

Key Outcomes Memorandum

Date: June 4, 2007

To: Members, MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

From: Scott McCreary and Eric Poncelet, CONCUR, Inc.

Re: Key Outcomes Memorandum – May 22-23, 2007 Meeting

cc: MLPA Initiative Staff and California Department of Fish and Game MLPA Staff

Executive Summary – Key Outcomes

On May 22-23, 2007, the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCCRSG) participated in its kick-off meeting in San Rafael, CA. **Key outcomes** from the meeting are as follows:

- NCCRSG members unanimously adopted ground rules. Two ground rules were added in discussion: one on the participation of agency representatives, and one on developing appropriate response to public comments. This discussion was informed by a presentation by CONCUR on the results of the stakeholder assessment.
- I-Team staff provided an overview of the NCCRSG's roles, charge, and workplan. NCCRSG members expressed strong support for approaching the development of MPA proposals in a deliberate, step-wise fashion. NCCRSG members broadly agreed that the group should digest scientific and socioeconomic information on the north central coast study region and relevant MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) size and spacing guidelines for developing marine protected areas (MPAs) before beginning to "draw lines on maps."
- Senior officials from the California Resources Agency and the California Fish and Game Commission offered encouragement to the NCCRSG and guidance to develop MPA proposals that are scientifically based and integrative of multiple stakeholder interests.
- I-Team staff introduced the draft *Regional Profile of the North Central Coast Study Region (Alder Creek/Point Arena to Pigeon Point, California)*. NCCRSG members offered some initial comments. Significant portions of the next two NCCRSG meetings will be devoted to continued "joint fact finding" to improve baseline information that will inform the NCCRSG's deliberations.
- I-Team staff provided guidance to the NCCRSG for developing regional goals and objectives for the north central coast study region. I-Team staff presented the regional goals and objectives adopted for the central coast study region as a strong starting point. NCCRSG members expressed support for a streamlined approach to goals and objectives development and agreed to tackle that task at the next meeting.
- NCCRSG members participated in two breakout session activities to become better acquainted with each other's interests, hopes, concerns, and knowledge of the region.
- NCCRSG members representing federal, state, and local agencies described their anticipated role and engagement in the north central coast process.

Key **next steps** are listed in section III below.

I. Meeting Objectives, Participants and Materials

On May 22-23, 2007, the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCCRSG) participated in a meeting in San Rafael, CA. This Key Outcomes Memorandum summarizes the meeting's main results.

The primary objectives of the meeting were to:

- 1) Review project goals, NCCRSG charge, and work plan
- 2) Review and adopt NCCRSG ground rules
- 3) Review key findings of the stakeholder assessment and implications for the north central coast process
- 4) Initiate review of the draft regional profile; and
- 5) Outline preparations for the second NCCRSG meeting

Twenty-one NCCRSG primary members and ten alternate members participated in the meeting.

MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) members Meg Caldwell and Don Benninghoven participated in the meeting. Assistant Secretary Brian Baird attended on behalf of the California Resources Agency, and President Richard Rogers attended on behalf of the California Fish and Game Commission.

MLPA Initiative and California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) staff—collectively known as the “I-Team”—staffed the meeting.

Meeting materials may be found on the MLPA website at:
http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/meeting_052207.html

II. Key Outcomes

A. Ground Rules Reviewed, Revised, and Adopted

NCCRSG members reviewed, discussed, revised, and adopted a set of ground rules to guide NCCRSG interaction and meetings. The adopted ground rules are attached as Attachment 1.

This discussion built on a presentation by CONCUR of the main findings and crosscutting themes from the stakeholder assessment.

NCCRSG members adopted the ground rules with the following four revisions:

- Added a new ground rule section on “Participation of Federal, State and Local Agencies.” The revised text reads: “Given the significant portion of the north central coast study region that is under the jurisdiction of federal, state, and local agencies, the active participation of these agencies is welcome and encouraged in the north central coast process.” This text addressed NCCRSG member concerns that agency members participate actively throughout the NCCRSG process. [Note: NCCRSG members were also concerned that agency representatives be clear and forthcoming about their role and participation in the NCCRSG process. Key outcomes from this discussion are presented below in Section II.F.]

- Added a new bullet to the section on “Public Comment.” The revised text reads: “The MLPA Initiative Team will respond as appropriate to questions and suggestions posed in public comment portions of NCCRSG meetings.” This text responded to NCCRSG recommendations that I-Team staff respond, where possible and appropriate, to public comments made. I-Team staff also encouraged the public to communicate their comments and questions through the NCCRSG members. [Note: for future meetings, I-Team staff will also make a staff person available to the public to address clarifying questions.]
- Defined “consensus” in the section on “Decision Rules” as “broad based agreement”.
- Replaced “packages” in the phrase “alternative MPA packages” with the term “proposals” (global change).

B. Project Background: Review of NCCRSG Roles, Charge, History, and Workplan

1. NCCRSG charge

I-Team staff presented an overview of the roles, responsibilities, and charge of the NCCRSG. This included an overview of the anticipated process for developing alternative MPA proposals. I-Team staff also reviewed the history of past efforts to implement the MLPA.

