

MPA Tri-County Working Group
Benbow, December 15, 2009

Ground rules reviewed.

Attendees introduced themselves:

Zack Larson, Fort Bragg commercial and sport fishing, now in Crescent City, fish biologist mostly anadromous, also coastal and migratory. Del Norte Supervisor Martha McClure get out in front funding from RLFF, other communities trying for funding. Del Norte MLPA Working Group, 22 members, includes all the Native American Tribes, meets weekly. Crab season is big in Del Norte—not so many fishermen can attend, but discussing maps.

Mary Walsh, Sierra Club of Mendocino County. Cannot sign onto things without organization approval. [Members, as part of Conservation First,] have submitted [a letter of intent], data gathering now.

Steve Dunicliff, Executive Officer of Mendocino County.

Kevin McGrath, Shelter Cove Fishing Alliance, fishing.

Jackie Hostler, Chief Executive Officer, Trinidad Rancheria. Have been meeting with City of Trinidad, fishermen and tribes. Been meeting since July.

Judith Vidaver, Ocean Protection Coalition. Ocean and planning issues 25 years. Loosely affiliated with MOCA (Mendocino Ocean County Alliance) and –first group

Larry Knowles, Rising Tide Seafood. Seaweed Stewardship Alliance, nominee for Stakeholder Group.

Jeanine Pfeiffer, unofficial facilitator for MOCA have been meeting since September. A number of groups have submitted intent to submit an array, are working with MOCA, hope to build one region proposal.

William Bolt, Shelter Cove commercial and sport fishing.

Brock Richards
Elk Valley Rancheria Crescent City

Reweti --, works with Brock

Interviewed with Stakeholder Group: [They want to know] what skills do you bring to table, can you deal with major challenges, work with others?

Rose Bond, contractor with PG&E, getting permit for wave pilot project, a three year process; here to hear what fishermen think about it, don't speak for PG&E but can carry messages. Build comfort level.

Mike Carpenter, commercial fishing, Albion Harbor Regional Alliance, formed to build a proposal, since July (Take-a-Stand fundraising) concert. Albionharbor.org website. Involving businesses and informing them, getting people involved. Not to make an array, but to work with everyone to build one that will be social.

Anna Oranze, Students for Environmental Action (SEA) group, Catrina -- will speak, Kira Dickson.

David Guerney, Ft Bragg, commercial fishing, blue whale legal issues and questioning [legitimacy of the MLPAL].

Kira Dickson, SEA statement: take care of ocean, science based MPAs; working with MOCA some, may join them but have not yet decided. Mendocino High School.

Robert Jamgocian, Students for Environmental Action Natural Resources, Mendocino High School.

Bill Lemos, Mendocino since 1949, abalone diver, commercial fishing in the '70s and '80s, educator, SONAR program. Consultant with timber and land issues. Community psychologist, working with MOCA, SEA and Sierra Club.

John Gabers, Noyo Fishing Center, five party boats, North Coast Fishing Association with 140 recreational members, conservation and business interest, MOCA team.

Tim Clausen, charter boat out of Eureka, placement of reserves, health of resource long-term; Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers, Klamath Management Zone fisheries coalition, mostly salmon.

Jim Martin, Recreational Fishing Alliance, Sonoma County Abalone Divers, Salmon Restoration Association,

Doug Hamerston, Mayor of Fort Bragg. Citizens who utilize ocean, commercial fishing a significant part of economy, city interest. We helped start MOCA with facilitation and note-taking; local jurisdiction, effort to unify position to support process from this discussion.

Steven Coleman, Environmental Director Wiyot Tribe, Table Bluff; South Humboldt Bay, mouth of Eel River, Mad River to Little River in Trinidad ancestral use; representing tribe. Coastal tribes traditional stewards, continue actively with Environmental Department. Habitat, cleanup, funds and projects. That Tribal interests be acknowledged, hunting and fishing rights that have never been ceded, cultural issues as well.

Culture and basic values

Beth Werner, Environmental Engineer Water Quality for Humboldt Baykeepers, Outreach Coordinator. Looking for consensus with other groups on MPAs.

Jennifer Savage, Samoa, have worked in media radio, Arcata Eye and McKinleyville Press, journalism. Now working many jobs, Humboldt Surfrider, hired by Ocean Conservancy in June to work on MPAs.

Greg Dale, shellfish farmer Humboldt Bay, following [the MLPA] since initiative in 1999; no specific agenda, just wise actions. Talking with property owners in South Bay, agency folks, and other stakeholders in North Bay.

Megan – Yurok Tribe, ancestral territory 50 miles of coast as well as Klamath River, meeting since August and working with Del Norte.

