

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative**  
**Guidance for Completing Marine Protected Area Proposal Templates**  
*Revised February 28, 2008*

1. When a marine protected area (MPA) is intended in an estuary where waterfowl hunting occurs, it should be designated instead as a state marine recreational management area (SMRMA).
2. When an MPA is intended in an area where there is an existing mariculture lease, it should be designated as a state marine conservation area (SMCA) that allows mariculture until the lease expires. If waterfowl hunting also occurs in the estuary, the MPA should be designated as an SMRMA.
3. Latitude and longitude coordinates should be captured for each boundary of an MPA.
4. Shoreward boundaries should be designated as "mean high tide."
5. Allowed/disallowed uses should be in the form of "All take is prohibited, except...."
6. Regulations should specify whether they apply to commercial and/or recreational activities in all MPAs.
7. Regulations should specify species/gear types consistent with intent; if these are not specified, the broadest interpretation will be assumed (e.g., "All take is prohibited, except for recreational and commercial take of crab" would be interpreted to apply to all types of crab, not just Dungeness crab).
8. If used, floating corners should be placed on, in descending level of desirability, whole minutes, 1/2 minutes, or 1/10 minutes of latitude and longitude.
9. If used, diagonal lines should follow the angle of the coastline and be anchored at whole minutes of latitude and longitude.
10. Distance offshore can be used to delineate boundaries at the Farallon Islands if extending from the shore to the state waters line.
11. Consider simplifying/changing existing MPA regulations and boundaries that don't meet California Department of Fish and Game feasibility criteria.