



Marine Life Protection Act



California Department of Fish and Game Evaluation and Guidance for NCCRSG MPA Proposals

MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Meeting

April 22, 2008 • San Rafael, CA

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Overview

- **Department *does not***
 - make recommendation for preferred alternative
 - support any individual stakeholder proposal
- Purpose of review: To ensure proposals meet Department guidelines **and goals of MLPA**

Proposals Outcomes:

- **Proposals have converged significantly**
 - Locations
 - MPA design
- **Differences exist in**
 - Proposed regulations
 - Inclusion/exclusion of individual MPAs



Department Concerns

Concerns Include

- Inadequate improvements to existing MPAs
- Lack of boundary or regulation clarity or difficulties with enforcement
- Incomplete development of reasonable and measurable goals and objectives
- MPAs unnecessary to fulfill the MLPA mandate and with inadequate protection



Existing MPAs

Inadequate Improvements to Existing MPAs

- Boundary concerns not addressed
- Level of protection not improved
 - Due to liberal take allowances, intertidal boundaries, etc...

MPAs include

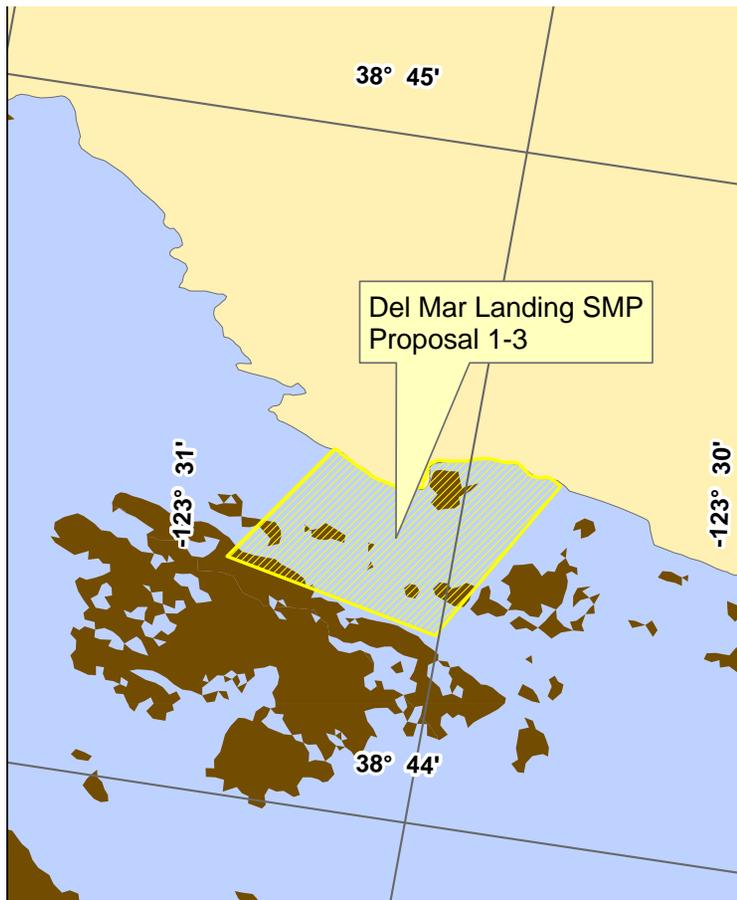
- Del Mar
- Duxbury Reef (intertidal portions)



Existing MPAs: Del Mar

Not Improved

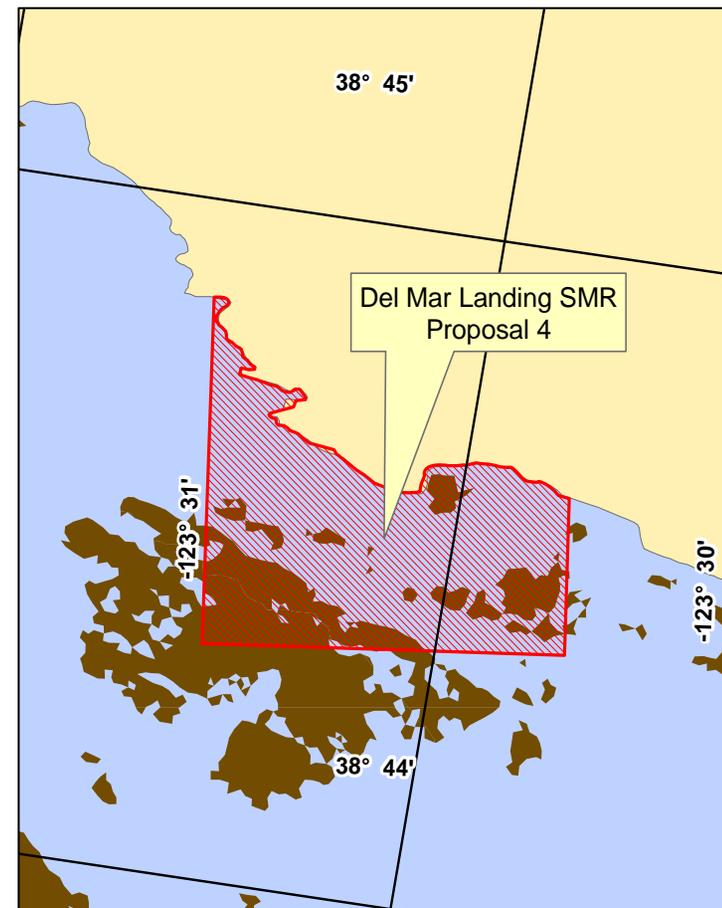
- Boundaries do not meet guidelines
- Allows most existing take to continue



