

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

Name of Draft MPA Proposal : Draft Proposal 3 (TC) (December 12, 2007 version)

Number and type of MPAs in initial MPA array: 14 SMR 2 SMP 14 SMCA 30 Total # MPAs

Narrative rationale: This draft proposal was developed in a collaborative process by a cross-interest workgroup of the NCC Regional Stakeholder Group at the December 11-12, 2007 NCCRSR meeting. This draft proposal aims to meet and address the guidance received from the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force, Science Advisory Team, and California Department of Fish and Game. This draft proposal builds on initial options identified by the regional stakeholder work groups and draft external proposals and incorporates, to the extent possible, the many comments received from stakeholders and the general public.

Draft Proposal 3 (TC) (December 12, 2007 version).

| MPA Name | Type (SMCA, SMP, SMR) | GIS ID # | General MPA Boundaries | Allowed or Disallowed Uses | SAT Assigned Level of Protection | Regional Goals/ Objectives/ Design Criteria this MPA Contributes Toward [Format: "G103" for Goal 1, Objective 3] | MPA Specific Objectives [Please provide 3-4 narrative sentences on the main intent of this MPA] | Comments, Questions or Important Information |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---|--|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Point Arena SMR | SMR | TC466 | Rectangle centered on and touching Point Arena. Eastern boundary on 123° 44.50' W. | No Take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G303; G402; | This MPA protects rocky and soft bottom habitat and kelp while minimizing impacts to shoreline activities south of Point Arena. This MPA will contribute to the network | This proposal would keep open vital crab grounds off Manchester Beach (6-40 fathoms), abalone and shorefishing along Stornetta, and allow tribal uses to continue. Keeps open inshore area to north and south of Pt. Arena harbor to provide socioeconomic impact relief to local dependant community, yet still provide high levels of protection for rich biodiversity found just offshore. |
| Point Arena SMCA | SMCA | TC467 | Cojoined to SMR out to state waters and on same latitude lines. | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling only. | High | G102; G103; G104; G402 | This MPA protects deep sand habitat and provides an onshore-offshore gradient of protection. | Some impact to crab fishery. Note that Pt. Arena is the northern most boundary for commercial salmon seasons and that this MPA allows for commercial and recreational take of troll-caught chinook salmon only. |
| Saunders Reef Inshore SMCA | SMCA | TC478 | Northern boundary is 38_ 52 deg.; southern boundary on 38_ 49.5 deg. | Allows urchin and abalone harvest. | Low-Mod | G102; G103; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G303; G501; G503; G6 | This MPA protects a large nearshore rocky reef with extensive kelp habitat and will help to restore populations of groundfish. | Some impact to shore and small boat fishing. Saunders Reef is critically important to the Arena-based urchin fishery. By allowing only urchin and abalone harvest, a good comparative analysis of the inside vs. outside effect of specific take and can be studied. |
| Saunders Reef Offshore SMCA | SMCA | TC479 | Cojoined to shorebound SMCA 1.5mi seaward then along same latitude lines to offshore state boundary line. | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling harvest only. | High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G303; G402; G501; G503; G6 | This MPA protects deeper offshore soft bottom habitat. | Some impact to crab fishery. |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|---|--|-----------|--|--|---|
| Del Mar Landing SMP | SMP | TC477 | Existing MPA | Take of all living marine resources is prohibited except the recreational take of finfish by hook and line or spear. | Low-Mod | G301; G302; | Maintain existing MPA as desired by local community; provide recreational opportunities. | This is a well known local park that has local appeal. |
| Black Point SMR | SMR | TC464 | Black Point to just above Horseshoe Cove and out 1 mile offshore | No Take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G303; G402; G503; G6 | This MPA protects rocky reef, kelp forests, shoreline, rockfish (yelloweye and others). Would provide fish and abalone to sites to south due to larval transport from prevailing winds and upwelling influence. | GROUP VOTE - Close vote; group was split. 7 in favor of this option with boundary near Sea Ranch compared to 6 in favor of moving entire complex further south towards Salt Point. Note cross-interest users in both voting blocks. |
| Salt Point SMP | SMP | TC463 | Above Horseshoe Cove to Salt Point and out 1 mile | All recreational harvest allowed | Low | G102; G301; G303; G402 | This MPA provides recreational opportunities in the very popular Salt Point area and builds on existing facilities and support in state parks. | Existing Gerstle Cove SMCA would also remain. |
