Marine Life Protection Act

North-Central Coast Implementation

Pigeon Pt. (San Mateo County) to Pt. Arena - Alder Creek (Mendocino County)
What is the MLPA?

“The 1999 Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) legislation requires that the State of California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) develop a plan for establishing **networks of marine protected areas** in California waters **to protect habitats** and **preserve ecosystem integrity**, among other things.”

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/

“The following **six goals for the MLPA** are established in Section 2853(b):

1. To **protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life**, and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.
2. To **help sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations**, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
3. To **improve recreational, educational, and study opportunities** provided by marine ecosystems that are **subject to minimal human disturbance**, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
4. To **protect marine natural heritage**, including **protection of representative and unique marine life habitats** in California waters for their intrinsic value.
5. To ensure that California's MPAs have **clearly defined objectives, effective management measures, and adequate enforcement**, and are based on sound **scientific guidelines**.
6. To ensure that the state's MPAs are designed and managed, to the extent possible, as a **network**.”

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/

North-Central Coast MLPA Implementation
GFNMS SAC Status Report April 19, 2007
MLPA Implementation Process

The MLPA initiative aims to design and implement MPAs throughout California State Waters by 2011 in phases by region.

Region 1 - Central Coast Study Area: Pt. Conception to Pigeon Pt.
Region 2 - North Central Coast: Pigeon Pt. to Pt. Arena
(process changes based on lessons learned)

Timeline:
• 1st Stakeholder meeting May 22-23, 2007
• MPA network recommendation to CDFG-Commission due March 2008
• CEQA Analysis complete by January 15, 2009

Process overseen by MLPA Initiative Steering Committee:
(Resources Agency, CDFG, CDFG-Commission, MLPA Initiative staff)

I-Team staffing from above agencies plus contractors

North-Central Coast MLPA Implementation
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MLPA Implementation Process

Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) appointed by Resources Secretary
Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) appointed by CDFG Director and BRTF Chair
Science Advisory Team (SAT) appointed by CDFG

Resources Legacy Fund Foundation is contributing funds for MLPA process; BRTF determines how funds are spent

North-Central Coast MLPA Implementation
GFNMS SAC Status Report April 19, 2007
Regional Stakeholder Group Nominations

- Richard Alvarez (Arcata)
- Dirk Ammerman (Fort Bragg)
- Greg Barron (Alameda)
- Douglas Barth (Mill Valley)
- Gordon Bennett (Inverness)
- Bill Bernard (Stockton)
- Bob Breen (Montara)
- Richard Charter (Bodega Bay)
- Christopher Chin (Orinda)
- Josh Churchman (Bolinas)
- Neal Desai (San Francisco)
- William Doo (San Francisco)
- John Draper (Half Moon Bay)
- Ken Elie (Rohnert Park)
- Tom Estes (Fort Bragg)
- Henry C. Fastenau (Bodega Bay)
- Peter Grenell (South San Francisco)
- Kenneth Gwin (San Francisco)
- Bud James (Sunnyvale)
- Rick W. Johnson (Inverness)
- Ken Jones (Lodi)
- Patricia King (Richmond)

- Francesca Koe (San Francisco)
- Claudia Luke (Bodega Bay)
- Tom Mattusch (El Grenada)
- Michael B. McHenry (Half Moon Bay)
- Craig Merrill (Sausalito)
- Lance Morgan (Glen Ellen)
- Samantha Murray (San Francisco)
- Kellyx Nelson (Half Moon Bay)
- Erik Owen (Jenner)
- Paul Pierce (San Leandro)
- Pete Raimondi (Santa Cruz)
- Santi Roberts (Monterey)
- Phil Sanders (Gualala)
- Benjamin M. Sleet (El Grenada)
- Frederick Smith, Jr. (Point Reyes Station)
- William Smith (Half Moon Bay)
- Ed Tavasieff (San Francisco)
- Edward Ueber (San Francisco)
- Matt Warren (Alameda)
- Sean White (Ukiah)
- Robert J. Wilson (Tiburon)
- Kate Wing (San Francisco)
GFNMS Role

Role of GFNMS Staff has not been finalized

Preliminary discussions indicate that GFNMS Staff will be on the RSG as non-voting members to provide information and expertise regarding the sanctuary

GFNMS/SIMoN Staff are contributing GIS datasets

Future meeting to finalize role for agencies (e.g. National Park Service, State Parks, Sanctuaries) in the MLPA process
GFNMS SAC Role

How does the SAC want to advise the sanctuary?
- Periodic meetings of the GFNMS SAC MLPA Working Group
- During regularly scheduled SAC meetings
- Both of the above
- other

If interested in the MLPA, please sign up for updates, meeting information, announcements for document review, and to learn of opportunities to provide comments
http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/mailinglist.html

Regional Profile will be out soon…