Todd Bienhert, Humboldt Bay Oyster Company, following process, to have input, receive input from others in Bay. [Concerned with] potential MPAs inside Humboldt Bay. Interest: business, livelihood, and lifestyle.

Gabriel Quinmarony, MOCA, Cleone; natural pharmacists, ocean potential medicine, herbal science and lab research at – university. Concerned, spending political will on this while Peripheral Canal needs opposition. Lunar Alchemy Guild, conscious evolution; when you remove a group from a habitat you are genetically modifying them, treatment of tribes excluded from areas.

Autumn Vermer, sea urchin processing and Fort Bragg Marine, MOCA, and attending MPA meetings. Urchin divers. Father is Tom Trumper, Fort Bragg, Ocean Fresh seafood processing business and Stakeholder nominee.

Judy Crumper, Sea Urchin Commission meetings, involved since first MLPA meeting. Fort Bragg 25 years, family business,

Pat Higgins, Harbor Commissioner Humboldt Bay. Trying to create a group since May. Good science-based plan that is economically acceptable. Validate with support of governments Adam Wagshall is at Headwaters Fund seeking funds for socioeconomic studies.

Kenyon Hensel, Crescent City.

Facilitators, Betsy Watson, Ella Striker, Vivian Helliwell

Attendees who came in after introductions: Dan Yoakum,....

Brainstorm on issues

And ones that we might already have consensus on:

At lunch take a pen and add or comment.

- 1) Law enforcement and wardens, is it enforceable? possible privatization of enforcement—(as in Blackwater, drones)
- 2) Tribes have issues that cannot be completely addressed in this process
- 3) Not getting info fast enough

- 4) Ask for extension of time
- 5) Ask science advisory board, since oceans may rise, will they consider rise in oceans levels
- 6) What species are in danger, can we agree that there are species in danger
- 7) Minimize economic and social impacts to North Coast communities and cultural
- 8) Scientifically valid and will be good for 500 yrs
- 9) Safety areas around harbors
- 10) Ask for exemptions for tribal use
- 11) Environmental, cultural, economic sustainability
- 12) One single proposal
- 13) Can we agree that the science they are using is valid
- 14) Want communities better informed and educated
- 15) Impacts from climate change like ocean acidification
- 16) Protective enough to preserve biodiversity
- 17) Healthy, well managed marine resources
- 18) Use this process to organize the region
- 19) Some groups' wishes or needs will be modified to meet science guidelines
Comment: How do you modify needs?
- 20) Ocean has intrinsic value
- 21) Use collaborative management models
- 22) Use process to become co-managers of the resource
- 23) Big enough that the BRTF will not override—true cross-interest, scientifically valid
- 24) Intention of people funding this are unknown, try to discover if there is a hidden agenda—intention matters. Timeline is being forced. Comment on timeline and parts of process. The data will not be available for us to use it. We want the playing field leveled.
- 25) Protect the right spots that will protect unique spots, not just socioeconomic
- 26) Can we agree on the level of scientific protection
- 27) Humboldt bay is a unique system, mariculture practices there are unique in the region, science there should be unique to area.
- 28) Fishers and gatherers are an important part of the ocean ecosystem and important part of ocean protection
- 29) Look at existing regulations and MPAs already in place

Timeline and strategy for integrating community arrays.

Probably no extension, try to meet goals within timeline

We have 1.5 months, get together at least two more times. How to integrate ideas, possibilities of Marine Map with Adam W.

Identify some ideas to focus

Major hurdles:

- 1) Developing MPAs in own region
- 2) Integrating them with other ones

Establish meeting schedule

Harbor may ask for extension, need more data. But we have some data, topography, methods of sharing information, right map format for reporting and consensus, science format, science guidelines from Pat.

Problems with prepackaged science applied to North Coast--do they reach conservation objectives? Science is a process open to question and revision. The size and spacing guidelines; science is collaborative, data welcome: will get website working. Pat will present at 1 p.m. today.

What are the advantages of an external array? Features in Marine Map, Ecotrust data will not be ready until mid-March; in other regions, external array was after stakeholder process was underway. Why have we been given such a short time-line? It was in response to community outcry, whatever you think of it. Work within the guidelines as it exists.

Facilitator-- rephrase concern: We don't have the same data as other groups have had.

Significant oil and gas deposits. Goldman Sacks had intent to develop Marine Terminal. We need more time.

★ **Consensus: We need to ask for more time.**

Process will continue through the stakeholder group. We hope there will be representatives there, that our effort will not be finished but will shift to the Stakeholder Group.