Proposal 1-3

Improved

- Boundaries meet guidelines
- LOP increased



Proposal 4



Existing MPAs: Duxbury Reef area

Science guidelines

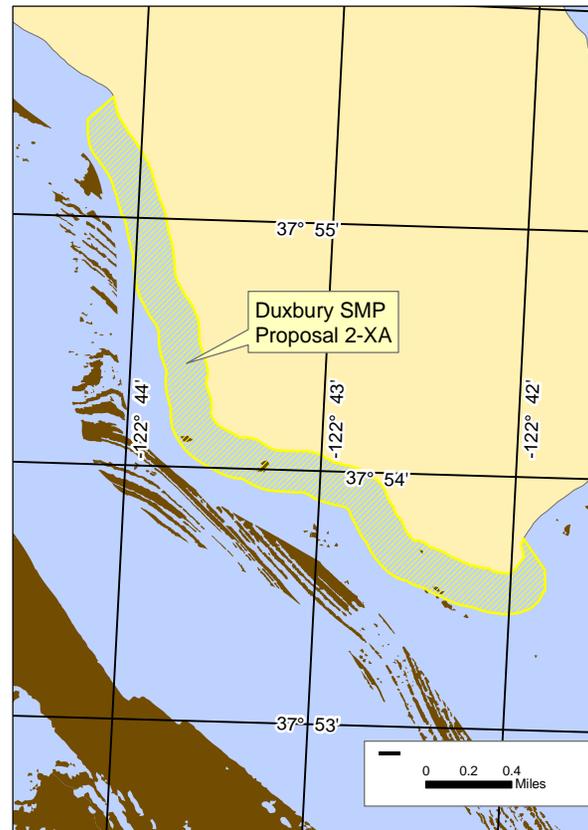
- Not recommended
- Should extend to deeper waters
- Allows most existing take

Feasibility

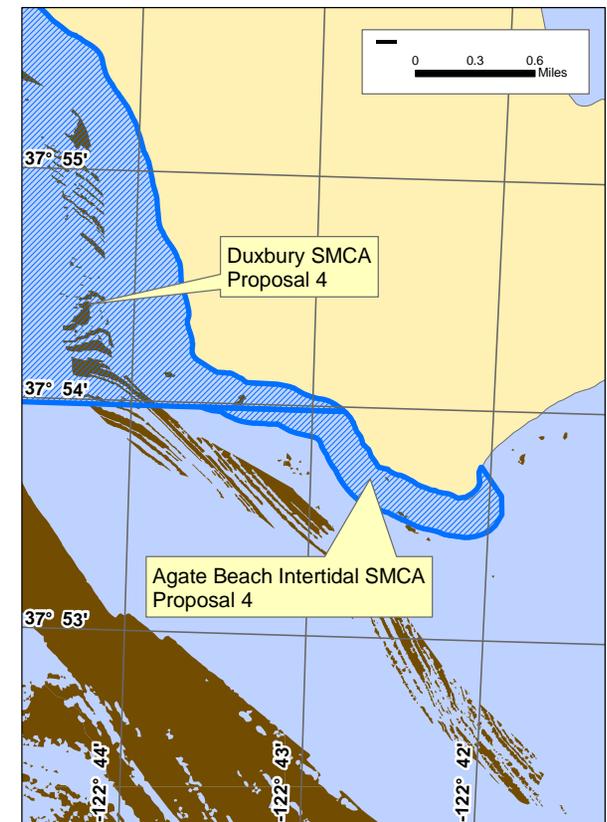
- Difficult to enforce
- Confusing boundaries (distance offshore)



Proposal 1-3



Proposal 2-XA



Proposal 4



Feasibility: Boundaries, Regulations

MPAs with boundary concerns

- Del Mar Landing SMP (1-3)
- Bodega Head SMCA (1-3); SMR (4)
- Duxbury Reef area (All)
- Black Point SMCA & SMR (2-XA)

