

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Central Coast Project**

Candidate MPA Package 1

OVERVIEW OF CANDIDATE MPA PACKAGES

Package Name: CCRSG PACKAGE 1

Type of MPA	# Proposed	Area (sq. mi)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve	14	22.15	1.93%
State Marine Park	1	3.65	0.32%
State Marine Conservation Area	21	200.47	17.43%
All MPAs combined	36	226.27	19.68%

Individual MPAs in Package:

Ano Nuevo State Marine Reserve (0.60 sq. mi.)	Alder Creek State Marine Reserve (3.82 sq. mi.)
Greyhound Rock State Marine Conservation Area (13.78 sq. mi.)	Alder Creek State Marine Conservation Area (10.08 sq. mi.)
Greyhound Rock State Marine Reserve (3.64 sq. mi.)	Cambria State Marine Park (3.65 sq. mi.)
Sand Hill Bluff Intertidal State Marine Reserve (0.48 sq. mi.)	Cambria State Marine Conservation Area (29.10 sq. mi.)
Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve (1.36 sq. mi.)	Atascadero Beach State Marine Conservation Area (1.75 sq. mi.)
Moro Cojo Estuary State Marine Reserve (0.82 sq. mi.)	Atascadero Beach Intertidal State Marine Conservation Area (0.05 sq. mi.)
Monterey Submarine Canyon No Bottom Contact State Marine Conservation Area (17.40 sq. mi.)	Morro Bay Harbor State Marine Conservation Area (3.03 sq. mi.)
Monterey Canyon No-Trawl State Marine Conservation Area (50.70 sq. mi.)	Morro Beach State Marine Conservation Area (2.23 sq. mi.)
Ed Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area (0.15 sq. mi.)	Morro Beach Intertidal State Marine Conservation Area (0.04 sq. mi.)
Hopkins State Marine Reserve (0.15 sq. mi.)	Diablo Canyon State Marine Reserve (2.63 sq. mi.)
Pacific Grove Intertidal State Marine Reserve (0.12 sq. mi.)	Diablo Canyon State Marine Conservation Area (5.69 sq. mi.)
Pacific Grove – Monterey State Marine Conservation Area (3.71 sq. mi.)	Avila Harbor State Marine Conservation Area (1.58 sq. mi.)
Cypress Pinnacles State Marine Reserve (0.47 sq. mi.)	Intertidal Pismo-Oceano Pismo Clam State Marine Conservation Area (0.08 sq. mi.)
Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area (2.16 sq. mi.)	Pismo-Oceano Pismo Clam State Marine Conservation Area (4.53 sq. mi.)
Pt. Lobos State Marine Conservation Area (7.43 sq. mi.)	Vandenberg Zone 4 State Marine Reserve (2.59 sq. mi.)
Point Lobos State Marine Reserve (3.37 sq. mi.)	Vandenberg State Marine Reserve (2.48 sq. mi.)
North Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area (8.51 sq. mi.)	Vandenberg Zone 4 State Marine Conservation Area (28.05 sq. mi.)
South Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area (7.79 sq. mi.)	
Big Creek State Marine Reserve (2.26 sq. mi.)	