We have some maps with Ecotrust information. We should thank the [MLPA] Initiative for this information. In this way we are better off than some other regions.

Suggestion: a deadline for local groups to develop their array and meet again first or second week of Jan., meet one or two additional times.

Do we have the specific requirements that we need for the arrays? Yes. Size and spacing probably will not change; levels of protection? Probably will not stray too much from existing. Size and spacing can be challenged at the SAT meeting.

If they split the region in two, will it double the duplication requirement?

Evan Fox memo dated Dec. 11: how to begin developing an MPA array. Staff found special planning exercise to be effective.

- 1) Where are the key habitats in your study region?
- 2) Where are important use areas in your region?

Regional stakeholders: would nominees commit to continue with Tri-County Group throughout the process?

Jan. 15 is when we need to be done. Submit and then get governments behind it?

Need community drafts by Jan 1st. Discuss political strategy after it is in. Be aware of everyone's issues if you are a stakeholder; others, inform stakeholders of our issues. Then promote issues through BRTF. There will be a smaller group of stakeholders here than in other regions.

We could retain a page on the website for each group for interaction.

www.Delphiforums.com/mlpa

sub-regions already set up

At next meeting, have one representative from each group to have room for maps, and a bigger room.

Jan. first week, rough arrays

2nd week, final local arrays

Combine them

Get government buy-ins after submission

Small working group to do final edits, partly paid staff

How much time to complete final product,
final meeting to ratify the product a week before deadline.

Framework could be formed immediately, Pat and Adam and Zack, please join a subcommittee. Toolkit, technical support would be optimal. This is a draft.

[Need list of groups who will be submitting](#)

[Tribes will be meeting mid 1st week of Jan. –probably the 7th](#)

[BRTF Jan. 13-14, 2010](#)

[SAT Dec. 17-18, 2009](#)

Strategy for SAT meeting.

Small groups--how to connect with region.

[Working on one Marine Map that is interactive.](#)

Get this out for general public to see. We are responsible to them.

A [valuation](#) is going on for areas of the coast—we have not seen them yet. SAT

Who are not present?

List of key constituents and a protocol for checking in with them.

Meeting representatives can check in with constituents by phone from meeting.

We need to be well organized, better than MLP AI.

- 1) At the last meeting, I had asked for that list of who we represent. We need to request groups to submit their names and names of people in them.
- 2) Short time-frame. County situation is set up, need to meet over holidays. Get together by county.
- 3) Fishermen not here, need representatives, wives?

- 4) Letter asking for more time needs to get out today for approval by cities and counties
- 5) Cities, counties, and tribes take time to approve.

Set sights low, as it will be ongoing for a year. Put as much on the table as we can , agree to most as possible. How can we give high value habitat without the data yet. You are closer together than you realize, because without the data, map not working well, we will probably end up with minimal anyway.
Not necessarily small areas; large is good.
[It would be useful to know who will be submitting arrays.](#)

80% with minority report?? --as consensus for this group?

Get eloquent writers to get information out.

Spend time creating local arrays. Is it possible we can build one array now?

Both at the same time?

Adam offered to be a central clearinghouse. For Marine Map session.

At Moca meeting, [how do arrays score on habitat replication of the law \(valuation?\)](#)

[Proportionate to size of region.](#) Will come out at the SAT meeting.

Evan Fox of MLP AI has office hours, 12-2 on Friday--can advise on mapping. Can use maps within maps.

[\(650\) 387-9306](tel:6503879306)

evanfox@gmail.com

We have to work within geographic areas and be accountable to them. Trinidad: We sent our map to Adam to post.

***We agree that Adam will be a clearinghouse for the maps**

Have a steering committee?

***Groups get maps to Adam by Jan 5.**

Did anyone else get assigned a minder to help with maps? (Only one person did).

Harbor commission putting 1.5 million into the launch at shelter cove.

Existing fishing closures,

Safety zones around harbors.

Urchins and abalones compete. There are more abalone at Van Damme than at the Caspar Marine Reserve because the urchins have outcompeted them there.

Review of MLPA goals, master plan and guidelines.

Advise from many folks: don't feel they have a good working understanding of the mapping.

How the process works: using breakout groups to prevent coalition building. We can say we don't want to be split up.