| Black - Salt SMCA | SMCA | TC465 | Black Point to Salt Point - offshore from 1-3 miles | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling and and recreational and commercial trap crab harvest only. | Mod-High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G204; G402; G501; G503; | This MPA protects offshore habitats and provides onshore-offshore gradient of protection. | Enlarged size of nearshore SMR so that crab and salmon could be allowed in SMCA and still obtain high protection network component. Some in the group opposed - wanted larger SMR extending offshore. This would be dangerous for commercial trollers during foul weather and fog. |
| Gerstle Cove SMCA | SMCA | TC473 | Existing MPA | Take of all living marine resources is prohibited except the commercial take of finfish and algae (except giant kelp and bull kelp). | Low-Mod | G501 | State parks would like to retain existing MPA | Although this MPA allows specific commercial harvest, the Park regulations prohibit it. Possible change in goal and objective may be appropriate. |
| Russian River SMCA | SMCA | TC438 | Russian River estuary and nearshore area from northern boundary at 38_29 deg down to 38_25 deg. | Allows commercial and recreational crab trap harvest only. | Mod-High | G101; G103; G104; G105; G201; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G302; G401; G501 | Protects estuary, steelhead, Russian River chinook and coho salmon, birds, mammals, rockfish, abalone, kelp beds, etc. Protects salmonid resources that are subject to fishing impacts when balled up at mouth of estuary when closed. | Acknowledge issue w/ diagonal line. Will need to discuss potential no-disturbance zone around colonies. From Goat Rock to Pedoti is fairly limited access due to steepness of cliffs. Pedoti and Sunken Reef important for abs and recreational fishing. Abalone index site and #1 spot in Sonoma - want to avoid impacting that area. Impacts salmon fishing near Russian R. Avoid area south of Goat Rock which is important access and rec fishing for Bodega and Sonoma Co. |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|---|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| Charter Beach SMCA | SMCA | TC456 | Maintain part of existing Sonoma coast MPA north of proposed Bodega SMR | No recreational take of living or non-living marine resources is allowed except: finfish, red abalone, chitons, clams, cockles, crabs, ghost shrimp, mussels, native oysters, rock scallops, sea urchins, and marine worms, except that no worms may be taken in any mussel bed unless taken incidentally to the take of mussels. Commercial take of species other than giant kelp and bull kelp is allowed. (existing regulations from Sonoma Coast SMCA) | Low | G102; G301 | Maintain existing MPA as desired by local community; provide recreational opportunities. | Group still discussing value of this MPA. Enforcement is aware of this MPA and its regulations. |
| Bodega Head SMR | SMR | TC425 | Salmon Creek parking lot to Bodega Head (38_17 deg) | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G301; G303; G402; G503; G6 | Protects representative and unique marine life habitats including rocky habitat and associated ecosystem, captures soft bottom habitat and associated species. Enhances Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory Reserve by providing a more realistic study area, provides protection for sea birds and mammals, protects forage base and foraging area popular for local and visiting bird life. Will protect the natural diversity and function of marine ecosystem. Will help sustain and restore marine life populations. Allows for clear objectives, effective management, adequate enforcement, sound science. | Loss of abalone fishing site and access to 3 of 56 sites in study region. Consensus to design MPA at Bodega Head instead of Tomales Bluff. Note, if Bodega Head MPA complex goes away; consider complex at Tomales Point instead. One of the few areas where rocky habitat extends all the way offshore. |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|-------|--|--|-----------|--|---|--|
| Bodega Head SMCA | SMCA | TC426 | Offshore of SMR with split on 123_ 7 deg. W longitude | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling and and recreational and commercial trap crab harvest only. | Mod-High | G101; G102; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G303; G402; G501; G503; G6 | Protects offshore soft and hard bottom habitat. | |
| Estero de Americano SMR | SMR | TC461 | Across mouth of estero | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G401; G402 | Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, and high biodiversity. | The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary recommends establishing reserve here. |