2. Workplan and schedule

I-Team members outlined the workplan and schedule by which the NCCRSG will accomplish its charge. The most up-to-date schedule of NCCRSG meetings, which also includes anticipated MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) and BRTF meeting dates, is attached as Attachment 2. Key NCCRSG meeting dates include the following:

NCCRSG Meeting Dates	Key Objectives and Milestones
July 10-11, 2007	Joint fact finding and review/adoption of regional goals and objectives
August 22-23, 2007	Joint fact finding and training on tools
October 16-17, 2007	Presentation and discussion of MPA proposals (iteration 1)
December 11-12, 2007	Presentation and discussion of MPA proposals (iteration 2)
February 6-7, 2008	Presentation and discussion of MPA proposals (iteration 3)
May 14-15, 2008 (if needed)	Review and comment on BRTF preferred alternative

NCCRSG members reviewed the workplan and acknowledged the logical sequence of moving from project orientation to joint fact-finding and tools training, and then to the iterative development of MPA proposals, culminating in the presentation of alternative MPAs to the BRTF in March 2008.

NCCRSG members expressed strong support for the sequence of events and, in particular, for the group to first become familiar with the north central coast regional profile and the SAT’s guidance for MPA development before beginning to “draw lines on maps.”

3. Questions and clarifications

Throughout the meeting, NCCRSO members asked clarifying questions regarding the NCCRSO's role and charge. Key clarifications offered by the I-Team include the following:

- a. How will issues as water quality, socioeconomic impact, and fisheries regulations be addressed in the NCCRSO process?
 - Members of the I-Team noted that the NCCRSO is expected to take all of these issues, including applicable regulations, into consideration in its deliberations. Information on all three issues will be addressed in the regional profile. The NCCRSO will also have the opportunity to address these issues in developing regional goals and objectives as well as design and implementation considerations for the north central coast study region. Additionally, the NCCRSO may choose to make recommendations on these issues to decision-making bodies as it completes its deliberations. The I-Team clarified that the MLPA is focused on ecosystem management rather than management of individual species, and that the MLPA presumes that MPAs provide ecosystem benefits independent of fishing regulations.
- b. Will the SAT revisit the science guidelines established for the central coast study region?
 - I-Team staff clarified that the science guidelines in the *California MLPA Master Plan for Marine Protected Areas* will guide the north central coast process and that the SAT will not be asked to do a wholesale revision of the guidelines for the north central coast process. The SAT will be asked to comment primarily in two areas:
 - 1) What regional ecological or oceanographic differences exist between the central coast and north central coast study regions that might have implications for the science guidelines?
 - 2) What new science has become available that might require changes in the guidelines?
- c. What is the working definition of "network"?
 - I-Team staff noted that additional definition is provided in the master plan. The I-Team will make this available to NCCRSO members in advance of their next meeting.
- d. Can the NCCRSO work toward producing a consensus based MPA proposal given the NCCRSO's charge to present the BRTF with alternative MPA proposals?
 - I-Team staff clarified that the charge of the NCCRSO is to produce alternative MPA proposals for the BRTF. This does not preclude the NCCRSO from expressing a strong preference around one alternative.
- e. What assurances are there that the adaptive management component of the project will be funded?
 - I-Team staff clarified that such funding decisions are in the hands of the California legislature and governor. The MLPA also states that the act will be implemented to the extent that funding is available.
- f. Will it be possible to bring in other software and analytical tools to support the MPA development process in addition to the regional profile, data layers, and decision support tool currently under development by the I-Team? Among the key tools mentioned were MARXAN, a "consensus mapping" approach, and Oceana's analysis of key areas of biological significance.

- I-Team staff expressed willingness to explore some of these tools. I-Team staff reminded NCCRSG members that use of such tools would need to be balanced with the project's time constraints as well as other potential challenges inherent in introducing additional complex elements to the NCCRSG process; these include the functionality of the tools, the ease of providing NCCRSG members with an orientation, and the ability of the tools to reflect the critical decision rules that guide the MLPA process. I-Team staff reiterated their commitment to having the MPA development process be as transparent as possible.

C. Guidance from Senior Officials at the California Resources Agency and the California Fish and Game Commission

Brian Baird, assistant secretary for ocean and coastal policy at the California Resources Agency, made several comments on behalf of Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman. Assistant Secretary Baird underscored the national significance of the MLPA Initiative and the north central coast process. He thanked NCCRSG members for their commitment and emphasized the importance of developing MPA proposals that are both "fair" and "scientifically valid."

Richard Rogers, president of the California Fish and Game Commission, emphasized the NCCRSG's opportunity to help return the ocean to "a state of sustainable abundance" that benefits consumptive and non-consumptive users alike. President Rogers acknowledged the extraordinary effort being asked of NCCRSG members and noted that the commission looks forward to the results of another successful regional stakeholder group process.

D. Introduction to Draft Regional Profile for the North Central Coast Study Region

I-Team staff presented the draft *Regional Profile for the North Central Coast Study Region (Alder Creek/Point Arena to Pigeon Point, California)*.

1. Request for review, and review schedule

I-Team staff clarified that the regional profile is a "living document." Initial public comments have been requested by June 20, 2007. It is expected that the NCCRSG will continue to review and propose revisions to the regional profile in a "joint fact finding" capacity at its July 10-11 and August 22-23, 2007 meetings. The goal is to complete revisions to the document by the end of summer 2007, in advance of initial NCCRSG work to develop MPA proposals.