MPAs with multiple zoning concerns

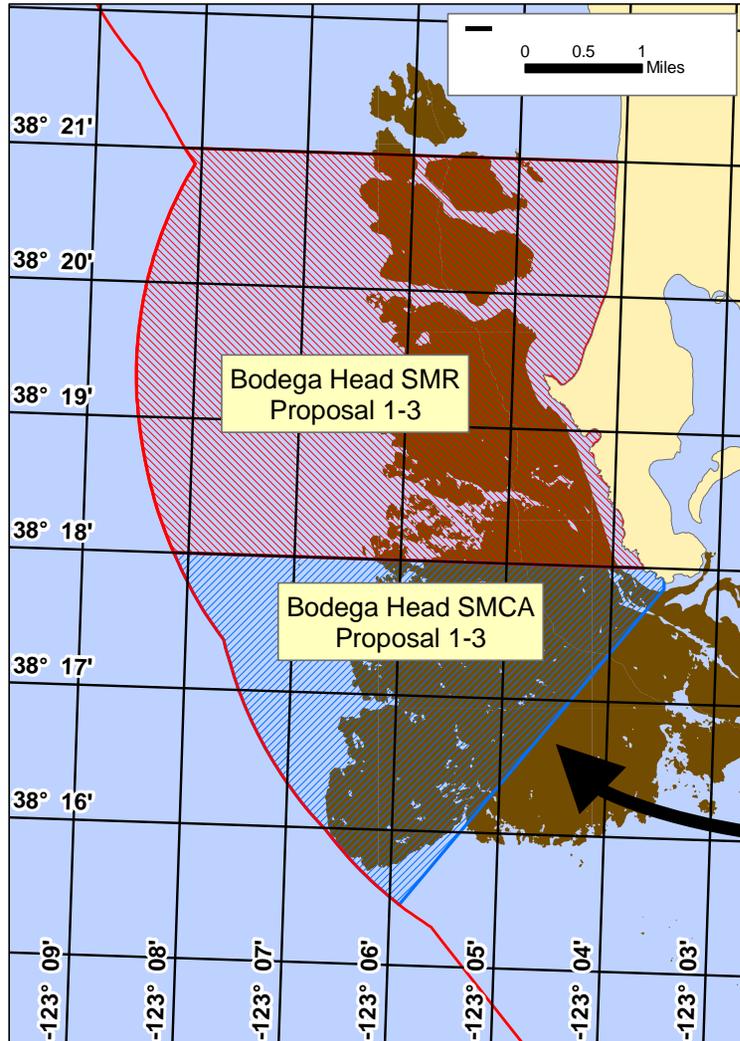
- Duxbury Reef area (4)

MPAs with designation/ regulation concerns

- Estuary SMRs should use SMRMAs where **waterfowl** hunting occurs
- Fisheries management measure
 - Russian River SMCA (2-XA)



Boundary Feasibility: Bodega Head



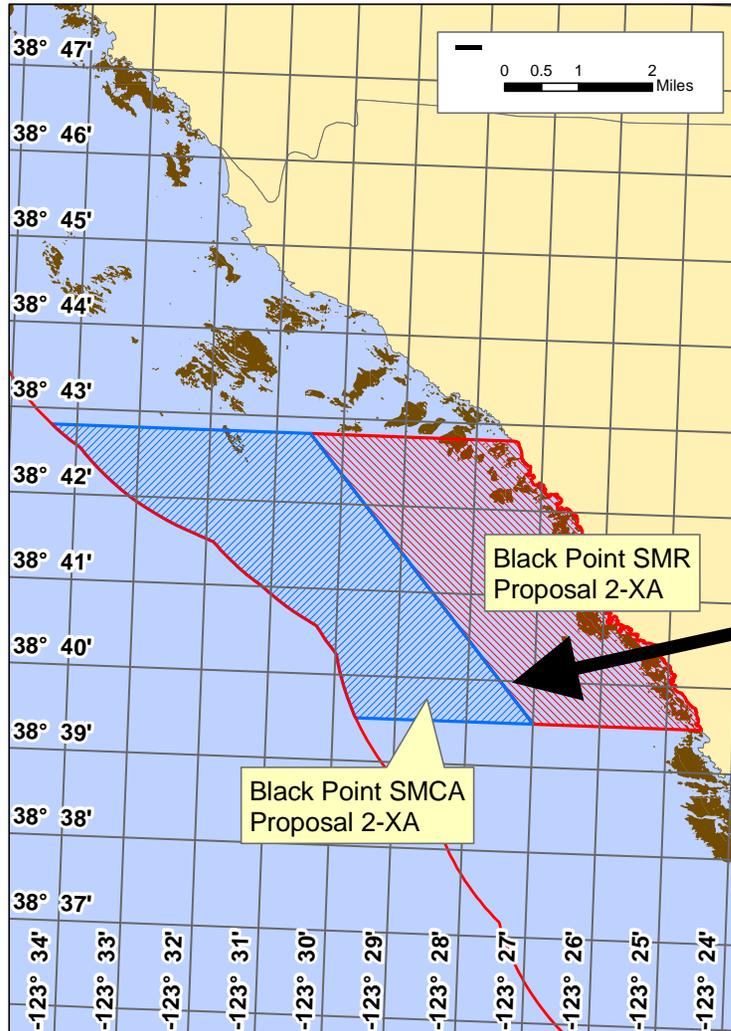
Proposal 1-3

Diagonal line

- Difficult to enforce
- Decreases public understanding



Boundary Feasibility: Black Point



Diagonal line

- Not anchored at whole minutes
- Difficult to enforce
- Decreases public understanding

