

**California MLPA Initiative**  
**MLPA North Coast Study Region: Round 2 Evaluations**  
**Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in Sapphire Draft MPA Proposal 2**  
*Document Created: June 17, 2010*

**Table 1. Summary of MPAs by Designation for Sapphire Draft MPA Proposal 2**

| Type of MPA <sup>a</sup>                       | # of MPAs | Area (mi <sup>2</sup> ) | % of Study Region |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| State Marine Reserve (SMR)                     | 3         | 28.71                   | 2.8%              |
| State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA) | 1         | 0.65                    | 0.1%              |
| State Marine Park (SMP)                        | 1         | 0.16                    | <0.1%             |
| State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)          | 9         | 99.97                   | 9.7%              |
| <b>All MPAs combined</b>                       | <b>14</b> | <b>129.49</b>           | <b>12.6%</b>      |

<sup>a</sup> These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT). SMRMA is not an MPA designation, but rather a marine managed area designation.

**Table 2. Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for Sapphire Draft MPA Proposal 2**

| Level of Protection (LOP) | # of MPAs | Area (mi <sup>2</sup> ) | % of Study Region |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Very High <sup>b</sup>    | 3         | 28.71                   | 2.8%              |
| High                      | 0         | 0.00                    | 0.0%              |
| Moderate-High             | 2         | 29.58                   | 2.9%              |
| Moderate                  | 0         | 0.00                    | 0.0%              |
| Low <sup>c</sup>          | 0         | 0.00                    | 0.0%              |
| Undetermined <sup>d</sup> | 9         | 71.20                   | 6.9%              |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>14</b> | <b>129.49</b>           | <b>12.6%</b>      |

<sup>b</sup> The "Very High" category includes MPAs with SMR designation, as well as SMRMA designations that do not propose tribal uses.

<sup>c</sup> The "Low" category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low and low level of protection.

<sup>d</sup> The "Undetermined" category includes MPAs that propose traditional, non-commercial, tribal uses, but do not identify the species and gear types. These MPAs may or may not have additional proposed allowed uses.

**Table 3. Individual MPAs in Sapphire Draft MPA Proposal 2**

| MPA Name                              | Size <sup>e</sup> (mi <sup>2</sup> ) | Alongshore Span <sup>f</sup> (mi) | Depth Range <sup>g</sup> (ft) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pyramid Point SMCA <sup>h</sup>       | 16.26                                | 3.5                               | 0 - 124                       |
| Wilson Rock SMCA <sup>h</sup>         | 11.65                                | 2.6                               | 0 - 121                       |
| Reading Rock SMCA <sup>h</sup>        | 24.11                                | 2.9                               | 0 - 252                       |
| South Humboldt Bay SMRMA <sup>h</sup> | 0.65                                 | N/A                               | Depth data not available      |
| South Cape Mendocino SMR              | 10.49                                | 1.6                               | 0 - 277                       |
| Mattole Canyon Offshore SMR           | 11.24                                | 3.5                               | 41 - 1646                     |
| Petrolia Lighthouse SMCA <sup>h</sup> | 15.57                                | 3.3                               | 0 - 375                       |
| Big Flat SMCA                         | 15.76                                | 3.4                               | 0 - 1110                      |
| Vizcaino SMCA                         | 13.82                                | 3.7                               | 0 - 370                       |
| Ten Mile SMR                          | 6.98                                 | 2.3                               | 78 - 335                      |
| Ten Mile SMCA <sup>h</sup>            | 2.06                                 | 2.3                               | 0 - 92                        |
| Ten Mile Estuary SMCA <sup>h</sup>    | 0.19                                 | N/A                               | Depth data not available      |
| Point Cabrillo SMCA                   | 0.54                                 | 1.0                               | 0 - 76                        |
| Big River Estuary SMP <sup>h</sup>    | 0.16                                 | N/A                               | Depth data not available      |

<sup>e</sup> Size is measured in square statute miles.

<sup>f</sup> Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other, roughly paralleling the coastline. An alongshore span is not calculated for estuarine MPAs

<sup>g</sup> Comprehensive bathymetric data for all estuaries is not available. Though bathymetric data do exist in portions of some estuaries, depth ranges are not provided for estuarine MPAs for consistency in evaluations.

<sup>h</sup> Tribal uses are proposed in this MPA.