In advance of the July 10-11, 2007 NCCRSG meeting, I-Team staff requested that NCCRSG members review the draft regional profile with an eye toward providing the following types of information:

- What information needs to be added to the regional profile?
- What additional sources of information are available?
- Editorial comments

2. Initial NCCRSG comments on draft regional profile

NCCRSG members asked a number of clarifying questions and offered some initial comments on the draft regional profile. Key among these comments were the following:

- NCCRSG members identified several areas requiring additional data (e.g., oceanographic information, information on the MPAs adopted in the central coast study region).
- Several NCCRSG members requested that SAT review the draft regional profile. I-Team staff confirmed that this would take place.
- Several NCCRSG members noted that while it makes sense to organize the north central coast study region into “sub-regions” for display in the regional profile, these “sub-regions” should not be used in the evaluation of MPA proposals.
- Several NCCRSG members noted that the format and structure used to present information in the regional profile will influence how the data get interpreted. These members requested that the regional profile be reviewed with an eye toward ensuring that it is presenting data in a value-neutral way. This may be addressed by added appropriate caveats and clarifications to particular presentations of data.

E. Introduction to Regional Goals and Objectives

I-Team staff presented a summary of the regional goals and objectives adopted as part of the central coast project. I-Team staff reminded NCCRSG members that one task of the group is to recommend regional goals and objectives for the north central coast study region.

1. Guidance for developing north central coast regional goals and objectives

I-Team staff provided the following guidance to the NCCRSG to inform the development of regional goals and objectives for the north central coast study region:

- Use the adopted regional goals and objectives from the central coast study region as a strong starting point.
- Anticipate that the central coast regional goals and objectives will require some revision, and consider how to tailor them to the north central coast study region, with a particular focus on the unique ecology, socioeconomics, and geography of the study region.
- A key lesson learned from the central coast process was that while regional goals and objectives play an important role in adaptive management of MPAs, they were less central in informing the design of alternative MPA proposals. The design of MPA proposals is informed more by scientific guidelines (e.g., on MPA size and spacing) developed by the SAT. As such, development of regional goals and objectives is worth a moderate but not large time investment. I-Team staff advised that the appropriate time investment for developing regional goals was probably a portion of one meeting. NCCRSG members who had served on the MLPA Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group reflected that the NCCRSG would be wise to streamline the lengthy process used in the central coast.

2. Next steps

NCCRSG members will discuss north central coast regional goals and objectives at their July 10-11, 2007 meeting. NCCRSG members should prepare by reviewing the central coast regional goals and objectives with the above guidance in mind. The expectation is to discuss, revise, and adopt a set of regional goals and objectives for the north central coast at the July 10-11, 2007 meeting.

F. Role of Agency Participants

Representatives of several federal, state, and local agencies serve on the NCCRSG. Given the respective differences in agency mandate and organization, there will be some corresponding variation in the way these members choose to engage in the NCCRSG process.

Recognizing that variation, several stakeholder group members requested that NCCRSG agency representatives strive to be clear on the role they will play in the NCCRSG process. In particular, they requested that agency representatives clarify:

- whether they will be speaking from their agencies' formal perspectives or whether they might, in some instances, weigh in based their own expertise and professional experience;
- their views and positions on particular MPA proposals; and
- whether they intend to vote as a way of expressing preferences with regard to alternative MPA proposals.

All of the agency representatives acknowledged the importance of sharing information and their agencies' views throughout the process of developing alternative MPA proposals. I-Team staff confirmed that this was required by the adopted ground rules. One such rule requires NCCRSG members "to share, and not withhold, relevant information to inform the revision of the *Regional Profile of the North Central Coast Study Region (Alder Creek/Point Arena to Pigeon Point, California)* and the identification of candidate MPAs."

Some agency representatives also pointed out that their agencies may be required to comment on the outcomes of the NCCRSG's efforts as part of the rule-making process.

G. Breakout Sessions

NCCRSG members participated in two breakout sessions intended as both an "icebreaker" and as an information-gathering tool. The first focused on sharing interests and expertise in the north central coast study region. The second focused on sharing hopes and concerns for the north central coast process as well as possible ways to address these concerns.

NCCRSG members got to know each other better through these activities. Collectively, NCCRSG members bring a base of knowledge and experience that extends throughout the study region. There was also significant overlap in the interests, hopes, and concerns expressed by NCCRSG members.

A table summarizing NCCRSG member interests in and uses of the ocean in the study region, and the geographic areas they are most familiar with is attached as Attachment 3.

H. Project Logistics

1. Reimbursement Procedures

I-Team staff reminded NCCRSG members that they will be reimbursed for travel and lodging associated with NCCRSG meetings. NCCRSG members are to keep their receipts and submit the formal reimbursements forms directly to the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation.

2. Dissemination of meeting materials

I-Team staff noted that meeting materials are available in multiple formats, (i.e., hard copy, emailed electronic files, electronic files on CDs) and asked NCCRSG members to indicate which form they prefer.

All NCCRSG members (primaries and alternates) will be added to the NCCRSG listserv. This listserv will be the primary communications tool for the NCCRSG.

I. Public comment

Members of the public provided comment and asked clarifying questions during two separate public comment periods. Comments were focused on the topics of: NCCRSG representation and appointments, potential spillover effects of MPAs, responding to lessons learned from the central coast process, and building baseline information to support the north central coast process. Consistent with a newly adopted ground rule, the I-Team will respond to public comments as appropriate.