CCRSG Package 1: North Central Coast Study Region

Marine Life Protection Act

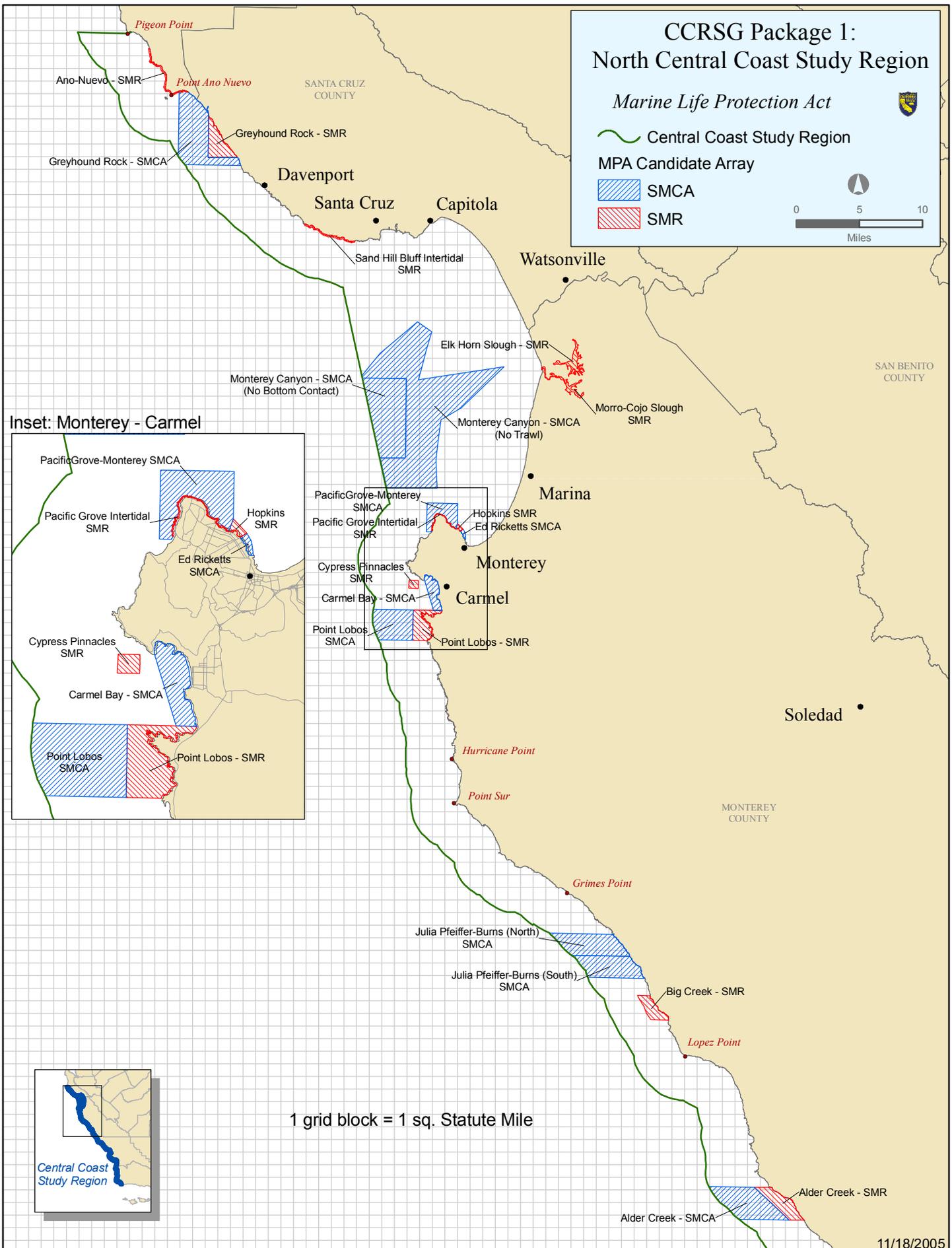


Central Coast Study Region

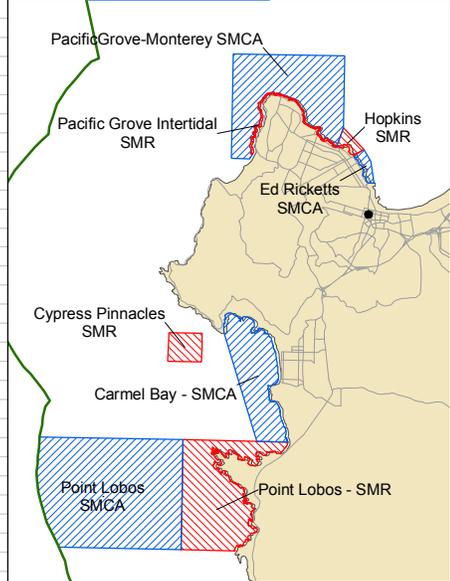
MPA Candidate Array

SMCA

SMR



Inset: Monterey - Carmel



1 grid block = 1 sq. Statute Mile



CCRSG Package 1: South Central Coast Study Region

Marine Life Protection Act



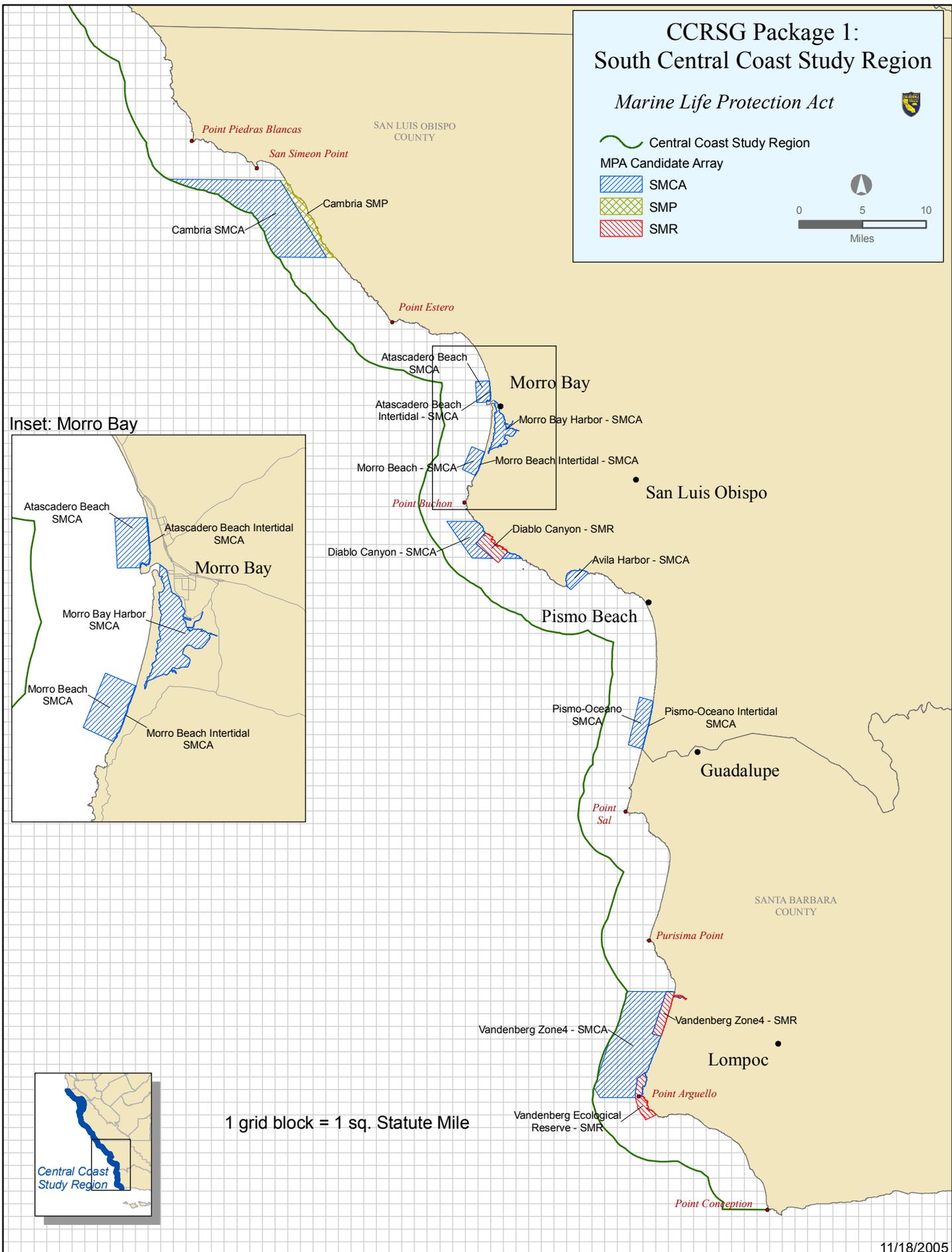
Central Coast Study Region

MPA Candidate Array

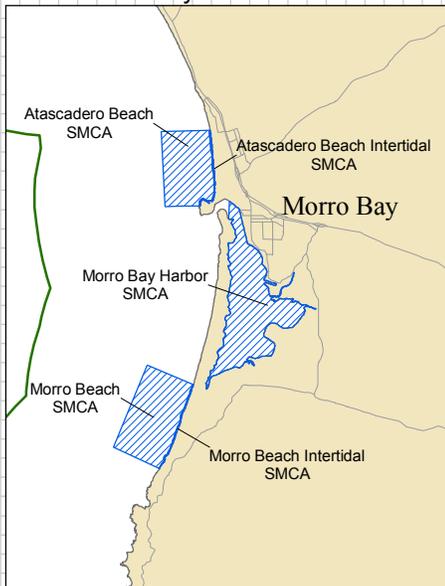
SMCA

SMP

SMR



Inset: Morro Bay



1 grid block = 1 sq. Statute Mile



Summary of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within Candidate MPA Package 1

Number and Type of MPAs in Package: 14 State Marine Reserves (SMRs), 1 State Marine Park (SMP), 21 State Marine Conservation Areas (SMCAs), TOTAL: 36 MPAs
Total Area of MPAs in Package (sq. mi.): 226.26

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Ano Nuevo State Marine Reserve (AnoNuevo_SMR_CFC1103)	0.60	6.1	Modification to Existing MPA	No take allowed out to 100 ft. beyond low-tide mark.	Goal 1 Goal 2 – Obj. 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 4 Design Considerations: 1, 2, 3, 4
Greyhound Rock State Marine Conservation Area (GreyHoundRock_SMCA_CF C1103)	13.78	7.6	New MPA	SMCA prohibits the take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon, coastal pelagic species (including squid) and Dungeness crab. Recreational fishing from shore for finfish is allowed.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 1, 2, 3, 4
Greyhound Rock State Marine Reserve (GreyHoundRock_SMR_CF C1103)	3.64	4.0	New MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 1, 2, 3, 4

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Sand Hill Bluff Intertidal State Marine Reserve (SandHillBluffIntertidal_SMR_CFC1103)	0.48	4.3	New MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2, 3 Design Considerations: 5, 7, 8, 9
Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve (ElkHornSlough_SMR_CFC1103)	1.36	7.0	Modification to Existing MPA	No take is allowed.	Goal 1 – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – 1, 2 Goal 3 – 1, 2, 3 Goal 4 – 1, 2 Goal 5 – 2 Design Considerations: 7, 8, 9, 10
Moro Cojo Estuary State Marine Reserve (Morro-Cojo Slough_SMR_CFC1114)	0.82	9.4	New MPA	No take	To be provided at a later date
Monterey Submarine Canyon No Bottom Contact State Marine Conservation Area (MontereySubCanyonNoBC_SMCA_CFC1103)	17.40	6.3	New MPA	SMCA prohibits take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Design Considerations: 2, 6, 7, 9

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Monterey Canyon No-Trawl State Marine Conservation Area (MontereyCanyonNoTrawl_S MCA_CFC1103)	50.70	13.0	New MPA	SMCA prohibits take of marine species by trawl gear. Other recreational and commercial uses are allowed.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Design Considerations: 2, 6, 7, 9
Ed Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area (EdRicketts_SMCA_CFC1103)	0.15	0.7	New MPA	SMCA prohibits take of all marine life EXCEPT for kelp harvesting, recreational hook & line fishing for finfish and recreational spearfishing for halibut and highly migratory species. No take for scientific or educational purposes is allowed.	Goal 1 – Obj. 3 Goal 2 – Obj. 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 3 Design Considerations: 5, 7, 8, 10
Hopkins State Marine Reserve (Hopkins_SMR_CFC1103)	0.15	0.5	Existing MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 4, 7, 8, 9

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Pacific Grove Intertidal State Marine Reserve (PacificGroveIntertidal_SMR_CFC1103)	0.12	3.5	New MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2, 3 Design Considerations: 5, 7, 8, 9
Pacific Grove – Monterey State Marine Conservation Area (PacificGrove-Monterey_SMCA_CFC1103)	3.71	3.6	Modification to Existing MPA	SMCA prohibits commercial take of finfish and benthic invertebrates EXCEPT Dungeness crab, salmon, coastal pelagic species (including squid), herring and kelp. Recreational fishing is allowed for finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for crustaceans and mollusks.	Goal 1 – Obj. 2, 3 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2, 3 Design Considerations: 7, 8, 9
Cypress Pinnacles State Marine Reserve (CypressPinnacles_SMR_CF C1103)	0.47	0.9	Modification to Existing MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Design Considerations: 10

