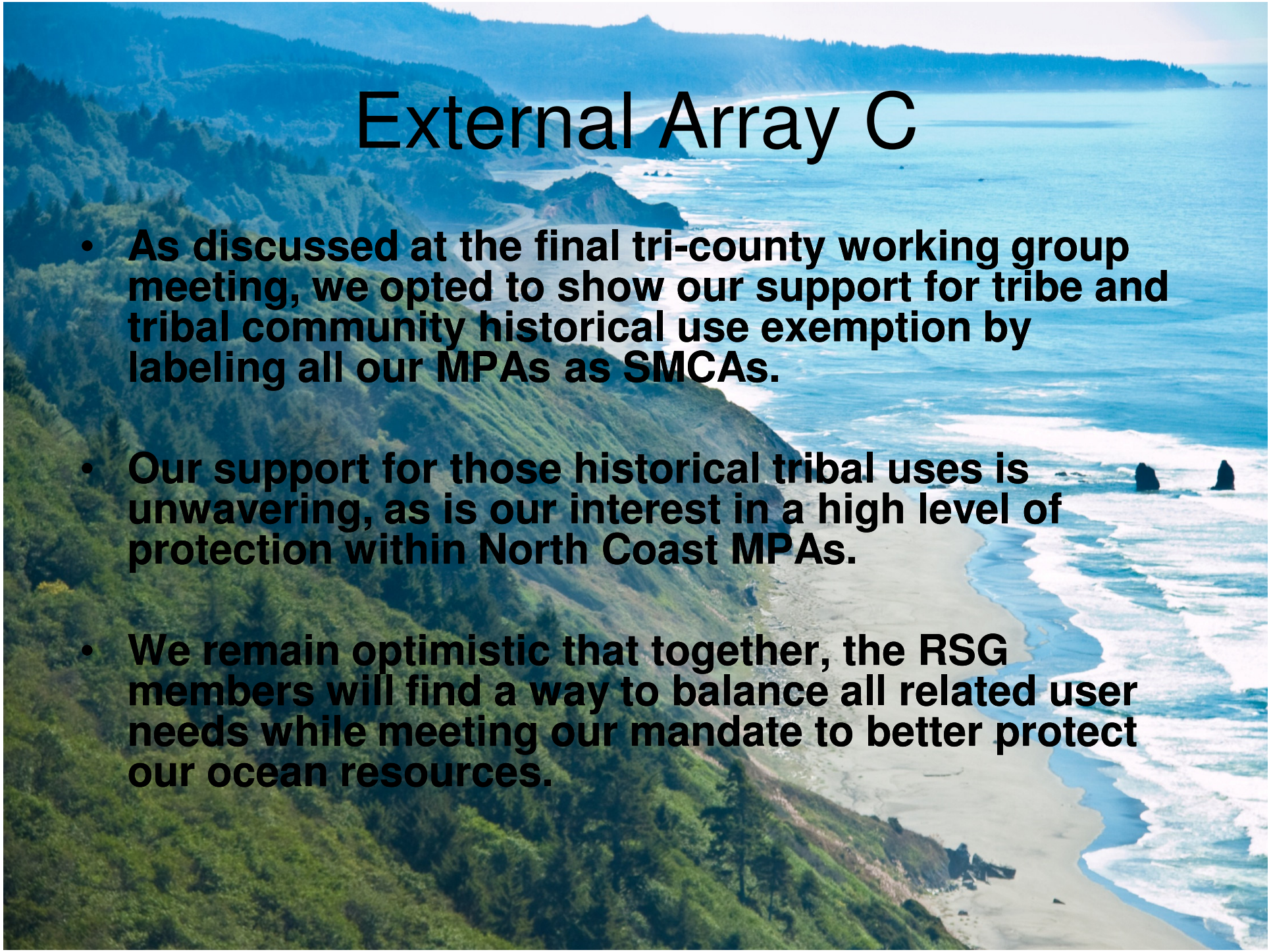
- This location would be ideal for a co-management agreement between the Yurok Tribe and the state; it is a destination and known habitat for Grey Whales; it is also an especially significant breeding and feeding site for many fish species, pinnipeds, migratory birds and sea birds, including species listed as endangered.

- Additionally, the False Klamath Cove SMCA is adjacent to Redwoods State Park and is co-located with an Area of Significant Biological Significance. The Park currently has marine research and monitoring projects off the coastline of Redwoods State Park, so siting an SMCA there would ensure rigorous monitoring and additional partnership opportunities.

- Through the RSG process, we will continue our commitment to maximizing ecosystem protection based on the Science Advisory Team's guidance while minimizing socio-economic impacts.

- After all the hard work we put into this, we're very pleased that, according to SAT evaluations, we at least pulled off the second part of our goal with this preliminary proposal with a "worst-case" economic impact of less than six percent.

- Now we're looking forward to better fulfilling the science side as we make improvements based on the additional data now available and input from other RSG members, as well as the aforementioned evaluation results.



# External Array C

- **As discussed at the final tri-county working group meeting, we opted to show our support for tribe and tribal community historical use exemption by labeling all our MPAs as SMCAs.**
- **Our support for those historical tribal uses is unwavering, as is our interest in a high level of protection within North Coast MPAs.**
- **We remain optimistic that together, the RSG members will find a way to balance all related user needs while meeting our mandate to better protect our ocean resources.**