Proposal 2-XA



Multiple Concerns - Duxbury Reef

- Allowed take
- Intertidal MPAs
- Confusing boundaries
- Multiple zoning



Proposal 1-3



Proposal 2-XA



Proposal 4



Designation concerns

Estuary SMRs should use SMRMAs where **waterfowl** hunting occurs



Proposal 1-3



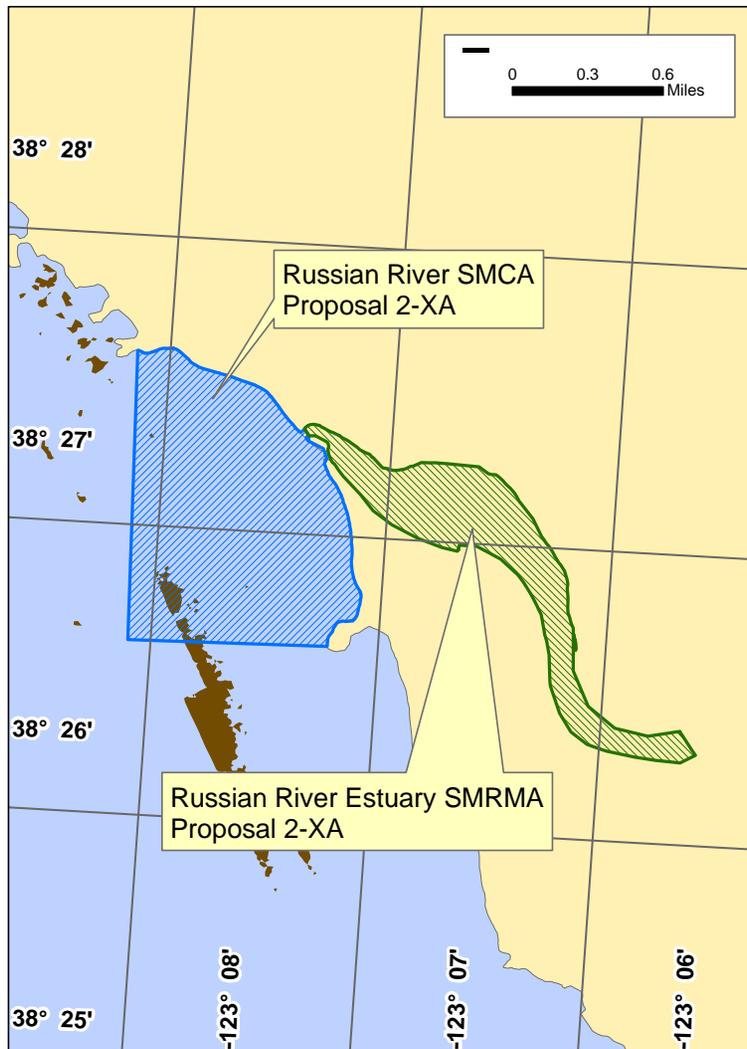
Proposal 2-XA



Proposal 4



Regulation concerns



Fishery management

- Russian River SMCA (2-XA)
 - Only restricts the take of salmon
 - Acts as a fishery management measure
- Remedies
 - Eliminate the MPA from the proposal
 - Change take allowances
 - Use salmon fishery regulations

Designation concerns

- Russian River (Estuary) SMRMA
 - **Waterfowl** hunting has not occurred in several years use SMR



Goals and Objectives (G&O)

- **NCC regional goals and objectives**
 - Developed by NCCRSG
 - Regional goals adopted from MLPA
 - Objectives specifically crafted for MPAs and region
 - Considered and selected as MPAs were developed
- **Purpose of goals and objectives**
 - Collectively fulfil MLPA goals and network objectives
 - Drive MPA design (geographic placement, boundaries, regulations, designation)
 - Guide future monitoring activities and evaluation
 - Influence future adaptive management



Goals and Objectives (G&O)

- **Evaluation overview**
 - Examines compatibility of proposed MPAs with stated objectives
 - Provides recommendations to fix incompatibility
 - Intent to help ensure MPAs are successful and advance intent of MLPA



Goals and Objectives (G&O)