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area (CarmelBay_SMCA_CFC1103)	2.16	3.8	Modification to Existing MPA	SMCA prohibits take of all marine life EXCEPT for recreational finfish and commercial squid and kelp harvest.	Goal 1 – Obj. 2, 4 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2, 3 Design Considerations: 10
Pt. Lobos State Marine Conservation Area (PointLobos_SMCA_CFC1103)	7.43	2.4	New MPA	SMCA prohibits the take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon, and commercial fishing for spot prawns.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 2 – Obj. 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 10
Point Lobos State Marine Reserve (PointLobos_SMR_CFC1103)	3.37	2.8	Modification to Existing MPA	No take allowed	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1 Goal 5 – Obj. 2, 3 Design Considerations: 10
North Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area (JuliaPfeifferBurns_North_SMCA_CFC1114)	8.51	2.2	Modification to Existing MPA	No take of marine life except for commercial and recreational salmon.	To be provided at a later date

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
South Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area (JuliaPfeifferBurns_South_S MCA_CFC1114)	7.79	2.1	Modification to Existing MPA	No take of marine life except for commercial spot prawn, coastal pelagic species (including squid), and commercial/recreational salmon (incidental take in authorized fisheries is also	To be provided at a later date
Big Creek State Marine Reserve (BigCreek_SMR_CFC1103)	2.26	2.4	Existing MPA	No take, no disturbance of bottom, no swimming, no diving, no boating except to pass through the area. Scientific access by permit only.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 Implementation Considerations: 1
Alder Creek State Marine Reserve (AlderCreek_SMR_CFC1114)	3.82	3.7	New MPA	No take	To be provided at a later date
Alder Creek State Marine Conservation Area (AlderCreek_SMCA_CFC1114)	10.08	3.7	New MPA	No take of marine life except for commercial/ recreational salmon (incidental take in authorized fisheries is also allowed) and commercial coastal pelagic species	To be provided at a later date

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Cambria State Marine Park (Cambria_SMP_CFC1114)	3.65	7.2	New MPA	Recreational fishing and diving only, no commercial take	To be provided at a later date
Cambria State Marine Conservation Area (Cambria_SMCA_CFC1114)	29.10	7.2	New MPA	No commercial take of marine life except for salmon, crab, and coastal pelagic species (including squid). Recreational fishing regulations not affected.	To be provided at a later date
Atascadero Beach State Marine Conservation Area (AtascaderoBeach_SMCA_CFC1114)	1.75	1.6	Modification to Existing MPA	SMCA prohibits the take of clams and Diopatra worms. Take of other marine resources is allowed.	Goal 2 – Obj. 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1 Design Considerations: 10
Atascadero Beach Intertidal State Marine Conservation Area (AtascaderoBeachIntertidal_SMCA_CFC1114)	0.05	1.6	Modification to Existing MPA	Take of all invertebrates is prohibited	To be provided at a later date

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Morro Bay Harbor State Marine Conservation Area (MorroBayHarbor_SMCA_CFC1103)	3.03	7.0	New MPA	SMCA prohibits commercial take of fish and invertebrates EXCEPT for live bait (coastal pelagic species). Commercially caught fish onboard a vessel while traveling through the SMCA is allowed. Recreational fishing is allowed EXCEPT take of intertidal invertebrates is prohibited.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 7, 10 Implementation Considerations: 4
Morro Beach State Marine Conservation Area (MorroBeach_SMCA_CFC1103)	2.23	2.0	Modification to Existing MPA	SMCA prohibits the take of clams, Diopatra worms, sand dollars, giant kelp and bull kelp. Other existing uses are allowed.	Goal 2 – Obj. 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1 Design Considerations: 10
Morro Beach Intertidal State Marine Conservation Area (MorroBeachIntertidal_SMCA_CFC1114)	0.04	2.0	Modification to Existing MPA	Take of all invertebrates is prohibited	To be provided at a later date

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Diablo Canyon State Marine Reserve (DiabloCanyon_SMR-SMCA_CFC1103)	2.63	2.3	New MPA	All take prohibited except for larval/fish entrainment by Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 Implementation Considerations: 4
Diablo Canyon State Marine Conservation Area (DiabloCanyon_SMCA_CFC1114)	5.69	4.6	New MPA	No take of marine life except commercial/ recreational salmon	To be provided at a later date
Avila Harbor State Marine Conservation Area (AvilaHarbor_SMCA_CFC1103)	1.58	2.7	New MPA	SMCA prohibits commercial take of fish and invertebrates EXCEPT for live bait (coastal pelagic species) and kelp harvest. Commercially caught fish onboard a vessel while traveling through the SMCA to offload is allowed. Recreational fishing is allowed.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 2 – Obj. 1 Goal 3 – Obj. 1, 2, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1 Goal 5 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10 Implementation Considerations: 4

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Intertidal Pismo-Oceano Pismo Clam State Marine Conservation Area (Pismo-Oceano_Intertidal_SMCA_CFC1114)	0.08	3.9	Modification to Existing MPA	Intertidal (0-100 ft offshore): No take of marine life except fin-fish by hook and line.	Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 7
Pismo-Oceano Pismo Clam State Marine Conservation Area (Pismo-Oceano_SMCA_CFC1103)	4.53	3.9	Modification to Existing MPA	From 100 ft offshore to one mile offshore: No take of Pismo clams, worms, or sand dollars.	Goal 1 – Obj. 5 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 1 Goal 4 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1 Design Considerations: 1, 10
Vandenberg Zone 4 State Marine Reserve (VandenbergZone4_SMR_CFC1103)	2.59	3.7	New MPA	No take. No disturbance of bottom; no boats, diving or other use (boat transit only); public entry restricted. Existing MOU with Vandenberg AFB allows all uses necessary for VAFB's national defense mission.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 6 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Implementation Considerations: 4

MPA Name (concept file name)	Area (sq. mi.)	Alongshore span (mi)	Modification to Existing Central Coast MPA or new MPA?	Allowed/ Disallowed Uses	Regional Goals, Objectives, and Design Criteria toward which this MPA contributes
Vandenberg State Marine Reserve (VandenbergEcologicalReserve_SMR_CFC1103)	2.48	4.3	Existing MPA	No take. No disturbance of bottom; no boats, diving or other use (boat transit only); public entry restricted. Existing MOU with Vandenberg AFB allows all uses necessary for VAFB's national defense mission.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 3 – Obj. 2 Goal 4 – Obj. 1 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 6 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 Implementation Considerations: 4
Vandenberg Zone 4 State Marine Conservation Area (VandenbergZone4_SMCA_CFC1103)	28.05	8.7	New MPA	SMCA prohibits the take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon and commercial fishing for Dungeness and rock crab. Recreational fishing from shore for finfish is allowed.	Goal 1 – Obj. 1, 2, 3, 4 Goal 2 – Obj. 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 – Obj. 2, 4 Goal 4 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 5 – Obj. 1, 2 Goal 6 Design Considerations: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Implementation Considerations: 4
Abbreviations: MPA: Marine Protected Area SMR: State Marine Reserve SMP: State Marine Park SMCA: State Marine Conservation Area					