J. Objectives for NCCRSG Meeting #2

The next NCCRSG meeting is scheduled to take place on July 10-11, 2007 in the southern part of the study region (location to be determined). The main objectives for the meeting are to:

- Introduce any newly appointed alternate NCCRSG members as well as the SAT and science sub-team
- Review the draft regional profile and conduct joint fact finding to further strengthen the document
- Using the central coast regional goals and objectives as a starting point, develop and adopt north central coast regional goals and objectives.
- Conduct informational presentations (e.g., oceanography, biology/habitats, fisheries and fishing)
- Present guidelines for developing MPA proposals (e.g., MLPA SAT guidelines, DFG feasibility guidelines)
- Review other information needs and the applicability of additional support tools

III. Recap of Next Steps

A. Key next steps for NCCRSG members

1. Indicate the form in which they wish to receive their meeting materials (i.e., hard copy, emailed electronic files, electronic files on CDs).
2. Review the adopted central coast regional goals and objectives (including design and implementation considerations) and with an eye toward revising them for the north central coast region.
3. Review and propose revisions to the draft regional profile for the north central coast study region. Consider:
 - What information needs to be added to the regional profile?
 - What additional sources of information are available?
 - Editorial comments

B. Key next steps for I-Team staff

1. Transmit a copy of the adopted ground rules to the NCCRSG (attached).
2. Work with the director of DFG and the chair of the BRTF to appoint the remaining NCCRSG alternate members as well as the members of the SAT. Establish the science sub-team.
3. Organize presentations for the next NCCRSG meeting. Potential topics include: oceanographic information, biology/habitat/(including marine mammals and sea birds), and fisheries/fishing.
4. Prepare materials for next NCCRSG meeting. Key materials to include:
 - Description/definition of “network” from MLPA master plan
 - Summary of concurrent MPA processes
 - Example of regulatory language
 - Summary of MPAs adopted in the northern portion of the central coast study region
 - Summary of comments received on the draft regional profile

Attachments

1. Adopted NCCRSG ground rules (May 22, 2007)
2. NCCRSG proposed meeting schedule (May 31, 2007 draft)
3. Summary of NCCRSG member interests and expertise

Final Ground Rules

North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

(Revised and adopted by MLPA NCCRS, May 22, 2007)

The following ground rules have been informed by confidential interviews conducted with a cross section of the nominees for the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCCRS), including nearly all of the appointed north central coast (NCC) primary members, as well as CONCUR's professional experience. These ground rules are intended to foster and reinforce constructive interaction and deliberation among NCCRS members; they emphasize clear communication, trust building, respect for divergent views, creative thinking, collaborative problem solving, and the pursuit of mutual gains. The NCCRS may decide to reconsider and revise these ground rules if they appear not to be serving the NCCRS process.

Representation

- **NCCRS recruitment and selection.** NCCRS members have been appointed by the director of the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the chair of the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative Blue Ribbon Task Force. Taken together, appointments were made to achieve a diversity of stakeholder perspectives, expertise, and geography. NCCRS members were appointed based on their match with the following selection criteria:
 - Able to bring first hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region
 - Able to balance a north central coast regional perspective with localized knowledge
 - Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more important stakeholder groups
 - Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of a broad range of constituencies
 - Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings
 - Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the NCCRS
- **Checking back with constituencies.** NCCRS members have been recruited based upon their ability to ably represent the views of one or more important constituencies. NCCRS members commit to: making themselves available to communicate with interested stakeholder constituents, keeping their constituencies informed of the NCCRS's efforts, and reporting relevant feedback to the NCCRS. In reporting back, NCCRS members will strive to integrate the views of their constituency rather than resorting to a "lowest common denominator" portrayal. In checking back with their constituencies, NCCRS members will seek to avoid prejudging preliminary proposals still in development by the NCCRS.
- **Seating of primary participants.** During NCCRS meetings, the following participants will be seated at the main table: primary NCCRS members, the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) liaison, NCC Science Sub-Team members in attendance, lead MLPA Initiative and DFG staff, and project facilitators. NCCRS alternates, other staff, and members of the public will be seated nearby.

Participation and Collaboration

- **Primary and alternate NCCRS members.**
 - Primary NCCRS members will make every effort to attend all of the NCCRS meetings. Alternate members are also strongly encouraged to attend all meetings.
 - Primary NCCRS members will work with their alternates to ensure that they are informed regarding NCCRS deliberations. This will enable alternates to step in effectively as needed and keep the project from “backsliding.” Primary and alternate members are encouraged to confer in advance of the meetings or during meeting breaks. They are also encouraged to confer with their broader constituencies at these times.
 - Discussion at NCCRS meetings will principally involve primary NCCRS members, members of the NCC Science Sub-Team, and MLPA Initiative and DFG staff. Primary members may call upon their alternates to address issues outside of their areas of expertise. At their discretion, meeting facilitators may call upon alternate members. Alternate members are encouraged to actively participate in breakout sessions.
- **Active, focused participation.** Every participant is responsible for communicating his/her perspectives and interests on the issues under consideration. Voicing these perspectives is essential to enable meaningful dialogue. Everyone will participate; no one will dominate. Only one person will speak at a time. Everyone will help keep the meetings on track.
- **Respectful interaction.** Participants will respect each other’s personal integrity, values and legitimacy of interests. Participants will avoid personal attacks and stereotyping.
- **Integration and creative thinking.** In developing, reviewing and revising work products, participants will strive to be open-minded and to integrate each other’s ideas, perspectives and interests. Disagreements will be regarded as problems to be solved rather than battles to be won. Participants will attempt to reframe contentious issues and offer creative solutions to enable constructive dialogue.
- **Mutual gains approach.** Participants will work to satisfy not only their own interests but also those of other NCCRS members. Participants are encouraged to be clear about their own interests and to recognize the important distinction between underlying interests and fixed positions.
- **Commitment to ground rules.** As a set of mutual obligations, NCCRS members will commit to adhere to these ground rules once they are ratified. NCCRS members are encouraged to help uphold and enforce these ground rules. If an NCCRS member consistently deviates from these ground rules, that member may be replaced by another person upon confirmation by the director of DFG and the chair of the BRTF.