Example of content

- Table and document with **Yellow** and **Grey** highlights
- **Yellow** = one type of activity is incompatible with objectives - Department recommends fixing the goals and objectives or allowed uses
- **Grey** = multiple activities hinder meeting intent of MLPA or science guidelines - **Department recommends removing these MPAs**

| Area | (Proposal) MPA | Type of Goals and Objectives Concern | | | | Options to Remedy |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------|---|
| | | Conflicts with specified allowed take | Not appropriate for type of MPA | Not applicable at scale of individual MPA | Other Concern | |
| Point Arena | (1-3) Point Arena SMR | | G2-04 | G4-02, G6 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| | (1-3) Point Arena SMCA | | G1-01, G1-05 | G4-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| | (2-XA) Point Arena SMR | G1-04 | | G4-02, G5-02, G6-01, G6-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| | (2-XA) Point Arena SMCA | G1-04 | G1-01, G1-05 | G4-02, G5-02, G6-01, G6-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objective, or • Delete G1-01, G1-05, G4-02, G5-02, G6-01, G6-02, and disallow take of pelagic finfish |
| | (4) Point Arena SMR, Sea Lion Cove SMCA | | | G4-02, G5-02, G6-01, G6-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| | (4) Point Arena SMCA | | G1-01, G1-05 | G4-02, G5-02, G6-01, G6-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| Saunders Reef | (1-3) Saunder's Reef SMCA | G1-02, G1-03 | | G4-02, G5-02 | G5-03 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate MPA, or • Delete G4-02, G5-02, G5-03 and reduce allowed take |
| | (4) Saunders Reef SMCA | | | G4-02, G5-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate MPA, or • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |
| Del Mar Landing | (1-3) Del Mar Landing SMP | | | | G3-02 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate MPA, or • Reduce allowed take. |
| | (4) Del Mar Landing SMR | | | G5-02 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate MPA, or • Delete all problematic goals/objectives |



G&O Concerns: Wrong Scale or MPA Type

Most common problem (~75%)

- **Application at inappropriate scale or to inappropriate MPA type**
 - Example: Network objective applied to an MPA
G5-O2: “For all MPAs in the region involve interested parties to help develop objectives, a long term monitoring plan...”
 - Example: Inappropriate objective applied to an SMR
G2-O4: “Protect selected species...while allowing harvest...through use of state marine conservation areas and state marine parks”
(inappropriate for SMR)
- **Suggested remedy:** Delete problematic objectives



G&O Concerns: Conflicting Take

- **One type of allowed activity/take conflicts with objective(s) and/or narrative reason for establishing MPA**

- **Example:**

Narrative reason for establishing MPA and selecting G1-04:
“Protect natural trophic structure and food webs, including pelagic finfish that serve as prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals”

Conflicting allowed take: Pelagic finfish



G&O Concerns: Conflicting Take

- **Proposed MPAs with single conflicting take**
 - Point Arena SMCA (2-XA)
 - Black Point SMCA (2-XA)
 - Bodega Head SMCA (1-3 and 2-XA)
 - Point Reyes SMCA (All)
 - Pillar Point SMCA (2-XA)
 - SE Farallon SMCA (2-XA)
- **Suggested remedies**
 - Delete problematic objective(s), or
 - Remove allowed take in question



Designing Protection

MPAs unnecessary to fulfill the MLPA mandate and with inadequate protection

- **Allows most existing take to continue**
- **Conflicts with intent of MLPA**
- **Does not provide true improvement to MPA network**
- **Remedies**
 - Reduce the allowed take
 - Eliminate the MPA from the proposal



Intent of the MLPA

- **MPAs unnecessary to fulfill the MLPA mandate and/or with inadequate protection**
 - Saunder's Reef SMCA (1-3 & 4)
 - Del Mar Landing SMP (1-3)
 - Salt Point SMP (4)
 - Double Point SMCA (1-3)
 - Duxbury SMP (2-XA)
 - Duxbury SMCA (4)
 - Agate Beach Intertidal SMCA (4)
 - Montara SMCA (1-3)
 - San Gregorio SMR (4)



Special Closures

Most Special Closures meet Department guidelines

Concerns

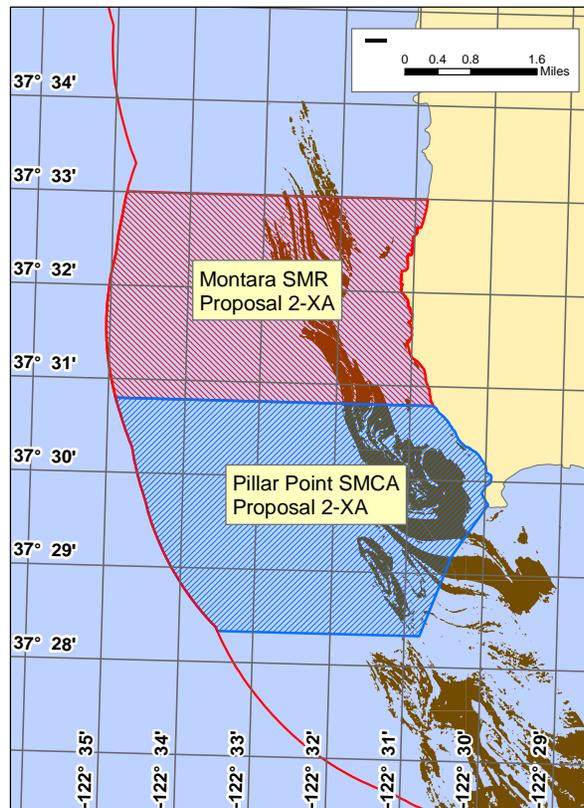
- Shore access
 - Pebble Beach/ Bean Hollow (1-3)
 - Point Resistance (1-3 & 2-XA)
- Boundary distance
 - Point Resistance (1-3)
[500' vs recommended 300' or 1000']