**Table 4. Habitat Representation in Sapphire Draft MPA Proposal 2**

| Habitat <sup>i</sup>   | SMR  |     | SMRMA |     | SMP  |     | SMCA  |     | Total MPAs |     |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|------------|-----|
|                        | Area | %   | Area  | %   | Area | %   | Area  | %   | Area       | %   |
| Intertidal             |      |     |       |     |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| Sandy or gravel beach* | 0.74 | <1% | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00 | 0%  | 16.19 | 9%  | 16.92      | 9%  |
| Rocky shores*          | 1.10 | 1%  | 0.27  | <1% | 0.44 | <1% | 16.45 | 10% | 18.27      | 11% |
| Hardened shores*       | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00       | 0%  |
| Coastal marsh*         | 0.00 | 0%  | 1.51  | 2%  | 3.44 | 4%  | 2.30  | 3%  | 7.25       | 8%  |
| Coastal marsh          | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.04  | 1%  | 0.03 | 1%  | 0.05  | 1%  | 0.12       | 3%  |
| Tidal flats*           | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.12  | <1% | 0.01 | <1% | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.13       | <1% |
| Seagrass beds          |      |     |       |     |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| Humboldt Eelgrass      | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.06  | 1%  | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.06       | 1%  |

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| Habitat <sup>i</sup>                       | SMR   |     | SMRMA |    | SMP  |     | SMCA  |     | Total MPAs |     |
|--|-------|-----|-------|----|------|-----|-------|-----|------------|-----|
|  | Area  | %   | Area  | %  | Area | %   | Area  | %   | Area       | %   |
| Estuarine                                  |       |     |       |    |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| Estuary                                    | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.65  | 2% | 0.16 | <1% | 0.19  | <1% | 1.00       | 2%  |
| Hard bottom                                |       |     |       |    |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| 0-30 meters proxy (original) <sup>*j</sup> | 0.74  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 4.02  | 7%  | 4.76       | 9%  |
| 0-30 meters proxy (revised) <sup>*j</sup>  | 0.66  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 3.68  | 8%  | 4.34       | 9%  |
| 15 meter isobath <sup>*j</sup>             | 0.80  | 2%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 4.41  | 9%  | 5.22       | 10% |
| 0-30 meters <sup>j</sup>                   | 0.55  | 2%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 2.58  | 8%  | 3.13       | 10% |
| 30-100 meters                              | 3.73  | 11% | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 4.29  | 13% | 8.02       | 24% |
| 100-200 meters                             | 0.13  | 19% | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.13  | 19% | 0.26       | 38% |
| >200 meters                                | 0.02  | 28% | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.01  | 14% | 0.03       | 42% |
| Soft bottom                                |       |     |       |    |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| 0-30 meters proxy (original) <sup>*j</sup> | 1.62  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 19.48 | 11% | 21.10      | 12% |
| 0-30 meters proxy (revised) <sup>*j</sup>  | 1.70  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 19.82 | 11% | 21.52      | 12% |
| 15 meter isobath <sup>*j</sup>             | 2.11  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 19.72 | 11% | 21.84      | 12% |
| 0-30 meters <sup>j</sup>                   | 2.08  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 33.88 | 11% | 35.97      | 12% |
| 30-100 meters                              | 17.66 | 4%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 43.69 | 10% | 61.35      | 13% |
| 100-200 meters                             | 1.95  | 3%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 6.35  | 10% | 8.30       | 13% |
| >200 meters                                | 1.57  | 20% | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.59  | 8%  | 2.16       | 28% |
| Unknown                                    |       |     |       |    |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| 0-30 meters                                | 1.01  | 1%  | 0.65  | 1% | 0.16 | 0%  | 8.14  | 6%  | 9.96       | 8%  |
| 30-100 meters                              | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.30  | 10% | 0.30       | 10% |
| 100-200 meters                             | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00       | 0%  |
| >200 meters                                | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00       | 0%  |
| Other                                      |       |     |       |    |      |     |       |     |            |     |
| Offshore rocks <sup>*</sup>                | 0.63  | 1%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 5.86  | 11% | 6.49       | 12% |
| Canyon                                     | 1.48  | 19% | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 0.67  | 9%  | 2.15       | 28% |
| Linear kelp <sup>*</sup>                   | 0.00  | 0%  | 0.00  | 0% | 0.00 | 0%  | 3.85  | 7%  | 3.85       | 7%  |

<sup>i</sup> Habitats are measured as an area (mi<sup>2</sup>) except for those with a \* notation. Habitats with a \* notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

<sup>j</sup> Four measurements for hard and soft substrate within the 0-30 meter zone have been included here for reference. The MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) Habitat Work Group is recommending to the full SAT that the revised 0-30 meter proxy line is most appropriate measure for use in the habitat analyses; this approach will be discussed at the June 29-30, 2010 SAT meeting.