August 18, 2010

**Re: Notice of availability of draft environmental impact report regarding marine protected areas in California’s south coast study region pursuant to the Marine Life Protection Act.**

To Interested Parties:

The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), is making available a draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative South Coast Marine Protected Areas Project (South Coast Study Region). The South Coast Study Region encompasses State waters from Point Conception in Santa Barbara County to the California border with Mexico, including State waters around offshore islands. The DEIR has been prepared following the Commission's selection of the integrated preferred alternative (IPA), and in conjunction with the Commission’s potential adoption of regulations for implementation of marine protected areas (MPAs). In addition to the IPA, the DEIR analyzes three project alternatives which were developed by the South Coast Study Region Regional Stakeholder Group and a no-action alternative. Additional information on the IPA, project alternatives, and the South Coast Study Region is available at [www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa).

The DEIR is being made available for a 45-day public review and comment period, which commences on August 18, 2010 and ends on October 4, 2010. **Please assure that your comments on the DEIR are received by the Department of Fish and Game (Department) at the earliest possible time and no later than 5 pm on October 4, 2010.** A Final EIR will be prepared which will include a response to comments received during the review period.

Please send written comments concerning the DEIR to: MLPA South Coast CEQA, California Department of Fish and Game, 4665 Lampson, Suite C, Los Alamitos, CA 90720. Your comments must include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. Email comments must be sent to [MLPACOMMENTS@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:MLPACOMMENTS@dfg.ca.gov) and must include "MLPA CEQA Comments" in the subject line and be in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format.

**Document Availability:** A copy of the DEIR can be located on the Department’s website at [http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/regulatorydocs_sc.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/regulatorydocs_sc.asp). A printed copy of the DEIR and all reference documents are available for review during regular business hours at the Department Marine Region offices listed below. Copies will also be made available at various local libraries which are listed on the Department’s website above.
Notice of Completion – south California coast region MPAs
August 18, 2010

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4949 Viewridge Avenue
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