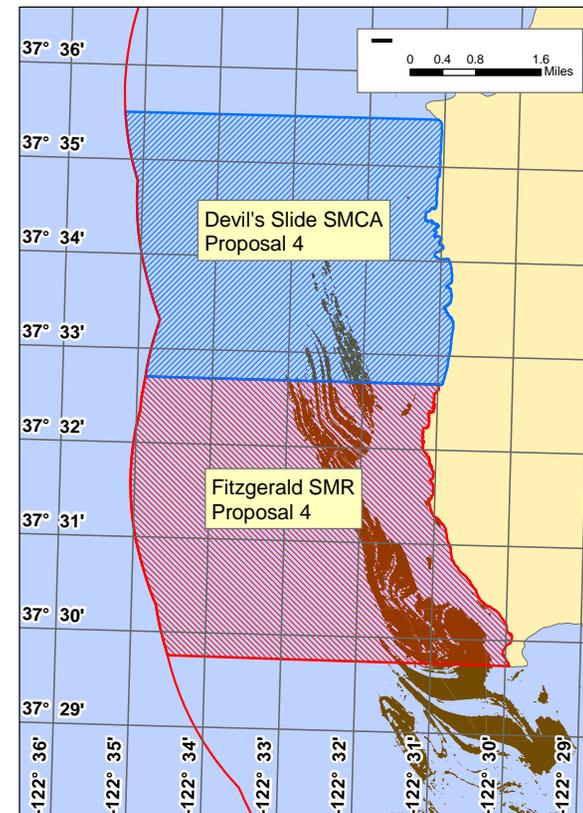
Design to Support Monitoring/Adaptive Management

- Preferred cluster design: North/south orientation
- Consider other feasibility or goal and objectives concerns

Fitzgerald (2-XA)



Fitzgerald (4)