DRAFT ANALYSIS OF CANDIDATE MPA PACKAGE #1

	<i>How measured?</i>	<i>Total amount in Region</i>	<i>Total percent of Region</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Reserves</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMRs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Parks</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMPs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Conservation Area</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMCAs</i>	<i>Amount in all proposed MPAs in region</i>	<i>Percent of Total in existing MPAs</i>	<i>Spatial Data Source</i>
Area	Area (mi²)	1150.01	100%	22.15	1.93%	3.65	0.32%	200.47	17.43%	226.27	19.68%	GIS analysis
Number of MPAs	Count		NA	13		1		22				GIS analysis
HABITATS												
Intertidal												
Sandy or gravel beaches	Linear (mi)	223.66	52.3%	24.82	11.10%	5.54	2.48%	24.58	10.99%	54.93	24.56%	NOAA-ESI 2002
Rocky intertidal and cliff	Linear (mi)	209.21	48.9%	32.61	15.59%	4.98	2.38%	21.66	10.35%	59.25	28.32%	NOAA-ESI 2002
Coastal marsh	Linear (mi)	36.53	8.5%	8.15	22.32%	0.40	1.08%	7.91	21.64%	16.45	45.04%	NOAA-ESI 2002
Tidal flats	Linear (mi)	23.48	5.5%	8.23	35.06%	0.15	0.63%	5.67	24.14%	14.05	59.83%	NOAA-ESI 2002
Seagrass beds (0-30m): Surfgrass	Linear (mi)	161.09	37.7%	21.90	13.59%	4.34	2.70%	5.24	3.25%	31.49	19.54%	Minerals Management Service / Tenera Inc.
Seagrass beds (0-30m): Eelgrass	Area (mi²)	1.07	0.1%	0.01	1.27%	0.00	0.00%	1.03	95.83%	1.04	97.11%	Elkhorn Slough Foundation; Morro Bay National Estuary Program
Estuary	Area (mi²)	7.90	0.7%	2.27	28.73%	0.00	0.00%	2.88	36.46%	5.15	65.19%	Inventory; CNDDDB; USGS
Fine-scale Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	Area (mi²)	24.21	5.7%	1.70	7.03%	0.00	0.00%	2.73	11.29%	4.44	18.32%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
30-100 meters	Area (mi²)	93.72	21.9%	2.64	2.82%	0.00	0.00%	5.52	5.89%	8.16	8.71%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
100-200 meters	Area (mi²)	1.93	0.5%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.31	15.98%	0.31	15.98%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
>200 meters	Area (mi²)	0.29	0.1%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.05	16.48%	0.05	16.48%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
Coarse-scale Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	Area (mi²)	294.14	25.8%	9.29	3.16%	3.64	1.24%	35.43	12.04%	48.36	16.44%	Greene et al 2004
30-100 meters	Area (mi²)	575.78	50.6%	5.49	0.95%	0.00	0.00%	70.78	12.29%	76.27	13.25%	Greene et al 2004
100-200 meters	Area (mi²)	58.46	5.1%		0.00%	0.00	0.00%	17.70	30.27%	17.70	30.27%	Greene et al 2004
>200 meters	Area (mi²)	105.52	9.3%		0.00%	0.00	0.00%	44.04	41.74%	44.04	41.74%	Greene et al 2004

	<i>How measured?</i>	<i>Total amount in Region</i>	<i>Total percent of Region</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Reserves</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMRs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Parks</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMPs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Conservation Area</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMCAs</i>	<i>Amount in all proposed MPAs in region</i>	<i>Percent of Total in existing MPAs</i>	<i>Spatial Data Source</i>
Fine-scale Rocky reef; hard bottom												Fine-scale based on Kvittek et al multibeam and sidescan sonar; available for only about 25% of the region
0-30 meters	Area (mi ²)	20.16	4.7%	0.69	3.41%	0.00	0.00%	1.76	8.71%	2.44	12.12%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
30-100 meters	Area (mi ²)	20.59	4.8%	0.93	4.52%	0.00	0.00%	0.96	4.65%	1.89	9.16%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
100-200m	Area (mi ²)	0.40	0.1%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.08	20.89%	0.08	20.89%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
>200 meters	Area (mi ²)	0.01	< .01%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	Total amount is only that which has been mapped to date.
Coarse-scale Rocky reef; hard bottom												Greene et al 2004; coarse scale data underestimates hard substrata
0-30 meters	Area (mi ²)	46.66	4.1%	3.53	7.56%	0.00	0.00%	6.05	12.97%	9.58	20.54%	Greene et al 2004
30-100 meters	Area (mi ²)	26.78	2.4%	0.75	2.81%	0.00	0.00%	2.72	10.14%	3.47	12.95%	Greene et al 2004
100-200 meters	Area (mi ²)	13.91	1.2%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	10.11	72.65%	10.11	72.65%	Greene et al 2004
>200 meters	Area (mi ²)	16.16	1.4%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	11.86	73.42%	11.86	73.42%	Greene et al 2004
Kelp forest												
1989 Kelp	Area (mi ²)	17.94	1.6%	0.99	5.51%	1.00	5.54%	1.88	10.49%	3.87	21.55%	1989 CDFG aerial survey
1999 Kelp	Area (mi ²)	2.56	0.2%	0.13	4.97%	0.08	2.97%	0.47	18.19%	0.67	26.14%	1999 CDFG aerial survey
2002 Kelp	Area (mi ²)	12.55	1.1%	0.99	7.89%	0.70	5.61%	2.03	16.19%	3.73	29.69%	2002 CDFG aerial survey
2003 Kelp	Area (mi ²)	9.53	0.8%	0.75	7.91%	0.52	5.41%	1.54	16.11%	2.81	29.43%	2003 CDFG aerial survey
Persistent Kelp	Area (mi ²); present in 3 of 4 years	3.18	0.3%	0.38	11.86%	0.32	10.01%	0.66	20.80%	1.36	42.66%	Present in 3 of 4 CDFG aerial survey datasets
Pinnacles *												
0-30 meters	Count	76.00		35		*		9		*		Bathymetry data
30-100 meters	Count	218.00		49		*		34		*		Bathymetry data
100-200 meters	Count	27.00		*		*		3		*		Bathymetry data
>200 meters	Count	4.00		*		*		*		*		Bathymetry data
Submarine canyon												
0-30 meters	Area (mi ²)	0.56	0.1%	0.19	33.10%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.19	33.10%	Coarse-scale substrata (Greene et al 2004)

	<i>How measured?</i>	<i>Total amount in Region</i>	<i>Total percent of Region</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Reserves</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMRs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Parks</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMPs</i>	<i>Amount in State Marine Conservation Area</i>	<i>Percent of Total in SMCAs</i>	<i>Amount in all proposed MPAs in region</i>	<i>Percent of Total in existing MPAs</i>	<i>Spatial Data Source</i>
30-100 meters	Area (mi ²)	4.42	0.4%	0.02	0.34%	0.00	0.00%	0.25	5.59%	0.26	5.93%	Coarse-scale substrata (Greene et al 2004)
100-200 meters	Area (mi ²)	6.06	0.5%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	1.73	28.58%	1.73	28.58%	Coarse-scale substrata (Greene et al 2004)
>200 meters	Area (mi ²)	42.77	3.8%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	27.65	64.65%	27.65	64.65%	Coarse-scale substrata (Greene et al 2004)

* Pinnacle data extent is limited, asterick indicates either zero count or no data available

**Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Central Coast Project**

**Proponent Rationale
Candidate MPA Package #1
November 21, 2005**

November 18, 2005

Phil Isenberg, Chair
State MLPAL Blue Ribbon Task Force
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: The “Fisherman’s MPA Network Proposal”

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Task Force Members:

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Central Coast Regional Stakeholders Group, please find attached our Draft proposal for a network of MPAs in the central coast study region.

As you will see, our proposal meets both the letter and the intent of the Marine Life Protection Act. The Fishermen’s MPA Network has strived to meet every goal, objective and requirement of the Act, including the guidance provided by the Science Advisory Team found in the Master Plan Framework. In fact, the SAT size and spacing guidelines result in a suggested mean network size that would encompass 12 percent of the study area; our proposal encompasses approximately 19%.

Please be aware that we are still considering improvements to the plan. Our network, which utilizes primarily seven core MPA arrays, is strongly science-based to maximize protections to habitats and species and foster ecosystem-based management. We are pleased to report that this network proposal also greatly exceeds the requirements of California’s Nearshore Fishery Management Plan.

Please be aware that we are still considering improvements to the plan.

We have vetted this network plan in a preliminary way with Department of Fish & Game enforcement personnel and have incorporated their comments on enforceable boundaries into our design. We are now developing a comprehensive monitoring plan designed to answer important science questions both about whether or not individual MPAs as well as the network as a whole achieve their objectives. In developing this monitoring plan we are working extensively with members of the fishing (recreational and commercial) and consumptive diving communities, as well as independent scientists, to develop meaningful research projects, utilizing the knowledge of the fishing community when possible.