Participation of Federal, State and Local Agencies

- Given the significant portion of the north central coast study region that is under the jurisdiction of federal, state, and local agencies, the active participation of these agencies is welcome and encouraged in the north central coast process.

Commitment to process

- Participants will make a good faith effort to achieving the goals of the project on the schedule proposed.
- Participants will review meeting materials in advance of the meetings and come prepared to address the meeting objectives.
- Meetings will start on time. Participants who know that they will be absent, late, or have to leave early will inform project staff in advance and coordinate with their alternates as needed.
- Cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices will be turned off or set to “silent” mode.

Identifying and Considering Alternative MPA Proposals

- The North Central Coast Project has been structured to allow time for developing and deliberating multiple alternative MPA proposals. This process will be an iterative one, with time allocated for SAT, BRTF and public review.
- NCCRSG members will be open to proposals from other NCCRSG members or from others outside the NCCRSG.
- As part of their work, NCCRSG members will strive to identify and consider alternative MPA proposals. NCCRSG members will consider, using best readily available science and information, how each alternative proposal satisfies the goals and objectives established for the MLPA North Central Coast Study Region. The result of this deliberation is intended to allow the BRTF, DFG, and the California Fish and Game Commission to understand how the alternative proposals identified will satisfy the Marine Life Protection Act.
- The NCCRSG facilitation team will seek to foster approaches to meeting management, and to the identification and consideration of alternative MPA proposals, which maximize joint gains and mutual benefit, and also optimize efficiency.

NCCRSG Decision Rules

- NCCRSG members recognize the need to make simple process agreements to move the effort forward. NCCRSG facilitators may use “straw votes” to track progress and help the group arrive at short-term decisions to propel the process forward in an efficient fashion.
- NCCRSG members will strive to achieve a high level of consensus (i.e., broad based agreement) in developing and advancing alternative proposals for MPAs. The intent here is to strive for MPA proposals that earn broad support across NCCRSG members’

interests, not to accord NCCRSG members a “de facto” veto on substantive issues. The objection of a few NCCRSG members will not be grounds to impede movement.

Cooperation with North Central Coast Science Sub-Team (Science Sub-Team)

- NCCRSG members will work cooperatively with the Science Sub-Team in developing options and work products. The Science Sub-Team will assist the NCCRSG by reviewing draft documents, addressing scientific issues and information provided by the NCCRSG, and helping to frame and refer policy challenges to the BRTF. At their discretion, MLPA Initiative and DFG staff may plan for joint meetings or work sessions of the SAT or Science Sub-Team and the NCCRSG.

Briefings to the BRTF

- NCCRSG members will have an opportunity to present focused briefings on the progress of MPA proposal development to the BRTF. The BRTF is expected to provide feedback on draft MPA proposals for consideration by the NCCRSG.

Multi-interest Work Teams

- DFG and MLPA Initiative staff expect that cross-interest group work teams will be an essential way to develop constructive, integrative work products during and between NCCRSG meetings. The aim of such work teams is to encourage multi-interest options and work products rather than work products put forward by a single bloc or interest group. It is anticipated that work teams will meet primarily by teleconference, although in-person meetings are encouraged.
- Work teams will be composed to include appropriate expertise and balance of interests. To the extent possible, work teams will be composed of primary representatives. When a primary representative is unavailable or lacks suitable expertise, an alternate representative may be selected to serve.

Media Contact

- NCCRSG meetings are public and will be simultaneously webcast. Audio and video archives of the meetings will be available on the MLPA website a few days after each meeting.
- Media contacts regarding the project from a “big picture” perspective will be handled by MLPA Initiative and DFG staff. First contacts should go to Steve Martarano, DFG information officer at (916) 654-5866, (916) 804-1714, cell; or Melissa Miller-Henson, MLPA Initiative operations and communications manager at (916) 654-2506, cell (530) 400-2545.
- On occasion, reporters may call individual NCCRSG members for comment about a particular issue. Members who are contacted by the media will speak only on behalf of their group or constituency, or concerning the NCCRSG’s progress in the MLPA process. After commenting, please contact an MLPA communications person listed above to give them a “heads up” that a media entity is working on a story.
- NCCRSG members recognize the need to maintain a balance between providing timely information to constituents and making statements to the media that could undermine

the success of the MLPA process. NCCRSG members agree to avoid: a) making statements to the media that may prejudice the project's outcome, b) representing another group's point of view or characterizing their motives, or c) stating positions on preliminary proposals while they are still in development or refinement by work teams or by the NCCRSG.

- NCCRSG members will refer requests for additional contacts to MLPA and DFG staff listed above or the NCCRSG contact list. If needed, the NCCRSG may convene a multi-interest media subcommittee to work with MLPA Initiative and DFG staff to develop briefings for the media.
- In briefing constituents, NCCRSG members are encouraged to rely primarily on key outcomes memoranda to be produced for the meetings.