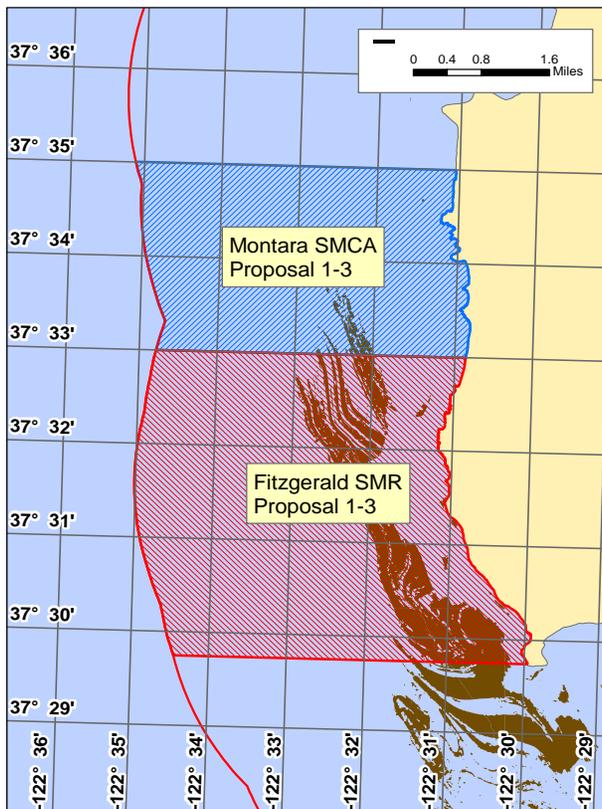




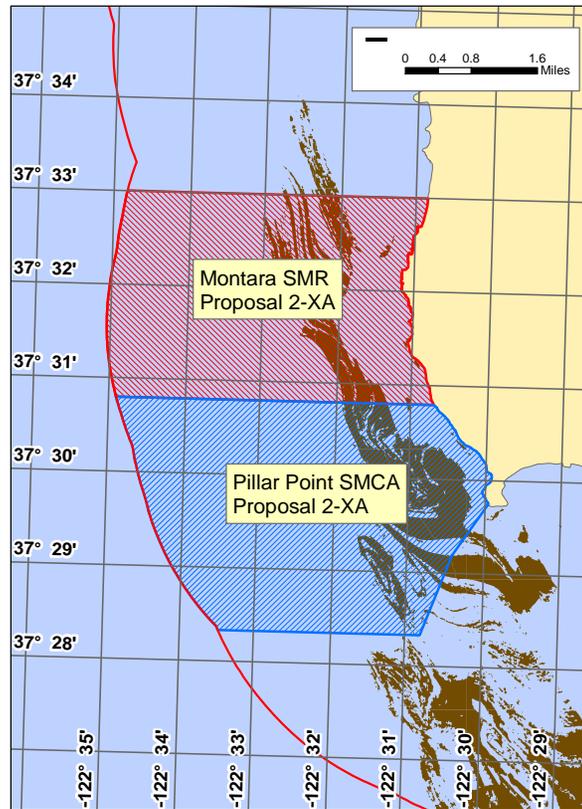
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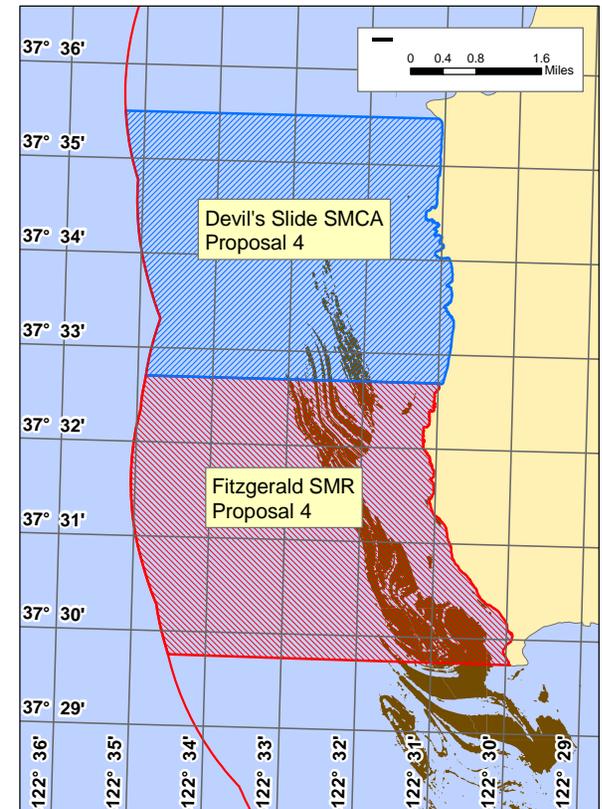
Fitzgerald (1-3)



Fitzgerald (2-XA)



Fitzgerald (4)

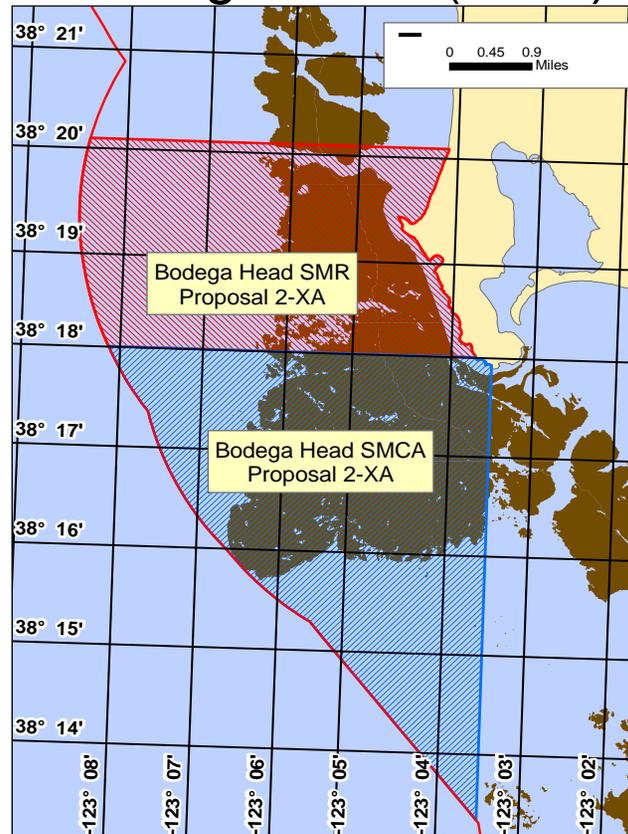




Design to Support Monitoring/Adaptive Management

- **Preferred cluster design:** North/south orientation
- Designed to achieve certain objectives

Bodega Head (2-XA)