We also note that we have accomplished all of this while minimizing, to the extent possible, socio-economic costs associated with these new closures. At the same time, we have provided new opportunities for positive benefits. In particular the non-consumptive diving community will benefit substantially by our proposed network through expanded or new areas of protection located near population centers.

We point out that a formal, peer-reviewed socio-economic assessment of the potential impacts of a network of MPAs in this region has not yet been completed. To offset that information gap, our constituencies participated in their own GIS mapping exercise to identify essential, economically important fishing turf and have used this tool to guide recommendations on habitats and species that

needed protection. The attached network, therefore, represents a solid conservation-based plan with the socio-economic consequences having been ground-truthed in the most profound manner: by those who stand to lose the most in this process. Unlike the other proposals before you, our network satisfies the objective of minimizing socio-economic costs and displaced fishing effort where feasible. We believe that the BRTF should consider that our proposal also conforms with the California Coastal Act, which provides protections for resources while clearly granting status to fishing and other coastal dependent uses.

Please be fully aware that, even though we have attempted to minimize socio-economic costs, each of our members and their constituents have made significant sacrifices in developing this plan. We adopted a strategy to share losses as well as benefits equitably, to the degree possible.

Because our network proposal more efficiently delivers conservation benefits to the State of California, it will also, therefore, be more affordable by the State both in enforcement and in monitoring.

Lastly, but perhaps most importantly, nearly every study of the effectiveness of MPAs contains the conclusion that for an MPA – or network – to succeed, it must have the support of those most affected. Our proposal has this support.

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Sincerely,

Stephen B. Scheiblauber, CA Assoc. of Harbor Masters & Port Captains
Rick Algert, Harbor Director, City of Morro Bay
Tom Capen, President, Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association
David Crabbe, Vice President, California Wetfish Producers Association
Dave Edlund, Chair of Skindiving, Central California Council of Diving Clubs
Howard Egan, Sanctuary Affairs Coordinator, Recreational Fishing Alliance
Eric Endersby, Diving representative, RFA Advisory Board
Ray Fields, President, The Abalone Farm
Neil Guglielmo, Board of Directors, California Wetfish Producers Association
Tom Hafer, President, South-Central Nearshore Trap Organization
Bob Hather, Board of Directors, Central Coast Fisheries Conservation Coalition
Tom Mattusch, Owner, Hulicat Sportfishing, Coastside Fishing Club
Darby Neil, Owner, Virg's Landing Sportfishing
Jeremiah O'Brien, President, Morro Bay Commercial Fisherman's Organization
Mike Ricketts, President, Monterey Fishermen's Marketing Association
Art Seavey, Partner, Monterey Abalone Company

Rationale for Fisherman’s MPA Network Proposal

11/4/05

Introduction

This document presents a general introduction to the proposed network of MPAs as well as a location-by-location rationale for why these areas were chosen.

We have grouped our network summary into 4 levels of protection

1. Entire network,
2. The network subset where groundfish take is not allowed
3. The network subset of MPAs that are what we are calling “comprehensive protection” MPAs. These are MPAs where only Salmon/HMS take is allowed, and in very deep water (> 100 fm) coastal pelagics. This is somewhat of an evolving category.
4. The network subset that is reserves.

	Entire network	No Groundfish	“Comprehensive Protection”	Reserves
% of study region	18.7%	9.9%	7.4%	2%
% of mapped hard bottom in study region.	33.3%	12.2%	8.4%	3.7%

Note that the hard bottom numbers shown are significantly lower than reality as many of the MPAs in the south have significant portions as hard bottom, but reflect no mapped hard bottom,.

Año Nuevo Invertebrate SMR

Proposed boundaries

This area is bounded by mean high tide line and the following points within the Año Nuevo State Reserve: 37 deg 9.87 minutes lat, 122 deg 21.76 minutes long; and 37 deg 6.98 minutes lat, 122 deg 18.37 minutes long, and the reserve extends seaward to 100 feet beyond the low tide mark.

Approximate area: Total area is approximately 0.2 sq nm.

Proposed regulations: No commercial or recreational fishing permitted, including no take of invertebrates.

Habitats: Rocky and sandy inner tidal with all of the following shoreline types: Wave Cut Rocky Platforms, Exposed Rocky Cliffs, Mixed Sand and Gravel Beaches and Fine- to Medium-Grained Sand Beaches.

Rationale:

Rather than extend the existing boundary out to ¼ mile, we chose to keep the existing boundary for the following reasons. First, the existing distance-from-shore boundary is self limiting and easily enforceable. Extending the boundary out to ¼ mile is unenforceable. Second, the rationale presented for moving the boundary out to ¼ mile (including ¼ mile outside the island) has been presented as solely a bird disturbance issue. This is not due to extraction, and therefore an SMR designation will not achieve the stated goals. The idea of speed limits or no-wake zones to address these issues may be a much better alternative.

Invertebrate take in this area is already closed during the months of December through April. In the spring and summer there is highly restricted access due to the pinneped haul out. Also the primary legal invertebrate available for take, mussels, are normally quarantined during these months. Addresses abalone management plan. As this area is at the head of an upwelling source, it will serve as an ideal larval source for invertebrates. This area is in the State Preserve and is a traditional area for research and wildlife viewing.

Greyhound Rock SMR/SMCA

Proposed boundaries: see map.

Approximate area: Total area is approximately 12.6 sq nm with an alongshore distance of 7 statute miles. Area within the SMR is 2.8 sq. nm with an alongshore distance of 3.8 statute miles.

Proposed regulations: No commercial or recreational fishing permitted in SMR. SMCA prohibits the take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon, coastal pelagic species (including squid) and Dungeness crab. Recreational shore fishing regulations would remain unchanged in the SMCA.

Habitats: Rock reef and kelp, sand bottom. Nearshore includes pinnacles and other reef structures of high relief. It is near the origination point of the local upwelling center. SMR covers depth range from 0 to 25 fathoms. Remaining SMCA continues to protect benthic habitats out to approx 35 fathoms.

Rationale:

This complex fully protects groundfish. It encompasses approximately **23 percent** of the mapped non-canyon hard bottom north of Moss Landing.

The Greyhound Rock area has comparable habitat to the adjacent Franklin Point to Año Nuevo region. The habitat inside 20 fathoms supports the entire sebastes complex that typically lives inside the 20-fathom depth range along with lingcod, greenling and cabezon. As this area is at the head of an upwelling source, it will serve as an ideal larval source by serving as a spawning habitat.

Negative socio-economic impacts are greatly mitigated by considering this MPA complex as opposed to a smaller sized adjacent complex to the north between Franklin Point and Año Nuevo. This area is also sized appropriately to be the only MPA that exists inside 20 fathoms between Franklin Point and New Brighton beach.

Using this location prevents a large displacement of effort, and prevents depletion of areas that are not currently being over fished, such as the Pigeon Point area. So this not only protects the Greyhound Rock area but prevents a massive inevitable effort-shift to the Pigeon Point area and to the Davenport Landing-to-New Brighton beach area.

Monterey Canyon No Trawl State Marine Conservation Area

Boundary: See map. Boundary will most likely get simpler, but no significant change in size or covered habitats is anticipated.

Proposed Regulations: No trawling.

Habitat Types: Deep canyon. 50-700 fathom depth range is covered.

Size: This conservation area would represent roughly 30 square nautical miles of area.

Rationale: This is a formalization of a portion of the federal EFH designation under the MLPA. Since the EFH designation is a true MPA, this formalization makes quantifying the contribution to the overall MPA network straightforward. Making this area an SMCA would put protection of this key habitat into State hands, not just with the PFMC. The habitat that this SMCA protects is high quality, hence the Federal designation of Essential Fish Habitat. We note that the MBNMS wants to protect the Davidson-Seamount, even though there is no bottom fishing there, for similar reasons.

This conservation area will help rebuild over-fished deepwater groundfish populations.

Monterey Canyon No-Bottom Contact SMCA

Boundary:

- Western boundary is state waters boundary
- Northern boundary is 36 degrees 47.5 minutes.
- Eastern boundary is 122 degrees.
- Southern boundary is 36 degrees 42 minutes.