Public Comment

- Designated times at NCCRSG meetings will be agendized for public comment. Efforts will be made to hold public comment at consistent time slots and keyed to important NCCRSG work product discussions. At all other times of the meeting, comments and discussion will be only among NCCRSG members and alternates, Science Sub-Team members, and MLPA Initiative and DFG staff.
- To the extent possible, public comments will be directed toward the work effort, products, or process of the NCCRSG. Comments on subjects external to the MLPA should be directed to other forums.
- Members of the public are encouraged to convey their comments to relevant colleagues who serve as NCCRSG members or alternates. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit comments in writing (via email to MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov). Written comments will be distributed to NCCRSG members.
- Public comments may be limited to up to 3 minutes per individual speaker. The NCCRSG facilitation team will exercise flexibility in allocation of speaking time depending on the number of comments.
- The MLPA Initiative Team will respond as appropriate to questions and suggestions posed in public comment portions of NCCRSG meetings.

Information Sharing and Joint Fact Finding

- NCCRSG members recognize that the MLPA North Central Coast Project relies on using the best readily available information.
- MLPA Initiative and DFG staff intend to create multiple opportunities for data sharing and joint fact finding within the NCCRSG.
- NCCRSG members are encouraged to be as specific as possible in identifying types of information they believe will support the development of work products, including alternative proposals of marine protected areas. NCCRSG members commit to share, and not withhold, relevant information to inform the revision of the *Regional Profile of the*

North Central Coast Study Region (Alder Creek/Point Arena to Pigeon Point, California)
and the identification of candidate MPAs.

- NCCRSG work teams may develop preliminary MPA proposals, which should be regarded as tentative and not subject to broad distribution until they have been presented to the NCCRSG. Tentative information will be treated as such.
- In the event that two or more data sets or interpretations appear to conflict, participants will work collaboratively with members of the Science Sub-Team to narrow or clarify the basis of disagreement.

Role of Facilitation Team

- The NCCRSG facilitation team is non-partisan; they have no stake in any particular set of alternative MPA proposals. They will not act as an advocate for particular outcomes. The facilitators will strive to ensure that all NCCRSG members clearly articulate their respective interests and to assist members to complete their work in a well-informed and efficient fashion.
- The facilitation team will use its discretion in guiding meetings and may propose agenda adjustments. The facilitation team may also use straw voting to track a range of preferences on emerging issues.
- The NCCRSG facilitation team will prepare key outcomes memoranda to summarize the main results of the NCCRSG meetings. These key outcomes memoranda will not strive to serve as a transcript of the meetings; rather, they will endeavor to summarize key decisions made, issues discussed, and the next steps identified for moving the project forward. The facilitators will prepare key outcomes memoranda within 7-10 days of the meetings.

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
Proposed Meeting Schedule
Revised May 31, 2007**

2007

May 22-23	NCCRSG (Central - San Rafael)
<i>[June 19]</i> <i>[late June or early July]</i>	<i>[Blue Ribbon Task Force]</i> <i>[Master Plan Science Advisory Team]</i>
July 10-11	NCCRSG (South)
<i>[week of August 6]</i>	<i>[Master Plan Science Advisory Team]</i>
August 22-23	NCCRSG (North)
<i>[August-October]</i>	<i>[Joint BRTF / CA Fish and Game Commission]</i>
October 16-17	NCCRSG (Central)
<i>[November 14]</i> <i>[November 29]</i>	<i>[Master Plan Science Advisory Team]</i> <i>[Blue Ribbon Task Force]</i>
December 11-12	NCCRSG (South)

2008

<i>[January 8]</i> <i>[January 23-24]</i>	<i>[Master Plan Science Advisory Team]</i> <i>[Blue Ribbon Task Force]</i>
February 6-7	NCCRSG (North)
<i>[March 6]</i> <i>[March 26-27]</i>	<i>[Master Plan Science Advisory Team]</i> <i>[Blue Ribbon Task Force]</i>
May 14-15 (if needed)	NCCRSG (Central)
<i>[May 22 (if needed)]</i>	<i>[Blue Ribbon Task Force]</i>

Note that bracketed items are provided for informational purposes and have not yet been confirmed. In addition, the stakeholder group dates are *proposed* only have not yet been approved and finalized. Please check the MLPA website (www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa) for the most current information, including meeting agendas and materials.

California MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
 Summary Notes from May 22, 2007 Breakout Session Activity on Stakeholder Interests and Expertise
 Revised May 31, 2007

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Questions discussed:

What are your interests in and uses of the ocean in the study region?
 What geographic areas of the study region are you most familiar with?