For information, the MLP AI employs techniques to get the conversation going to where they want to go.

mlpaccomments@resources.ca.gov

Cindy Gustafson

Marine Life Protection Act Blue Ribbon Task Force

C/O California Natural Resources Agency

1416 ninth Street, Suite 1311

Sacramento, CA 95814

cgustafson@_____

John McCammon, Acting Director CDFG

Summary of MLPA Goals 1-6

Master Plan for MPAs

Scientific Guidance in Master Plan

- 1) State Marine Conservation Areas some commercial, sport fishing
- 2) State Marine Park all commercial and some recreational prohibited
- 3) State Marine Reserve most restrictive

9-18 sq mi, prefer 18-36 miles along shore

31-62 miles apart—from middle to middle

Is there an upper end limit for value score? Or does the BRTF always choose the highest value?

Law says 2 (reserves?) north of Pt. Conception; SAT and Master Plan call for more.

MLPAI wants to divide us into conservation, fish, and compromise proposals. In this region we have a more cohesive group.

Takes issue with diverse array of habitats, size and spacing.

PISCO website MPA design home ranges of 25 West Coast rocky reef fish species

Conclusion 76% of them moved less than 0.5 km.

Ling cod travel 15 km

Larval travel

Genetic models and distribution

Humboldt harbor website

Humboldtbay.org

Paid for by Cal Fisheries Coalition

Critique of the science

New Zealand decentralized management outlined in:

“Beneath the reflections: te moana o atawhenua, a user guide to fiordland marine areas”

Larger areas work better and are less economically damaging.

Get letter from Pat.

Rick Star presentation science and MPAs

Some of the rockfish we think don't travel have been found off Washington—how does that work?

They have highly variable ranges. What about the most commercially valuable ones?

We have actually very little data. I have caught [Rick Star's] tagged fish from Bolinas off Crescent City. Some things happen on decadal cycle; when fish are stressed, they move. Feed moves and fish move for genetic survival.

Science is not cast in stone. We have many different species.

I have fished all along the coast—it changes all the time. Blues will be abundant in an area for months, then not be there. They move a hundred miles, not a few.

Come to the Mendocino panel presentation stakeholder comments on the profile.

View webcast at Jeannine and Chris

[Dec 17 6-8 pm](#)

[Town hall meeting to review Regional Profile](#)

[Dec. 19 Array meeting](#)

[Dec 21 MOCA mtg](#)

[Dec 22 another science discussion](#)

Hensel studies were all done out of our area; things move more here.

[Peer review of Draft Regional Profile](#) is on [Albionharbor.org](#)
[Comments due Jan 15.](#)

Coastal management and human uses atlas

The wave energy leases off Centerville and Ft. Bragg have been surrendered.

For information about native lands look at Regional Profile and Marine Map at the same time.

Tribal coalition created a map of ancestral uses, but did not get it in in time.

Yurok reservation is not identified (dfg stated they do not have jurisdiction there); therefore, the Klamath region should not be included in your arrays.

Trinidad did submit our tribal map in time and it did not appear.

It appears they are selective in what they include in the regional profile. Two small paragraphs appear. [What is the responsibility if information is submitted?](#)

Include list of things left out for letter asking for extension.

Darcie Conner said different groups were responsible for different parts of the document.

They are bound by CEQA within about two weeks of end of process. Continue to load the record. –“You did not include this—in violation of CEQA.”

Very specific question prompts—I responded expecting they would be included and they were not.

Goals and objectives: glaring absence of social and economic data

Reserves document is an earlier one. Attorney general determined, State Marine Reserve, any human activity that may harm any organism is prohibited. Oil rigs and other.

What is the regional profile used for? It is important to me where tribal uses are, but basic information like where the study region ends and begins is not there.
It is not a decision-making document.

Let's discuss the SAT meeting.

Very high concern by cities, counties, harbors about economics. Vehicle for commenting is the Profiles. [Humboldt Bay] Harbor District has applied to Headwaters Fund, can make a top rate study, but not in time for the comments. If it is put into the record, it has to be considered.

Make short lists of what is missing "lack of rocky beach" or what you see.

Public comment only available on the 17th [SAT meeting]. You can ask questions tomorrow [16th].

A Reserve is a no extraction reserve; you can swim, kayak, surf.
The Attorney General says --it is clouded. If you want a use, you have to define it; if you want to exclude something you have to define it.

Member of Science Team said any human activity has a negative impact.
Commission has authority besides fishing. It says no take, not no fishing. What other activities need to be addressed besides fishing. Oil, wave energy, pollution.
Bring some of these things put before the Science Team.
How to protect areas to extent possible.

Mendocino Fire Protection District. How can rescue equipment be incorporated in science guidelines for safe harbors, entry and exit that support health and safety? Access.

Scientific research would be allowed in the reserves. Funded by Packard Foundation who run Monterey Aquarium. Conflict of interest. Are there plans to open an aquarium in Fort Bragg. How can the local community benefit rather than outside research interests?