Regulations: No bottom contact. Fishing for only salmon, highly migratory species and coastal pelagic species (including squid) is allowed

Habitat Types: Deep canyon. 50-700 fathom depth range is covered.

Size: Roughly 9 square nautical miles of area.

Rationale: In many other proposals for this region, Soquel Canyon and Portuguese Ledge have been identified as SMCAs with similar regulations or potentially allowing take of spot prawns and/or dungeness crab. In contrast this proposed area would be 1) more restrictive, 2) provide a superior diversity of depths to the two other SMCAs in combination, and 3) is easier to enforce as there is only one area, and it has less recreational traffic.

The average depth range of this region in combination with the regulations make this a true benthic reserve. We feel this single MPA is superior to the combination of the Portuguese Ledge and Soquel Canyon MPAs combined. There is also less socio-economic cost associated with our proposal compared to losing Soquel Canyon and Portuguese Ledge.

Elkhorn Slough and Morro Cojo Slough SMR

Boundary: All of Elkhorn Slough up to ¼ mile east of Hwy 1. All of El Morro Cojo Slough south of Sandholdt Road.

Habitat Types: Estuaries.

Size: Unknown, but for all practical purposes nearly 100% (in terms of area) of the estuary habitat in the northern half of the study region.

Rationale:

This is essentially all of the estuary habitat in this region. Estuaries are important as nursery habitat for many species, including species of commercial and recreational value, so this could be critical habitat to protect. It is also home to sea otters, among the most threatened of all species.

Ed Ricketts SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: From shore at NE point of boundary of Hopkins SMR (36° 37.22' N. lat. 121° 53.85' W. long) to seaward NE corner of Hopkins SMR (36° 37.10' N. lat. 121° 54.09' W. long); south by southeast along 10 fathom line to 36° 37.00' N. lat. 121° 53.68' W. long.; continue south by southeast to point where breakwater turns (36° 36.58' N. lat. 121° 53.59' W. long.) to shore at base of breakwater (36° 36.58' N. lat. 121° 53.73' W. long.)

Approximate Area: 0.18 sq. nm.

Proposed Regulations: SMCA prohibits take of all marine life EXCEPT for kelp harvesting, recreational hook & line fishing for finfish and recreational spearfishing for halibut and highly migratory species. No take for scientific or educational purposes is allowed.

Habitat Types: Intertidal (sandy and rocky), seagrass (eelgrass and surfgrass), soft bottom (0-30m) and rocky hard bottom (0-30m). Deepest habitat is approximately 60 feet.

Rationale: While this is a very popular recreational beach dive site, it is also a valued location for 1) low-income shore fishing (from the Monterey Breakwater) 2) small skiff fishing 3) recreational spearfishing for halibut and 4) commercial harvesting of kelp for abalone farming. In areas near major harbors, we favor a “sharing” philosophy as access and safety are some of the important reasons for letting many user groups share the water.

The proposal that others have made for this area to become a “Reserve” is inconsistent with our philosophy of sharing the waters near major harbors. It is also inconsistent with the rationale for “Reserve” status, as it has far too much human contact (from non-consumptive divers alone) for a small area. The seawater intake at the Aquarium will also preclude this area from being an MR.

Hopkins SMR

Proposed Boundaries: We propose no changes to the existing SMR. This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, the 10-fathom depth contour, and the following points: 36° 37.25' N. lat. 121°54.50' W. long.; 36° 37.63' N. lat. 121° 54.34' W. long.; 36° 37.22' N. lat. 121° 53.85' W. long.; and 36° 37.10' N. lat. 121° 54.09' W. long.

Approximate Area: Approx. 0.16 sq. mi; Approx. shoreline length 0.79 mi.

Regulations: No take allowed

Habitat Types:

Rationale: We feel this MPA should be “grandfathered” in as a small Reserve. It is a classic example of how a small but fully-protected MPA can function well by providing a multitude of research opportunities with species occurring at natural densities and size frequencies. This MR fulfills the objective of providing for recreational, science, and educational opportunities in a highly urbanized region. While it fulfills a need for limited research, any expansion of this Reserve would have significant negative impacts on many user groups that would like to share the waters near Monterey harbor.

Pacific Grove SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: Eastern boundary is a line from the NW corner of Hopkins Reserve (36° 37.63' N. lat. by 121° 54.34' W. long.) to 36° 39' 0" N. lat. The northern boundary is 36° 39' 0" N. lat. from 121° 54.34' W. long. to 121° 57' 0" W. long. The western border is 121° 57' 0" W. long. to 36° 37' N. lat. then eastward to 36° 37' . lat. and eastward to the mean high tide line at Moss Beach. Pacific Grove Intertidal Reserve adjoins this SMCA from Hopkins SMR boundary to 36° 37.09' N. lat. extending from -2' MLLW and mean high tide line.

Approximate Area: We are proposing expanding this SMCA from 1.5 sq. miles to 2.7 sq. nm. Proposed expansion extends depth range from current limit of 60 feet to approx. 200 feet. Approx. shoreline length of SMCA is 4.47 miles. Approximate alongshore span = 3.45 mi. .

Proposed Regulations: SMCA prohibits commercial take of finfish and benthic invertebrates EXCEPT Dungeness crab, salmon, coastal pelagic species (including squid), herring and kelp. Recreational fishing is allowed for finfish, Dungeness crab, and squid. Recreational take of other crustaceans and mollusks are prohibited.

Habitat Types: Mostly granite reef, smaller portions of sand to 65 meters in depth. Other significant habitats include giant kelp forests, seagrass and pinnacles

Rationale: The current MPA only goes out to 60 feet which leaves a substantial portion of the rocky bottom of Point Pinos open to commercial harvesting. By expanding the area of this MPA, additional protection is given to marine life including rockfish and halibut and benthic invertebrates. This MPA is a popular recreational (kayak/walk-in spearfishing, scuba sight-seeing and small boat hook and line fishing) location as this site is largely protected from the southern swell and it does not have commercial rockfishing pressure. In addition, this MPA provides a site close to Monterey for sustainable kelp harvest and convenient scientific collecting.

The existing Hopkins Reserve nearby has historical baseline data (VenTresca-Hopkins-MLML) which can be used for scientific comparisons. This larger SMCA will provide a larger buffer for nearby Hopkins Reserve. The proposed expansion of this MPA has a small negative impact on commercial fishing.

Pacific Grove Intertidal SMR

Proposed Boundaries: Area bounded by mean high tide line, -2' MLLW (zero tide) and the following points: SW shoreline at 36° 37.09' N. lat. 121° 56.49' W. long; (longshore 36° 37.34' N. lat 121° 57.34' W. long; 36° 37.63' N. lat. 121° 54.34' W. long); and SE shoreline at 36° 37.25' N. lat. 121° 54.50' W. long.

Approximate Area: 0.02 sq. nm. Approximate alongshore span = 3.45 mi. .

Proposed Regulations: No Take Allowed. Would allow walk-in spearfishermen to cross the tidewater to return to shore with any fish caught outside the intertidal waters.

Habitat Types: Intertidal(rocky) and Intertidal(sandy). Terrific tidepools.

Rationale: Allows public access to tidepools while protecting them. Also allows for continuing science monitoring and education programs. Enforceable seaward boundary, as if you can walk on it, you're in it.

Cypress Pinnacles SMR

Proposed Boundaries: An area bounded by straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed: 36° 33.65' N. lat 121° 58.40' W. long.; 36° 33.65' N. lat. 121° 57.60' W. long; 36° 33.10' N. lat 121° 57.60' W. long; 36° 33.10' N. lat 121° 58.40' W. long and 36° 33.65' N. lat 121° 58.40' W. long.

Approximate Area: 0.37 sq. nm.

Proposed Regulations: No Take Allowed

Habitat Types: Dramatic rocky granite pinnacles and surrounding rocky reefs. Three major pinnacles with many smaller pinnacles. An extensive giant kelp forest on top of rocky pinnacles. Pinnacles in this area have a base as deep as 300 feet and reach within 20 feet of the surface.