Name	Interests	Uses	Geographic Areas
Allen, Sarah	Marine ecology (study of marine birds and mammals), foraging ecology and population dynamics, study of marine ecosystems, new discoveries (all taxa biodiversity inventory), protection of ecosystems and ways to protect, restoration of impaired resources and communication of science behind marine ecology	Scientific study of populations, ecosystem function, protect species of special interest and their habitats to perpetuate ecosystems for future generations, recreational fishing, birding, clam digging, swimming, sailing	Very detailed knowledge of coastal zones of Point Reyes and mouth of SF Bay and Farallon Islands, very good knowledge of Gulf of Farallones and up to Fort Ross
Ammerman, Dirk	Harvesting sea urchins, commercial fishing in general, ensuring a future for sea urchin fishing Rec. abalone diving, experienced w/ ARMP (abalone recovery management plan), Rec. bottom fishing, camping uses, public access points, Boating nearshore/offshore fishing and sailing, Rec. crab fishing and clamming	Harvesting sea urchins, commercial and recreational fishing Rec. public activities, beach usage and surf playing/day at the beach. Spearfishing rec. in all sub regions of NCC	Sub-region 1 and some of 2 San Mateo county to Alder Creek in Mendocino county
Bernard, Bill	Maintenance of sustainable marine ecosystems through sustainable levels of human use. Marine biology, tide pool and estuarine life, offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium protections, national marine sanctuaries.	Travel/tourism enjoyment, photography, whale watching, beach going, tide pool exploration, hiking, boating, have engaged in recreational fishing in the past, primarily during childhood and adolescent years.	Coastal waters and coastline from Golden Gate to alder creek in Mendocino County. 30-year resident of Sonoma Coast. Most familiar with waters of Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay, and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries (have served for 6+ years on the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council.
Charter, Richard	Future generations ability to experience a healthy ocean. Has fished commercially in the central region of the north-central coast for over 40 years (SF Bay to Bodega Bay), Cordell S.A.C alternate	Surfing, fishing, observing Commercial crab fishing, shrimp trawling and salmon fishing, sport fishing, abalone, salmon, rockfish. Also surf (nets) and night fishing	Knowledgeable of bottom types and species diversity of the area comparing what was there forty years ago to today. Dramatic changes have occurred in some places and others have remained un-molested
Churchman, Josh	Dungeness crab, shrimp trawling, salmon fishing, hook and line fishing	Support scientific study, physical oceanography, fisheries enhancement, training, relaxation	Halfmoon bay to Alder Pt.
Estes, Tom	By employment/choice: diving and boating. Former commercial fisherman and recreational diving. Seen human impact over the past 45-50 yrs. Would like to see broad agreement among users for balanced use and protection.		Sub region 2 and Bodega Bay/harbor

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Name	Interests	Uses	Geographic Areas
Faurot-Daniels, Ellen	Background in marine science; sea otters/nearshore ecology; marine birds and mammals. Work with marine conservation policy statewide. Knowledge of coastal environmentally sensitive sites (via oil spill response planning). From coastal commission can bring info on Critical Coastal Areas. Member of Central Coast RSG, worked on "hybrid" proposal; want to see good linking between CC and NCC. CA Coastal Commission only interested if physical access limited or prohibited	Recreation: non-consumptive diving/ kayaking, beach access, whale watching	San Mateo coast generally, although need to know SF, Marin, Sonoma counties better
Grenell, Peter	Sustainable fishing, marine habitat conservation, ocean recreation, water quality/land-based pollution, socioeconomic impacts of MPAs on fishing industry and coastal communities, MPA impacts on harbor operations, climate change	Commercial fishing, recreational fishing, surfing, recreational boating, marine research, public access	San Mateo County Coast and Coastal waters, Farallons sanctuary waters, Sonoma Coast
Johnson, Rick	Ecosystem health, biodiversity. Preserve some areas for natural process, education, Marin Audubon Conservation Committee	Docent-tide pools, elephant seals, whales. Dunes-field trips. Birding-(also teach birding by ear), Small scale recreational fishing	San Mateo Coast, Pt. Reyes. Boating from Pillar Point, Bodega Bay, Tamates Bay. Some trips along the north coast. Currently a docent in Pt. Reyes. Was a docent at Fitzgerald
Jones, Ken	Inshore areas- surf, rock, and pier fishing	Shore fishing, from all areas in study region, particularly piers (although somewhat limited in this area). Some limited experience in abalone picking	Primarily sub-region 1-Pt. Arena down to Stewart's Pt. Also very familiar with sub-region 3, some sub-region 4 and rockcod fishing in sub-region 6
Koe, Francesca	Freediving, scuba diving, and rebreathers. I am most interested in sharing the wonder and power of our ocean as a resource with the people I teach and the friends I dive with. I am especially in kelp and coral ecology.	All forms of diving, kayaking, and boating	Salt Point, Farallon Islands, Point Bonita and SF Bay
Kogan, Irina	The Gulf of the Farallons National Marine Sanctuary manages the marine environment from Ano Nuevo to Bodega Head. Ecosystem protection in that region is a primary interest	Has conducted deep sea surveys off central CA, recreational use of ocean estuaries	Particularly familiar with the resources and uses of region 5 but have general understanding of sub-regions 3,4, and 6. Expertise is in habitat distribution (seabed mapping). There is seabird/ marine mammal expertise at my office, also with tide pools
Mattusch, Tom	Healthy and abundant variety of marine life	Fishing, crabbing, squidding, whale watching, marine mammal and bird viewing, research, touring, ash scattering, photography, diving	Pigeon Pt. to Pt. Reyes, Golden state to Farallons. Limited diving and fishing experience Pt. Reyes to above Pt. Arena
McHenry, Michael	Wetfish, squid, anchovy, sardine, mackerel, Rock cod, crab, salmon	Make my living (with ocean resources) and provide various groups with as much knowledge as possible to help their judgment on habitats and local science	Pigeon Pt. to Jenner (Russian river), Farallon islands
Mellor, John	How to create a holistic approach to resource management patterns like perma-culture in agriculture where the consumer is connected with the environment and the producer with small scale operations are favored over industrial conglomerates	Commercial fishing, currently for crabs, salmon, and nearshore rockfish for economic as well as mental and spiritual well-being. Fisheries closures in MPAs is an admission that management doesn't work.	Currently Pt. Arena to Pigeon Pt.
Merrilees, Craig	I'm concerned about the general degradation of the planet 3/5 of which is ocean. I'm also concerned about people who depend on the ocean for their living.	Recreational fishing, diving, surfing, kayaking, and source of wild seafood (commercially produced)	Very familiar with Pt Bonita (Golden Gate) to Pt Reyes. Generally familiar with points north and south.
Morgan, Lance	Biodiversity, sustainable fisheries and impact on environment, habitat conservation, science, scuba diving, beach going, wildlife/bird/marine mammal watching abalone diving, shore and salmon fishing, kayak-Tamates Bay	Research urchins metapopulations, Cordell Bank SAC	Sonoma and Marin coast, Pt. Reyes

