

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Update on MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) Activities

Presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

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April 22, 2008, BRTF • San Rafael, CA



SAT Meetings

Prior Meetings -

- June 26, 2007
- August 16, 2007
- September 17, 2007
- October 1, 2007
- November 13, 2007
- January 8, 2008
- January 23, 2008
- **April 3, 2008 - update**

Upcoming Meeting -

- May 30, 2008



April 3, 2008 SAT Meeting Agenda

- Species likely to benefit from MPAs
- SAT evaluation methods
- Review of SAT evaluation of NCCRSG MPA proposals
- Review of modeling results (NCCRSG proposals)
- Science questions



Species Likely to Benefit List

Added new species to list for north central coast:

- Barred surfperch

Discussed these species, but decided not to add to list of species likely to benefit:

- Flat abalone
- Northern abalone
- White shark



SAT Evaluation Methods

Review of SAT portion of Evaluation Methods document

- Level of Protection (LOP)
 - Discussed how to operationalize salmon trolling in <50m
 - Included pelagic finfish (hook and line) within the High (at >50m depth) and Mod/High (at <50m depth) LOP
 - Assigned depth rule to coastal pelagic finfish (pelagic seine)
 - Croaker by any hook and line method and smelt by any hook and line method and hand/dip nets assigned “Moderate”
- Mariculture
 - Discussed revisions to document text on mariculture based on new information received
 - Retained existing level of protection assignment for mariculture (using existing methods)
- Socioeconomics
 - Discussed incorporating some text revisions on Ecotrust analysis



Levels of Protection

	Level of Protection	MPA Types	Activities associated with this protection level
	Very high	SMR	No take
	High	SMCA	In water depth > 50m: pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by troll only); coastal pelagic finfish by seine
	Moderate-high	SMCA	In water depth < 50m: pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by troll only); coastal pelagic finfish by seine ; Dungeness crab (traps/pots), squid (pelagic seine)
	Moderate	SMCA SMP	salmon (non-troll H&L); abalone (diving); halibut, white seabass, shore-based finfish, croaker , and flatfishes (H&L); smelt (H&L and hand/dip nets) ; clams (hand harvest); giant kelp (hand harvest)
	Moderate-low	SMCA SMP	Urchin (diving); lingcod, cabezon, greenling, rockfish, and other reef fish (H&L); surfperches (H&L)
	Low	SMCA SMP	bull kelp and mussels (any method); all trawling; giant kelp (mechanical harvest); mariculture (existing methods)



SAT Evaluation of NCCRSG Proposals

SAT reviewed presentations on evaluations of:

- Habitat Representation & Replication (Goals 1 and 4)
- Size and Spacing (Goals 2 and 6)
- Marine Birds and Mammals (Goal 2)
- Socioeconomics



SAT Modeling Work Group

- SAT reviewed presentations and synthesis document on results of using two models to evaluate NCCRSG MPA proposals:
 - Equilibrium Delay-difference Optimization Model (Costello, Walters, Hilborn)
 - Population Sustainability and Yield Model (Botsford)
- Discussed work group recommendations to BRTF on use of models for planning and evaluation



Science Questions

- SAT approved responses to final science questions from NCCRSG
- SAT discussed some potential MLPA South Coast Study Region science questions



Next Steps

- Finalize evaluation methods document
- Finalize SAT evaluations of north central coast proposals forwarded to the California Fish and Game Commission, as needed
- Department of Fish and Game director has asked current SAT members about their interest in serving on the SAT for south coast