Rationale: Currently, this proposed MPA site is shared by both recreational fishermen and sight-seeing scuba divers. Because this is a very popular site for sight-seeing divers, we feel it is appropriate to make it a SMR. Recreational fishermen could shift their fishing to areas closer to 17-Mile Drive or to nearby Carmel Bay SMCA without the small boat safety concerns that are true of the Ed Ricketts area. This would not be substantial MPA on its own, but it would give some buffer to nearby Point Pinos Reserve and Point Pinos SMCA. We think it will also provide scientific study opportunities to contrast rockfish densities here with the three other current or proposed nearby SMCA/SMR's (Carmel Bay SMCA, Point Lobos SMR and Point Lobos SMCA).

Carmel Bay SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: Revised boundary for Carmel Bay SMCA is a line from mean high tide line at existing northern boundary at 36° 33.64' N. lat. 121° 57.07' W. long. to SW boundary at GPS intersection of 36° 31.60' N. lat. 121° 56.29' W. long. and following 36° 31.60' N. lat. to mainland shore (36° 31.60' N. lat. 121° 55.52' W. long.).

Southern boundary of the expanded SMCA touches the northern end of Monastery Beach. (Southern end of existing Carmel Bay SMCA is proposed to be ceded to Pt. Lobos Marine Reserve.)

Approximate Area: 2.9 sq. nm.

Proposed Regulations: SMCA prohibits take of all marine life EXCEPT for recreational finfish and commercial squid and kelp harvest.

Habitat Types: Granite reef along rocky and sandy shores. Substantial surfgrass and giant kelp forests. Lots of rocky pinnacles and rocky bottom in 20-100 feet becoming more sandy beyond 100 feet. The head of the Carmel submarine canyon is currently in the existing Carmel Bay SMCA. We propose to cede waters to Point Lobos SMR which will result in a sharing of the Carmel submarine canyon between Point Lobos SMR and Carmel Bay SMCA.

Rationale: Carmel Bay SMCA is an important recreational fin-fishing location due to important access points at Stillwater Cove and Carmel River State Beach and this MPA should largely be kept intact. Recreational fishing, mainly recreational breath-hold spearfishing divers have an almost 50-year tradition of working at this MPA with DFG biologists (VenTresca, Reilly and others) in promoting scientific research of nearshore fish species. Because Carmel Bay SMCA allows only recreational finfish take, it acts as an effective buffer to Point Lobos SMR.

We propose that the southern portion of the existing Carmel Bay SMCA be ceded to Point Lobos SMR. That would include all of Mono Lobo Wall and both North and South Monastery Beach. While this proposed modification negatively impacts recreational fishermen, mainly spearfishermen, to some degree, by reducing access points and fishing areas, it would benefit non-consumptive users who would utilize the expanded SMR. It would also shift some of the upper portions of the Carmel submarine canyon into the Point Lobos SMR.

Other MPA users include recreational non-consumptive divers (mainly 50-80 foot depth divers) and kayakers which we feel are not heavily impacted by the recreational fishing activity in this MPA. Also, we would support both sustainable kelp harvesting and squid take in this MPA.

Point Lobos SMR

Proposed Boundaries: Northern boundary proposed 36° 31.60 N. lat. Western boundary proposed 121° 58' W. long. Southern boundary proposed 36° 29.50 N. lat. The southern end of the current Carmel Bay SMCA (Mono Lobo Wall and all of Monastery Beach) proposed to be ceded to Pt Lobos SMR. Modified Point Lobos SMR expanded westward into @50 fathom depth. Southern boundary extended approx. 1/2 mile south to Yankee Point.

Approximate Area: 2.8 sq. nm. Along shore distance 3.7 statute miles measured as two straight lines connecting at the point.

Proposed Regulations: No take allowed. Recommend to CDPR to expand the number of day-use permits for non-consumptive divers.

Habitat Types: Sandy and rocky intertidal and upper end of Carmel submarine canyon. Mostly granite reef dropping from shore to sand bottom. Reef habitat with many crevices and pinnacles. Extensive giant kelp forest and surfgrass. Sand cobble, medium boulders and pinnacles comprise most of subtidal area. Abundant corallines, encrusting corallines and foliose reds in subtidal. Expansion of Pt. Lobos SMR to north will now include upper end of Carmel submarine canyon in reserve waters. It will also include dramatic granite wall drops, ie. Mono Lobo Wall, that are encrusted with hydro-corals.

Rationale: We recommend expanding the size of Point Lobos SMR as it is a core-MPA site and a larger Point Lobos would significantly improve the network of central California MPA's. As there is good habitat all around its existing borders, we propose more than doubling the total square miles of water in this SMR and capturing more prime habitat in this SMR. This has been an excellent MPA site for much scientific research (including permanent intertidal and subtidal monitoring sites) with convenient proximity to Monterey. A larger Point Lobos SMR will improve opportunities for additional research. While an expanded Point Lobos SMR will expand opportunities for non-consumptive users, it does represent a ceding of prime fishing waters by both recreational and commercial fishing interests. On the west side of Lobos, there is sustainable spot prawn fishing in 50 fathoms or greater depths, so that is why we limited the SMR to approximately 45 fathoms. On the south side of Point Lobos SMR, there is every conceivable type of fishing going on including commercial (squid, rockfish, and salmon) and recreational (CPFV rockfish and salmon). These groups ceded waters to make this SMR expansion and it represents real pain as it includes prime fishing grounds. Shifting the border further south to Malpaiso Creek as others have suggested would severely impact fishing and is the reason why the south end of Point Lobos SMR is proposed as Yankee Point.

Point Lobos SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: Pt. Lobos SMCA is bounded in north by 36° 31.600 N. lat. Eastern boundary is 121° 58' W. long. The western boundary is 3-mile state waters boundary. The southern boundary is 36° 29.50' N. lat. This SMCA lies west of and adjacent to Pt. Lobos SMR.

Approximate Area: 5.9 sq. nm.

Proposed Regulations: SMCA prohibits the take of finfish and invertebrates EXCEPT for recreational and commercial fishing for salmon, and commercial fishing for spot prawns.

Habitat Types: Sandy and rocky. Combination of reef and sand bottom from @40 fathoms to 300 fathoms depth. Reef system includes many pinnacles.

Rationale: This large, highly restrictive SMCA was designed to act as a powerful buffer for Point Lobos SMR. Extending out to the 3-mile state waters boundary, it only allows the harvest of salmon and spot prawns and thus provides great protection to threatened marine species. The combination of Point Lobos SMR, Point Lobos SMCA, Carmel Bay SMCA and Cypress Pinnacles SMR as a tight cluster of MPA's really helps the overall effectiveness of the MPA network.

FISHERMAN'S PROPOSAL SPECIFIC SITE RATIONALE & ANALYSIS - SOUTH

Julia Pfeiffer-Burns North SMCA

Julia Pfeiffer-Burns South SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: North SMCA – This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, and a line extending west from the point 36 degrees 9.5 minutes seaward to the state line, and a line extending west from the point 36 degrees 8.0 minutes seaward to the state line. South SMCA – This area is bounded by the mean high tide line, and a line extending west from the point 36 degrees 8.0 minutes seaward to the state line, and a line extending west from the point 36 degrees 6.5 minutes seaward to the state line.

Approximate Areas: In combination these SMCA's are 4.1 statute miles alongshore, and are approximately 12.39 square nautical miles in total area (6.64 square miles in the north SMCA, 5.75 square miles in the south SMCA).

Proposed Regulations:

North Area: No take of marine life except for commercial and recreational salmon.

South Area: No take of marine life except for commercial spot prawn, coastal pelagic species (incl. squid) and commercial/recreational salmon (incidental take in authorized fisheries is also allowed)

Habitats & Rationale: These two MPAs were chosen because they expand on an existing MPA. The chief bio-geographical reason for choosing these sites is the Partington submarine canyon habitat that is captured in the north end. This close-inshore canyon habitat is a replicate for the Carmel and Monterey habitats captured in the northern proposals. There exists hard and soft bottoms, kelp beds (giant and bull), gravel and boulder fields, diopatra worm tube beds, surge channels, and both sandy and rocky intertidal areas in this MPA proposal. This area contains one of the most extensive series of pinnacles and underwater cliffs, close to shore, along the Big Sur coast. In addition, due to the quick depth changes heading offshore, this area includes a high degree of depth representation.