| Estero de San Antonio SMR | SMR | TC462 | Across mouth of estero | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G401; G402 | Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, and high biodiversity. | The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary recommends establishing reserve here. This is the only somewhat undisturbed Mediterranean estuary left with salinity from 10-44ppt. Supports CA freshwater shrimp - Endangered species; Historical robust steelhead fishery. |
| Tomaes Bay SMR | SMR | TC460 | Western boundary from tip of Milleton Point down to Willow Point; includes all areas to base of bay. | No take | Very High | G101; G103; G104; G105; G201; G203; G301; G401; G402 | Protect estuary, marsh and eelgrass habitats. | Expand existing MPA. Would expand upon existing MPA and include more eelgrass. Builds on existing marsh restoration projects at base of bay. No impact to mariculture expected. No impact to existing herring harvest because harvest is allowed only above Tomasini Point located 1/2 mile above Millerton Pt. |
| Point Reyes SMR | SMR | TC471 | Area around headland and part of Drakes Bay (123_ 02 deg. on west to 122_ 57 deg on east) | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G303; G402; G501; G503; G6 | Protecting rockfish habitat, and shallow rock and soft bottom, and significant bird and mammal colonies on the headland | Little commercial use inshore, avoids significant rec. rockfish fishing impacts on rocks west of headlands and Chimney Rock. Avoids significant impact to commercial crab and salmon in waters >20 fathoms and avoids salmon trolling east-west tacks below headland. SMR will impact important traditional collection area for coast Miwok - small scale kelp, mussels, abalone, shells. Point Reyes Headland is one of 56 abalone sites, but no objection from the abalone representative. Significant impact to commercial and recreational halibut fishery. This SMCA is a traditional commercial halibut harvest site for Bolinas and San Francisco fisherpersons. GROUP VOTE: Several straw votes; final one between this option (8 in favor) and Turquoise B (5 in favor). The vote taken was for the cluster and not just the SMR. |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|-------|---|--|-----------|--|--|---|
| Point Reyes SMCA | SMCA | TC472 | Offshore of SMR to state waters | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling and and recreational and commercial trap crab harvest only. | Mod-High | G101; G102; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G303; G402; G501; G503; G6 | Protects offshore rock and sand habitats, rockfish, and retention area in Drakes Bay. Protects Chimney Rock area in SMCA. | Minimizes impact to salmon, crab, and recreational fishing. |
| Drakes Estero SMR | SMR | TC4 | Entire Drakes Estero and Estero de Limantour area. | No take. (Oyster farming can continue until the lease ends in 2012) | Very High | G101; G103; G104; G105; G203; G401; G402; G6 | Protects estuary, eelgrass, bird and mammal colonies, juvenile halibut, and other fishes and crab. | Existing Limantour Estero to remain as an SMR with all current rules and regulations. Drakes Estero to be SMCA with all current rules and regulations to continue until the year 2012 when it will become a full SMR. The intent is to allow the current aquaculture of oysters to continue until the leases expire in 2012. |
| Duxbury SMR | SMR | TC469 | Offshore of Double point. North boundary at 37_ 58 deg; south boundary at 37_ 55 deg) | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G402; G6 | The main goal is to provide protection to nearshore bird life and mammal haulouts that are found in the area, rocky habitat, rockfish, and foraging prey species while contributing to network connectivity. | More protective for rockfish and forage species and pinniped but will significantly impact commercial and recreational rockfish and halibut fishery. Consider no disturbance zone at Double Point. GROUP VOTE: Group favored this option (10 in favor) compared to more complex option with SMCA (salmon, crab, halibut) on southern boundary down to Duxbury Point (3 in favor). Loss of traditional commercial and recreational halibut fishing site for Bolinas and San Francisco halibut fishers. |
| Duxbury SMCA | SMCA | TC470 | Offshore of Duxbury SMR | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling and and recreational and commercial trap crab harvest only. | Mod-High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G201; G202; G203; G204; G402; G501; G503; G6 | Protects offshore habitat for groundfish and other species. | Minimizing impact to crab and salmon harvest for recreational and commercial fishers. |
| Bolinas SMR | SMR | TC468 | Estuary only | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G301; G303; G401; G402 | Protects estuarine ecosystem and large harbor seal haulout. Many species of marine birds. | Audobon Canyon Ranch adjoins to the Bolinas Lagoon. |
