

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Recreational Fishing Grounds and Values Data Collection

Presentation to the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

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Outline

- **Overview – Survey design**
- **Analysis of the fishing grounds**
- **Status and use**
- **Next steps**

Survey Design

- **Focusing on four primary groups of recreational anglers:**
 - Commercial passenger fishing vessels
 - Private boat recreational anglers
 - Kayak-based anglers
 - Pier and shore anglers
- **Stratified study area into 3 geographic regions**
 - Ocean Beach in San Francisco County and south to include the main port at Pillar Point,
 - San Francisco Bay access points to Point Reyes, and
 - Point Reyes north to Alder Creek to include the main harbor at Bodega Bay.

Data Collection

- **Same as commercial fisheries data collection**
 - **Open OceanMap**
- **Shared protocol: Identify all fishing areas/locations that are of value over their cumulative fishing experience, and to rank these using a weighted percentage (i.e. an imaginary “bag of 100 pennies” that they distribute over the fishing grounds)**

Data Collection - Values

- **Values are expressed and ranked by fishermen as well. This is to help explain why recreational fishermen value particular areas (see draft document):**
 - Absence of commercial fishing presence
 - Absence of other fishermen (i.e. seclusion)
 - Availability of high numbers of fish
 - Availability of large fish
 - Boat size/type
 - Communication with/suggestions of other fishermen
 - Price of fuel
 - Proximity to harbor facility/access point
 - Travel time to the location
 - Weather
 - Other, please list:

Data Collection – Completed Interviews

- **Total Completed – 101**
 - Commercial passenger fishing vessels – 20
 - Private boat recreational anglers – 49
 - Kayak-based anglers – 13
 - Pier and shore anglers - 19

Data Collection – Completed Interviews

Commercial passenger fishing vessels	
San Francisco County and south, including Pillar Point	5
San Francisco Bay access points to Point Reyes	8
Point Reyes north to Alder Creek, including Bodega Bay	7
Total	20
Private boat recreational anglers	
San Francisco County and south, including Pillar Point	22
San Francisco Bay access points to Point Reyes	17
Point Reyes north to Alder Creek, including Bodega Bay	10
Total	49
Kayak-based anglers	
San Francisco County and south, including Pillar Point	7
San Francisco Bay access points to Point Reyes	1
Point Reyes north to Alder Creek, including Bodega Bay	5
Total	13
Pier and shore anglers	
San Francisco County and south, including Pillar Point	11
San Francisco Bay access points to Point Reyes	5
Point Reyes north to Alder Creek, including Bodega Bay	3
Total	19

Analyzing the Fishing Grounds

- **Same method of analysis as developed in central coast process – creating a weighted surface that represents the stated importance of different areas for each fishery**
- **Unlike the commercial fishing grounds, no weighting occurs**
 - Strictly based on stated importance

Review of the Fishing Grounds

- Draft maps have been reviewed and verified by a select number of fishermen so that they are now available in DRAFT form in order to make them available to the RSG at this meeting
- Additional reviews will be occurring in the next two weeks and final maps with changes will be available soon after
- See handout for list of datasets

Next Steps

- **Draft maps and review**
- **Final maps to stakeholders – By the next RSG meeting**
- **Incorporated into impact evaluations – In the next round**
- **Final Report**