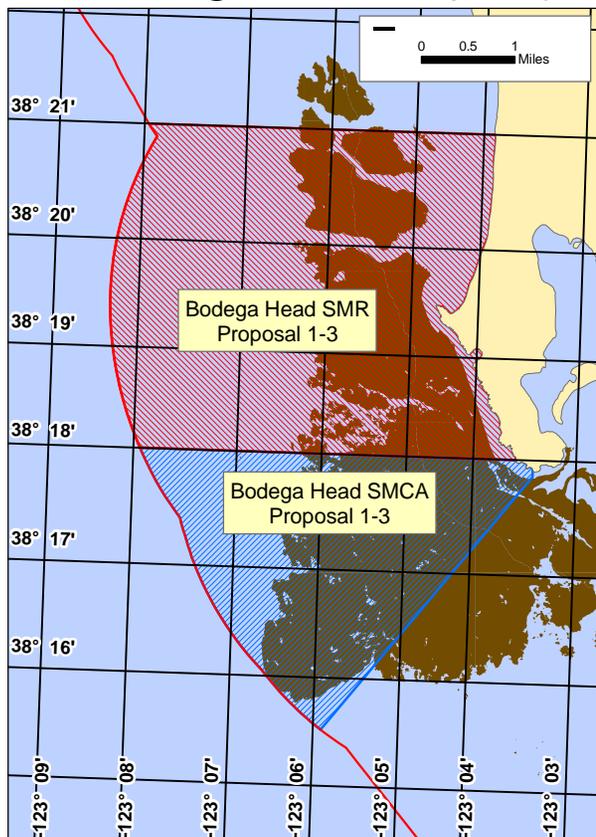




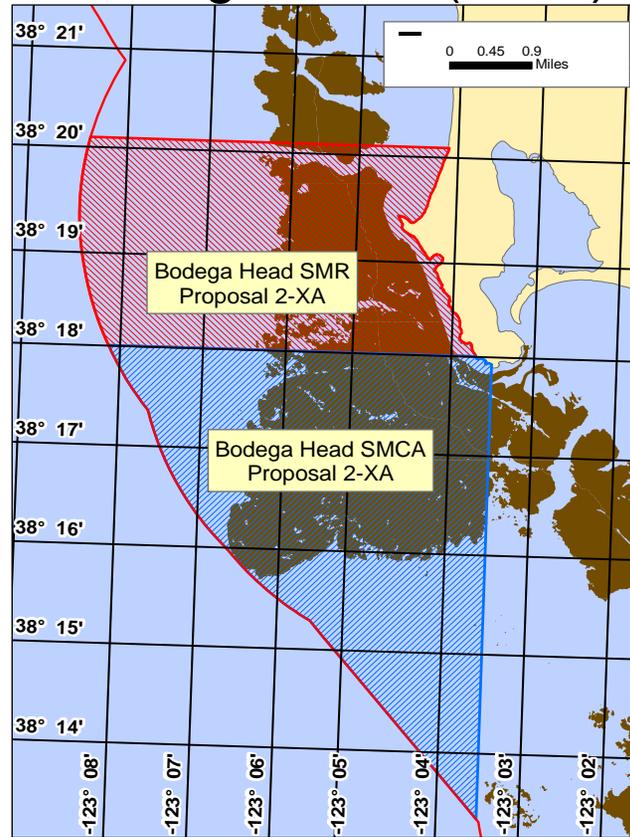
Design to Support Monitoring/Adaptive Management

- **Preferred cluster design:** North/south orientation
- Design configurations achieve different objectives
- Consider feasibility/public understanding/enforcement concerns

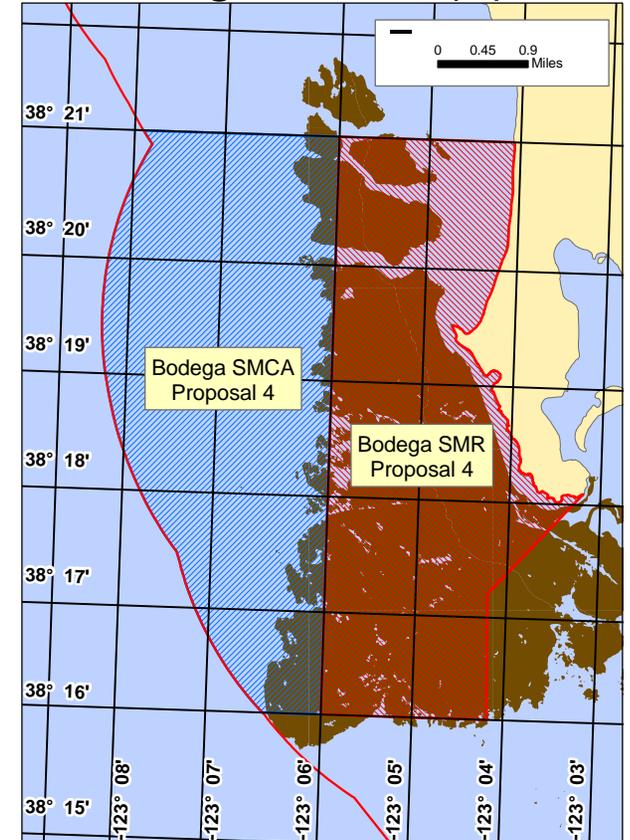
Bodega Head (1-3)



Bodega Head (2-XA)



Bodega Head (4)





Summary of Department Recommendations

- Recommends the BRTF revise goals and objectives for all proposals forwarded;
- Recommends adjustments in BRTF preferred alternative to meet feasibility concerns;
- Recommends eliminating from proposals MPAs that do not meet the intent of the MLPA