| Moss Beach SMR | SMR | TC459 | From Grey Whale Cove 37_ 24 deg south to Pillar Point. | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G301; G302; G303; G304; G402; G503; G6 | Protecting intertidal, shale reefs, rocky cobble, pinnacles, seagrass, bull kelp and more. Protects Colorado Reef and rockfish populations. | Extends existing Fitzgerald MPA. Avoids Lindamar Cove area (rec. fishing) and some public access and shorefishing areas. Would impact rec. fishing at Colorado Reef, some halibut and shorefishing. GROUP VOTE: Several straw votes; final one between this option (8 in favor) and an option that extended to Devils slide (5 in favor). |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|---|--|-----------|--|---|--|
| Moss Beach SMCA | SMCA | TC458 | Splits on 122 33 longitude | Crab, Salmon trolling, squid | Mod-High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G302; G303; G304; G402; G501; G502; G503; G601; G602 | Protects offshore sand and rock habitats. Provides onshore-offshore gradient in protection | Limits impact to valuable squid, crab, and salmon fisheries. |
| Pescadero Estuary SMR | SMR | TC3 | Pescadero marsh - estuary only | No take | Very High | G101; G103; G104; G105; G201; G203; G301; G303; G401; G6 | Would protect estuary and associated species (including threatened steelhead runs). Provides network link to Elkhorn Slough to south. | Group made conscious decision to leave Pescadero offshore open to fishing, despite presence of good rocky habitat; this will provide study opportunity and focus protection on the Moss Beach area instead of Pescadero area. Pescadero Marsh Preserve limits access but does not directly limit take of marine resources. Group discussed catch and release fishery of steelhead; appreciate that users helping to protect/restore estuary but concern about catch and release of threatend species. GROUP VOTE: 12 in favor; 1 opposed because of catch and release fishery for steelhead. |
| North Farallon SMR | SMR | TC484 | Around north island and to the north to state waters; western boundary at 123 07; eastern boundary on 123 04. | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G302; G303; G401; G402; G501; G6 | Protects nearshore habitats. Protects birds, mammals, rockfish, and forage species. | Protects shallow and deep habitats while minimizing impacts to fisheries. |
| North Farallon SMCA | SMCA | TC483 | East of North Farallon SMR (123 04deg) to state waters | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling only. | High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G302; G303; G304; G401; G402; G501 | Protects deepwater habitat while allowing salmon | |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|-------|---|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| SE Farallon SMR | SMR | TC481 | Rounded square SE of island. NE corner on 37 42.5deg and 122 59.5deg. Southwest boundary between SMR and SMCA is 1 mile buffer of shoreline of island | No take | Very High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G302; G303; G401; G402; G501; G6 | Protects nearshore habitats. Protects birds, mammals, rockfish, and forage species and other unique marine life and habitat that extends across a range of depths. | Currently waters <10 fathoms around Farallons closed to fishing. Whole Island complex is included in the federal regulations RCA. Rock fish harvest allowed only in 10 to 30 fa. range when open but not in any SMR or SMCA allowing salmon trolling only. Area extremely important to rockfish sport and commercial fishery and ecotourism (birds, whales, sharks, etc). Adopts RCA regulations for whole Island complex except for SMR and SMCA allowing salmon trolling only. Potential future abalone fishery in Farallons was discussed and is a Commission decision. Currently only 1 urchin fisherman left. |
| SE Farallon SMCA | SMCA | TC482 | Wedge SE of island - 1 mi from island to state waters. Northern line is 37 42.5deg eastern line is 122 59.5deg | Allows recreational and commercial salmon trolling only. | High | G101; G102; G103; G104; G105; G201; G202; G203; G204; G301; G302; G303; G304; G401; G402; G501 | Protects deepwater habitats on edge of Farallons escarpment and associated unique marine life and habitats across a range of depths. | Minimizes impact to commercial and recreational salmon troll tacks in this area. Provides protection for benthic species by providing connectivity to very deep waters offshore. Provides significant connection point for future Sanctuary MPA cojoined to very deep water outside of state waters. |
| Fallalones SMCA | SMCA | TC480 | Remainder of Farallons biogeographical subregion | No take of sardine, anchovy, squid | Low-Mod | G102; G104; G203; G204; G303; G401 | Protects forage base for seabirds and mammals | GROUP VOTE: 6 in favor; 4 opposed |