Use of sonar if injurious to fish is it allowed? Miller-Henson said yes because [MLPA] is to protect habitat not fish.

Connection is clear between conflicting interests; it is not fruitful to pursue that here.

MLPA law: Reserves [prohibit] all extractive activities, at discretion of the Commission, open to the public for [non-extractive uses].

It is possible to have legal action to define legal ambiguities later.

Break.

Talking points for SAT continued:

Level of protection in Conservation Areas to different fisheries. They have decided on some salmon fishing, etc. Are we comfortable with what they have decided?

[SAT] may decide tomorrow

High level of protection to commercial and sport crabbing.

Comments for SAT

Get the list out for tomorrow's meeting.

You can also submit written comments.

12:45 Thursday public comment not on agenda.

Zack and Jim should ask Wednesday when to present the map?

Moderately high [LOP] for salmon outside – feet.

Urchin fishing, tribal uses and protections. Urchins got a low LOP (level of protection) in Southern California, but they have predators there. Lobster, sea otters.

We have low predator rates for abalone and urchin.

They take comments not questions.

They will take public comment on any action item before the vote.

Overarching issue: we do not have enough time.

Ask the science team to request more time, since they are named in the law.

Lack key biological data does not provide scientific basis

Fewer, Larger MPAs that are less economically constraining and are more effective

--not the PISCO guidelines

--could be compared to down south

Shift of fishing into other areas with negative effects.

Near ports, economic consequences: Albion, Ft. Bragg, Shelter Cove, Eureka, Trinidad, Crescent City

Safety zones

4 or 5 that repeat

More time would allow for the needed corrections.

Replication: if the area is split into 2 bioregions, will there be twice as many MPAs?

How well has the Science Team digested the Regional Profile and how accurate is the information in it, and if not what are they going to do about providing the information we need to go ahead with the process??

At the first SAT meeting, a working group was formed to gather data on traditional tribal ecological practices. How are they going to do that? No one has been contacted.

How is the tribal information going to be incorporated into the other SAT groups, such as LOP.

Do they believe the information in the Regional Profile is complete and accurate?

Leveling the playing field. Suggest the SAT use the Tri-county group as a community advisory group.

Discussion: Wrong direction. Repeating the same thing makes boards mad. Put in writing and give justification.

This is our only chance to get size and spacing changed.

We have a tribal coalition and we are not getting the answers. Put it in writing. Cc it to everyone. Your only power is to put it in the record.

There is information to come in the future. Do you feel it is right for the SAT to be making decisions before the other documents are finalized?

My public comment cannot be complete until the info is fully available.

Science ethics. They should have one person or a committee in charge of science of ethics.

CDFG is running the SAT meetings here, not the [MLPA] Initiative: [CDFG] asks is it feasible, enforceable, and doing anything to protect fish and wildlife?

Dividing the bioregion—does it double the replications? Yes.

Unique habitats require more replications.

How many replications of certain types do we need in this bioregion?

Items F,G, and H on Wednesday.

The Draft Profile says we are overfished—we are not.

First convey that we are working together.

Representative from the Tri-county group? For Thursday.

1) each group speak to talking points

2) spokesman for group

★ 3) both

There are documents that the SAT will be considering tomorrow.

Discussion on habitat, etc?

Do we have a Tri-county working group?

Is there anyone opposed? (no)

★We have a Tri-county Working Group.

How do we define this group? Read a list of groups involved?

Informal—we all showed up.

★Working toward producing a single array that works.

Truly cross-interest

Meets science guidelines

(discussion of science guidelines changing)

Protects economic interests and

Protects tribal customary, cultural and historic uses

Dates for meetings, timeline

Phone Tree Subcommittee

Jeannine, Betsy, Zack, Jennifer

Jan 5 maps to Adam

BRTF Jan 13-14 crescent city

Jan. 12 Tuesday Eureka all day, use tech webinars, subgroups

Jan 18 Monday Benbow

Jan 27 Wednesday HSU

(pm Hsu hosting ocean management seminars)

Levels of protection, spacing.

Division of bioregions

Most agreed at last SAT that split should be at the Mattole R.
Would there be more replications? Will be decided tomorrow.
Are we OK with them approving the split before the data is in?
I have issue with SAT deciding without the data.

Protocol for handling science guidance questions

Make briefing documents available to the public

General comment: Give consideration to existing fishing regulations
Adam, Jim and Zack ask to present map of fishing regulations at meeting
Also in public comments on Thursday.

Zack and Adam speak for Tri-County group, Beth and Megan
Speak to each agenda item.

First item after dinner—Adam's maps.