

# Key Players in the California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

## Blue Ribbon Task Force

- Composed of distinguished and knowledgeable public leaders
- Appointed by the secretary of the California Resources Agency
- Oversees regional projects to develop alternative MPA proposals, with the aid of a group of contractors and staff (commonly referred to as the I-Team)
- Provides direction for expenditure of Marine Life Protection Act Initiative funds
- Resolves policy disputes and helps ensure objectives are met
- Makes recommendations for regional marine protected area (MPA) proposals to the California Fish and Game Commission

## Master Plan Science Advisory Team

- Composed of scientists knowledgeable in marine ecology, fisheries science, MPAs, economics, and social sciences
- Appointed by the director of the California Department of Fish and Game
- Evaluates draft MPA proposals (based on master plan guidance), and addresses scientific issues and questions raised by the task force or stakeholders
- Advises regional stakeholder group and task force in developing scientifically sound MPA proposals

## Regional Stakeholder Group

- Composed of individuals that provide local expertise and stakeholder legitimacy
- Appointed by the chair of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and the director of the California Department of Fish and Game
- Develops MPA proposals and helps conduct outreach to constituent groups and members of the public

## Statewide Interests Group

- Composed of individuals that provide a statewide perspective
- Appointed by the executive director of the MLPA Initiative in consultation with the chair of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force
- Assists the task force in communicating with stakeholders and the public on a statewide basis regarding MLPA implementation and provide process advise

## California Department of Fish and Game

- Lead agency implementing master plan for MPAs
- Provides biological and management expertise and input to the process
- Implements California Marine Life Protection Program

## California Fish and Game Commission

- Decision-making body under the Marine Life Protection Act
- Initiates California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review of proposed marine protected areas (MPAs) and enforcement of existing MPAs