1. It should be noted that, if the protection level for any species is raised to a level adopted by the SAT, BRTF, or Commission as "counting", then it is intended that this species be included in selected SMCA's. These selected SMCA's will include, but are not exclusive to inclusion, any area that has been traditionally harvested prior to exclusion from MPA development. If specific gear types are defined by the SAT and adopted by all parties, then the selected SMCA's shall conform to these standards. Any SMCA that is specifically designed to exclude the harvest of any specific species, shall not be included in this notation. All regulations that are currently in effect shall apply

2. A recommendation to increase the legal harvest size of California Halibut from the existing 22" to 24" in order to encourage better reproduction success over more year classes, provide a better yield ratio of the species, and discourage targeting of small individuals, has been made. This recommendation is from Ed Tavasieff a commercial halibut fisherman on the NCCRS and not necessarily from others.

3. Goals 304,502, 601,and 602 call for the development of several processes and mechanisms that shall be included in this proposal as the process continues and the methodology is determined.

4. This array (Turquoise C) is mindful of the importance of protecting forage base. Given that "normal " forage base is "highly mobile" and its abundance and availability change to the whims of Nature, it is the intent of this proposal to allow the commercial harvest of anchovy, herring, squid, and sardines, that occur within MPA's, ONLY where specified. As of this writing (12-12-07) commercial harvest of anchovy, herring, squid, and sardines, will only be allowed in the Moss Beach SMCA TC 458.

5. Diagonal lines used in clusters at Saunder's Reef, Black Salt, and Duxbury were intentional, and took into consideration feasibility guidelines concerns for compliance and enforcement. However, it became apparent in our discussions that, in fact, better compliance was achieved by using these diagonal lines since the harvest methodology is afforded their traditional "tacks" and haul out regime and yet still protect the intended species and connectivity to deeper waters. Note that salmon season openers usually occur from Pt. Arena to the South, so fisherpersons can not go above Pt. Arena and would be squeezed by any SMR between the traditional tack from Pt. Arena to Bodega Bay. It is also realized that the normal fishing pattern is to follow the coastline along certain contour lines. With this in mind, one must realize that during times of heavy or foggy weather, an accumulation of boats working along similar contour lines would be in danger of collision or safety if they were forced to turn to avoid an MPA boundary. Finally, using the diagonal lines will promote better "buy in" by the local user groups and provide better overall socioeconomic value to the array and actually ease the difficulty of enforcement.

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

Consideration of Marine Bird and Mammal Protection: Within this MPA array, certain areas may warrant increased protection of marine birds and/or marine mammals though the use of "no disturbance" zones or special closures. If special closures are proposed, please include all of the information requested below (with the exception of the GIS ID). Note that the MLPA staff suggests sparing use of this designation.

| Area | GIS ID | Bound-aries | Focus Species | Seasonality (Year round or what season) | Comments, Questions or Important Information |
|------|--------|-------------|---------------|---|--|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Consideration of Existing State MPAs in Draft Proposal 3 (TC) (December 12, 2007 version).
Please indicate how each of the existing North Central Coast MPAs is considered within the draft proposal.

| Existing MPA | Included Without Changes (proposed to be retained) | Included with Boundary or Regulation Change (proposed to be modified) | Not Included (proposed for elimination) |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Manchester and Arena Rock SMCA | | | Replaced by Point Arena complex |
| Del Mar Landing SMP | Included | | |
| Salt Point SMCA | | | Replaced by Black -Salt MPA complex |
| Gerstle Cove SMCA | Included | | |
| Fort Ross SMCA | | | Replaced by Black -Salt MPA complex |
| Tomales Bay SMP | | Included, but changed to SMR and expanded | |
| Point Reyes SMCA | | | Replaced by Point Reyes complex |
| Estero de Limantour SMCA | | Modified by Drakes Estero concept | |
| Duxbury Reef SMCA | | Modified by Duxbury Reef SMR/SMCA | |
| Sonoma Coast SMCA | | Partially included | |

California MLPA North Central Coast Project
Draft Proposal 3 (TC) - December 12, 2007 version

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bodega SMR | | Included in Bodega Bay concept. | |
| Fitzgerald SMP | | Modified by Moss Beach concept. | |
| Farallon Islands SMCA | | | Replaced by Farallons MPA complex |