

## Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



### Update on MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT) Activities

Presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

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April 22, 2008, BRTF • San Rafael, CA

## SAT Meetings

### Prior Meetings -

- June 26, 2007
- August 16, 2007
- September 17, 2007
- October 1, 2007
- November 13, 2007
- January 8, 2008
- January 23, 2008
- April 3, 2008 - update

### Upcoming Meeting -

- May 30, 2008

## April 3, 2008 SAT Meeting Agenda

- Species likely to benefit from MPAs
- SAT evaluation methods
- Review of SAT evaluation of NCCRSO MPA proposals
- Review of modeling results (NCCRSO proposals)
- Science questions

## Species Likely to Benefit List

Added new species to list for north central coast:

- Barred surfperch

Discussed these species, but decided not to add to list of species likely to benefit:

- Flat abalone
- Northern abalone
- White shark

## SAT Evaluation Methods

Review of SAT portion of Evaluation Methods document

- Level of Protection (LOP)
  - Discussed how to operationalize salmon trolling in <50m
  - Included pelagic finfish (hook and line) within the High (at >50m depth) and Mod/High (at <50m depth) LOP
  - Assigned depth rule to coastal pelagic finfish (pelagic seine)
  - Croaker by any hook and line method and smelt by any hook and line method and hand/dip nets assigned “Moderate”
- Mariculture
  - Discussed revisions to document text on mariculture based on new information received
  - Retained existing level of protection assignment for mariculture (using existing methods)
- Socioeconomics
  - Discussed incorporating some text revisions on Ecotrust analysis

## Levels of Protection

Level of Protection	MPA Types	Activities associated with this protection level
Very high	SMR	No take
High	SMCA	<b>In water depth &gt; 50m: pelagic finfish by hook and line</b> (salmon by troll only); coastal pelagic finfish by seine
Moderate-high	SMCA	<b>In water depth &lt; 50m: pelagic finfish by hook and line</b> (salmon by troll only); <b>coastal pelagic finfish by seine</b> ; Dungeness crab (traps/pots), squid (pelagic seine)
Moderate	SMCA SMP	salmon (non-troll H&L); abalone (diving); halibut, white seabass, shore-based finfish, <b>croaker</b> , and flatfishes (H&L); <b>smelt (H&amp;L and hand/dip nets)</b> ; clams (hand harvest); giant kelp (hand harvest)
Moderate-low	SMCA SMP	Urchin (diving); lingcod, cabezon, greenling, rockfish, and other reef fish (H&L); surfperches (H&L)
Low	SMCA SMP	bull kelp and mussels (any method); all trawling; giant kelp (mechanical harvest); mariculture ( <b>existing</b> methods)

## SAT Evaluation of NCCRSG Proposals

SAT reviewed presentations on evaluations of:

- Habitat Representation & Replication (Goals 1 and 4)
- Size and Spacing (Goals 2 and 6)
- Marine Birds and Mammals (Goal 2)
- Socioeconomics

## SAT Modeling Work Group

- SAT reviewed presentations and synthesis document on results of using two models to evaluate NCCRSG MPA proposals:
  - Equilibrium Delay-difference Optimization Model (Costello, Walters, Hilborn)
  - Population Sustainability and Yield Model (Botsford)
- Discussed work group recommendations to BRTF on use of models for planning and evaluation



## Science Questions

- SAT approved responses to final science questions from NCCRS
- SAT discussed some potential MLPA South Coast Study Region science questions



## Next Steps

- Finalize evaluation methods document
- Finalize SAT evaluations of north central coast proposals forwarded to the California Fish and Game Commission, as needed
- Department of Fish and Game director has asked current SAT members about their interest in serving on the SAT for south coast