

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
General Description of the Work Product
from the Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group Process**

The MLPA includes certain requirements for marine protected area (MPA) proposals and management. These requirements are described in greater detail in the draft master plan framework (MPF). The draft MPF also describes what should be included in alternative proposals for MPAs in a region. Some of these requirements are informational, such as descriptions of human activities and the distribution of habitats. Fulfilling other requirements depends upon developing alternatives or making choices about such matters as goals and objectives, boundaries, and restrictions on activities. All of these requirements are summarized in the "Suggested Outline for Regional Management Plans of Marine Protected Areas" in the draft MPF.

Staff is largely responsible for preparing necessary background information for the Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (CCRSG) and recording and developing products of the CCRSG to ensure completion of the MLPA Central Coast Project. Staff will also facilitate discussions of the CCRSG and convene and support work teams.

The CCRSG's focus is to share knowledge about the resources, identify issues, develop regional and MPA-specific goals and objectives, evaluate existing MPAs, develop MPA alternatives, consider MPA alternatives proposed by others, and provide input on the potential positive and negative aspects of the alternatives.

The Central Coast Science Sub-Team of the Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SST/SAT) will provide scientific support to the CCRSG.

The principal product of this process will be a document that will include the following elements:

1. **Executive summary**, including alternative MPAs proposed by the CCRSG and their initial evaluation, and a basic map of the region.
2. **Regional profile**: biological, oceanographic, socioeconomic aspects, including the distribution of representative and unique habitats and the distribution of human activities. Much of this information may be presented in maps.
3. **Regional goals and objectives**, consistent with the MPF and the MLPA.
4. **Evaluation of existing MPAs** and other management programs against regional goals and objectives, the MLPA and the MPF, and identification of gaps, if any. Maps of MPAs, other relevant programs, and overlap with representative habitats may be included.
5. **Potential MPA locations**, including existing MPAs. Maps of these locations, together with general ecological, oceanographic, and socio-economic information may be included.

6. **Proposals for individual MPAs**, including:
 - Profile of potential MPA locations
 - Goals and objectives, consistent with regional goals and objectives and the MLPA
 - Potential changes to existing MPAs
 - Boundaries and other relevant management measures, with maps.
 - Potentially significant positive and negative impacts of individual MPAs
7. **Alternative packages of individual MPAs** that ultimately will contribute to a network within the biogeographic region. Maps of proposed groups of MPAs included.
8. **Evaluation of alternative packages** against regional goals and objectives, the MPF, the MLPA, and other law.
9. **Regional MPA management plan.**

Please see sections 2, 3, and 4, as well as appendices F and K of the draft master plan framework for more detail about these elements.