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Name	Interests	Uses	Geographic Areas
Murray, Samantha	Interested in enhancing the ecosystems and wildlife that use the NCC. I want to ensure that the species and habitat therein can be enjoyed by future generations who want to dive, fish, surf, kayak, bird watch, or otherwise appreciate this spectacular place. Sustainable fisheries, sustainable regional economies, sustainable extractive recreation, sustainable non-extractive recreation, environmental education, intertidal/subtidal ecology, win-win scenarios.	Diving, surfing, fish consumption, scientific research, kayaking, bird watching, fishing, mammal watching, etc	Evolving, learning as much as I can everyday. Specific knowledge of scattered areas throughout sub region 1, 2,3. General knowledge of Pt. Reyes, seabirds of SF area and Marin. Have access to thousands of users in study area who have intimate knowledge. Also Audubon and kayakers, etc.
Nelson, Kellyx	Global climate change, "Fish Forever", "Ocean Health", recreational kayaking fishing, etc. National Park System~80 miles of coastline, grew up in Healdsburg, Sonoma County, growth in Sonoma beaches	Scuba diving, abalone diving, spear fishing, aesthetic enjoyment, surfing, environmental education, tide pooling, visiting the beach/	Mendocino coast, upland/terrestrial marine resources - multiple watersheds in coastal San Mateo County. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve/Pillar Point Harbor.
Neubacher, Don		Fished Russian River, recreation/tourism, Pt. Reyes contributes over \$100 million to economy, research~80 projects underway.	Marin, Sonoma, SF coasts. Duxbury Reef to Tamales Bay, Farallone Islands
Pierce, Paul	Recreational fishing from boat/shore, bird watching, visiting the beach with my family, tide pool exploration	Salmon fishing, halibut fishing, rock cod, clam digging, surf fishing	Halfmoon bay/San Mateo coast/ Pedro Point, Colorado reef, Marin coastline, Tamales bay, Bodega Bay, Jenner area, Duxbury middlegrounds
Roberts, Santi	Conservation, ensuring most ecological protection for least short-term economic impact, vibrant coastal communities, including rec. fishing and non-destructive commercial fishing	Diving, mostly south of study area	Broad scale data analysis of entire region
Sleeter, Ben	Health and vitality of ocean resources to provide sustainable uses both consumptive and non-consumptive of marine resources. Improving the abundance of ocean resources. Enhancing the quality of the recreational angling experience	Recreational angler and ocean enthusiast	Pt. Reyes to Pigeon pt. and Farallon Islands (sub-region 3-6)
Smith, Fred	Ensuring adequate habitat and food for sea mammals and birds, while providing various opportunities for predator/prey relationships, protecting local commercial fishing, sustainable fisheries	Kayaking (Salt Pt., Pt. Arena, Sonoma state beaches, Tamales Bay and Drakes Estero), whale watching up and down the coast (represents a wide cross section of members- 2/3 of which are in Marin county	Setting up a membership team to look more closely at the regional profile and how best to set up a MPA system. *honestly far from an expert on particular locations on this map
Swolgaard, Craig	Preservation of representative samples of California's diverse marine ecosystem, it's biodiversity, scenic values, and recreational potential. Also areas that will enhance public understanding and appreciation of intact marine environments and their resources.	Recreational fishing, sport diving, interpretive/educational access, surfing, kayaking, sightseeing, etc.	State parks has units scattered fairly evenly along the entire region, possibly a larger concentration north of San Francisco. Personally, I've been a diver with extensive experience along the entire coast since 1988
TavasiEFF, Ed	Commercial fishing, diving, recreational fishing, surfing, a healthy ocean complex able to support meaningful involvement of all user groups and public. To the extent possible, not exclusionary.	See above	Point Reyes to Pedro Point, although I have fished down in areas other than the above mentioned areas. Such as black point, ft ross, Gualata, etc.
White, Sean	Kayak fishing and diving for nearshore rockfish, salmon, halibut, crab & abalone. Representing Great White Kayaks and 1,000+ members on NCSR. Also a fisheries biologist in my other life	Travels all over, but in the north-central coast uses many locations from Moat Creek south to Tamales Bay. Favorite areas include Hog Island and Lawson's in Tamales; Ft. Ross, Stillwater, Fisk area, Fish rocks, Saunders, and Moat Creek	Southern Mendocino to Tamales
Wilson, Bob	Marine mammals and seabirds	Rescue and rehabilitation of marine mammals, marine mammal surveys, biological surveys, public outreach	San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma. Mostly knows the beach areas of San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma and the wildlife in those areas
Yokomizo, Jay	Sportfishing, whale watching	Fishing coast and Farallons	Pillar Pt. to Pt. Reyes and out 50 fm at Farallons