

**Albion Harbor Regional Alliance** submits this Array Proposal this day on February 1, 2010

Albion Harbor Regional Alliance NC Array: *Fate of Existing MPAs*

First and foremost it is imperative that the State of California and the Federal Government realize that it is not the intention of the array proponents to prohibit traditional native tribal access, harvest, or uses, or to interfere with their sovereignty on their ancestral lands.

Because there are (5) existing MPAs in the Study Region, (4) of which are on the Mendocino Coast, slightly more than one page communicates proposed changes.

**Current MPA's in the North Coast Study region and the AHRA NC Array:**

[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpa\\_regs.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpa_regs.asp)

1) retains the MPA without change, 2) modifies the boundaries and/or regulations of the MPA, or 3) removes the MPA. A sentence explains the proposed action.

*Humboldt County*

**Punta Gorda State Marine Reserve**

2) modifies the boundaries and/or regulations of the MPA,

This existing reserve is hugely expanded and the boundaries are modified to fully encompass the State waters and are expanded north and south while the SMR Regulations remain.

The AHRA Array proposal here has a variety of diverse habitats including upwelling zones, submarine canyons, reef structures, and improves study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human impacts.

*Mendocino County*

**MacKerricher State Marine Conservation Area**

1) retains the MPA without change,

This SMR helps maintain biodiversity in fish, invertebrates, seabirds and marine mammals associated with the protection of the ecosystem. The Ten Mile SMR, the Ten Mile Beach SMCA and the Ten Mile River Estuary SMR are all within a couple miles walk north on the long sandy beach that extends from the MacKerricher SMCA to the Ten Mile Beach SMCA with easy public access.

The AHRA Array proposal here clusters MPA's north and south at the Ten Mile River, and located at the North end of this cluster is an established marine monitoring site, that along with numerous coastal access points, easily makes research, recreation and enforcement possible.

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*Mendocino County*

**Point Cabrillo State Marine Conservation Area**

2) modifies the boundaries and/or regulations of the MPA,

This easily accessible area is part of a larger area already closed to sea commercial urchin harvest. Side by side with an SMR, the marine ecosystem structure and biodiversity within a conservation area that allows the harvest of both red abalone and sea urchin but no take of kelp/algae, can be compared.

*Mendocino County*

**Point Cabrillo State Marine Reserve**

2) modifies the boundaries and/or regulations of the MPA,

This proposed SMR contains high-quality invertebrate habitat and has been closed to commercial and recreational take of invertebrates since 1975, as a SMR, it would replace the existing Pt. Cabrillo SMCA and make the boundaries more feasible.

Along with the adjacent SMCA to the north, this cluster will provide side by side study opportunity of a no-take zone and an area of sustainable harvests of abalone and urchins.

*Mendocino County*

**Russian Gulch State Marine Conservation Area**

1) retains the MPA without change,

Prohibits take of all marine aquatic plants; and all invertebrates EXCEPT red abalone, chiones, clams, cockles, rock scallops, native oysters, crabs, lobster, ghost shrimp, sea urchins, mussels, and marine worms, and allows for recreational take of finfish.

This is a busy State Park in the summer and recreationalists are familiar with the SMCA regulations along the shore and we feel this SMCA serves it purpose as is.

*Mendocino County*

**Van Damme State Marine Conservation Area**

1) retains the MPA without change,

Much like Russian Gulch, this SMCA currently prohibits the take of all marine plants but allows recreational harvest of some invertebrates. This nearshore area is the most easily accessible to recreationists, and is a highly productive ecosystem.

This is a busy State Park in the summer and recreationalists are familiar with the SMCA regulations along the shore and we feel this SMCA serves it purpose as is.

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative**  
**North Coast Study Region**  
**Consideration of Existing Marine Protected Areas for External MPA Array F**  
*Document Revised February 16, 2010*

Please indicate how each to the five existing marine protected areas (MPAs) in the MLPA North Coast Study Region listed below should be addressed. You may propose that the existing MPA be retained without change, be retained with changes to either the boundaries or regulations, or removed. Please also describe the rationale for your proposed action in the space provided. For your reference, the existing regulations and boundaries for these MPAs are included in Tables 1 and 2.

<b>Existing MPA</b>	<b>Retain</b> (no changes to boundaries or regulations)	<b>Modify</b> (included with boundary or regulation change)	<b>Remove</b> (not included)	<b>Rationale for Decision</b>
Punta Gorda SMR		Modify boundaries		This existing reserve is expanded and the boundaries are modified to fully encompass the State waters and are expanded north and south while the SMR regulations remain.
MacKerricher SMCA	Retain			This SMR helps maintain biodiversity in fish, invertebrates, seabirds and marine mammals associated with the protection of the ecosystem. The Ten Mile SMR, the Ten Mile Beach SMCA and the Ten Mile River Estuary SMR are all within a couple miles walk north on the long sandy beach that extends from the MacKerricher SMCA to the Ten Mile Beach SMCA with easy public access.
Point Cabrillo SMCA		Modify boundaries and regulations (Point Cabrillo SMCA and Point Cabrillo SMR)		The Point Cabrillo SMCA and SMR complex is aimed to replace the existing Pt. Cabrillo SMCA and make the boundaries more feasible.
Russian Gulch SMCA	Retain			This is a busy State Park in the summer and recreationalists are familiar with the SMCA regulations along the shore and we feel this SMCA serves it purpose as is.
Van Damme SMCA	Retain			This is a busy State Park in the summer and recreationalists are familiar with the SMCA regulations along the shore and we feel this SMCA serves it purpose as is.

*SMR = State Marine Reserve, SMCA = State Marine Conservation Area*