Areas of upwelling and high species diversification exist, including most if not all of the 19 finfishes in the NFMP, red and black abalone, and southern sea otters. The reserve is an excellent replicate of the well-documented Big Creek Reserve.

We considered moving the northern boundary up past Partington Point to include more of Partington canyon, but this would have taken very critical spot prawn and 2-day CPFV grounds, which was deemed unnecessary due to smaller, but similar, canyons being present further offshore in the core of the MPA combination.

Big Creek SMR

Proposed Boundaries: The boundaries of the existing Big Creek Reserve.

Approximate Area: The existing SMR in this proposal is 2.19 statute miles alongshore, and seaward to the 50-fathom curve. It is approximately 2.26 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: The current no-take and restricted-entry provisions of this SMR will remain.

Habitats & Rationale: This MPA is to remain unchanged in our proposal, since numerous studies have documented and quantified the baseline density and size frequency of fishes. In addition, excellent on-site management and enforcement is currently in place. See DFG's analysis of this site for habitat and biology assessments.

Alder Creek SMR Alder Creek SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: The SMR is bounded by the mean high tide line and a line extending west from the point 35 degrees 52.25 minutes seaward one nautical mile, and a line extending west from the point 35 degrees 50.0 minutes seaward one nautical mile. The SMCA is bounded by the line 1 nautical mile offshore where the SMR ends, and seaward to the 3-mile state limit. The north and south boundary lines are the same as those for the SMR.

Approximate Area: The SMR in this proposal is 3.4 statute miles alongshore, and is 2.9 square nautical miles in area. The SMCA in this proposal is 3.4 statute miles alongshore outside of the SMR, and is 7.5 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: All take is prohibited in the SMR. In SMCA, no take of marine life except for commercial/recreational salmon (incidental take in authorized fisheries is also allowed), commercial coastal pelagic species (including squid).

Habitats & Rationale: These MPAs include hard and soft bottoms, kelp beds (giant and bull), gravel and boulder fields, and sandy and rocky intertidal areas. Though lacking the dramatic submarine canyons and pinnacles of the Julia Pfeiffer-Burns proposals, this area does include excellent high-relief areas over a good range of depths. Therefore it is a good replicate of the Big Creek and Julia P-B proposals to the north.

This area has high species diversification with many of the 19 NFMP finfishes present, as well as red and black abalone and southern sea otters. This site was chosen to be a good intermediary MPA grouping between the Julia P-B/Big Creek core area and the Cambria core area, both to meet MLPA replicate and spatial guidelines and because it has good public access from shore.

Cambria SMP Cambria SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: The SMP is bounded by the mean high tide line, and a line running west from a point at Pico Creek at 35 degrees 37.25 minutes seaward 1/2 nautical mile, and a line running west from a point at Von Helm Rock at 35 degrees 32.0 minutes seaward to 1/2 nautical mile. The SMCA in this proposal is bounded by the line 1/2 nautical mile offshore where the SMP ends, and seaward to the 3-mile state limit. The north and south boundary lines are the same as those for the SMP.

Approximate Area: The SMP in this proposal is 6.6 statute miles alongshore, and is approximately 2.7 square nautical miles in area. The SMCA in this proposal is 6.6 statute miles alongshore outside of the SMP, and is approximately 21 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: Only recreational fishing and spear fishing will be allowed in this proposed SMP. All recreational fishing will be allowed in the SMCA, and only commercial take of salmon, coastal pelagics, squid, and crab will be allowed in this proposed SMCA. Commercial skiffs can launch from Leffingwell Landing and traverse through the SMP/SMCA complex with catch on board.

Habitats & Rationale: Excellent giant and bull kelp beds are present in these MPA proposals, which harbor a wide variety of the 19 NFMP finfishes, red and black abalone, and southern sea otters. The coastline along this MPA is mostly rocky reef and low profile subtidal habitats from shore to around the 20-fathom curve, although several broad sand and some gravel beaches are intermixed as well. These are important recreational surf perch areas. In addition, wide expanses of moderate sandy depths harbor many flatfishes including halibut and flounder, as well as crab. Elephant seals have been known to occasionally haul-out in the northern part of this proposal's area. Some nearshore pinnacles exist in the southern end of the area centered around Von Helm Rock. That these proposals lie in the downcoast lee of San Simeon point, a prominent headland, make them likely larval retention areas.

This area is very important to many recreational interests, including CPFV vessels and shore-launched kayak and skiff fishermen who launch at Leffingwell Landing. For this reason a "park" designation is fitting for much of this area. The primitive launch ramp at Leffingwell is the only site between Morro Bay and Monterey where a vehicle can get close enough to the water to make a moderate-sized skiff launch feasible in most weather conditions. These MPAs are a good replicate of much of the habitat found in both the Alder Creek proposal to the north, and the Diablo Canyon proposal to the south. In addition, included in these MPAs are three important steelhead creek confluences; Pico, San Simeon, and Santa Rosa. Finally, the southern end of this MPA proposal abuts a portion of the UCSB Ken Norris Rancho terrestrial reserve, which has an on-site manager. The southern boundary of this SMR/SMCA proposal was placed at Von Helm Rock as there is a small contingent of long-time commercial live fish fishermen who access the coast here via kayaks at Leffingwell Landing. Had the southern boundary been any further south, it is feared that they would have been pushed too far from the safety of returning to Leffingwell, or been excluded completely from this stretch of Coast from San Simeon to Point Estero.

Atascadero Beach Intertidal SMCA
Atascadero Beach Pismo Clam Restoration SMCA
Morro Beach Intertidal SMCA
Morro Beach Pismo Clam Restoration SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: The north and south boundaries of both of these SMCA complexes will retain those of the existing Pismo clam preserves. However, the intertidal SMCAs will extend seaward to 100 feet from the mean low tide line, and the Pismo clam SMCAs extend seaward from 100 feet from the mean low tide line seaward to 1 mile.

Approximate Area: Each of the intertidal SMCAs are approximately 1.8 statute miles alongshore, and approximately 0.02 square nautical miles in area. Each of the Pismo clam SMCAs are 1.8 nautical miles alongshore outside of the intertidal SMCAs, and are each approximately 1.4 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: Take of all tidal invertebrates will be prohibited in the intertidal SMCAs, and take of Pismo clams only will be prohibited in the Pismo clam SMCAs. Commercial and recreational fishing by hook and line will be allowed in all these proposals.

Habitats & Rationale: This proposal is an adjustment to the existing two Pismo clam reserves. While both of these reserves extend out to the 3-mile limit, this MPA proposal adds a complete no-invertebrate take MPA from shore to 100 feet seaward, and a no-take MPA for Pismo clams to 1 mile seaward for restoration of Pismo clam populations, which generally do not live beyond about thirty meters deep. These intertidal seaward limits would also bring the intertidal SMCAs in line with other proposed intertidal MPAs in the study region.

While studies have shown that the failure of the existing reserves to show clam population gains is due to sea otter predation, and not human take, we feel that they should not be abandoned as restoration of these clam populations would be of high value biologically and socially. More effort should be put into creative methods to limit the otter predation, or possibly establish a larval clam grow-out and re-seeding program.

The Atascadero Beach SMCAs would be an excellent location to monitor water quality and its effect on the environment, and recommend measures and funding mechanisms to improve it. This site is the location of a sewer outfall, power plant warm water outfall, and a moderately-sized creek that is subject to urban and agricultural runoff. The Atascadero Beach sites would make a perfect "comparison" study area to the relatively unaffected Morro Beach SMCAs down the coast.

Morro Bay Harbor SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: All interior areas of Morro Bay harbor from a point drawn between the two jetty tips.

Approximate Area: The SMCA in this proposal is approximately 2.26 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: Only recreational fishing, commercial take of live bait-type fishes, and commercial aquaculture in the existing oyster bed leases will be allowed. No other commercial take will be allowed. Commercial fishing vessels will be allowed to traverse through this SMCA with catch onboard to offload.

Habitats & Rationale: Morro Bay harbor is only one of two tidal estuaries found in the study region. It contains extensive eelgrass beds, intertidal marshes, rocky and sandy habitats, and some small kelp bed areas (giant and bull). The estuary is recognized as an important nursery ground for countless species, including many species of concern. Southern sea otters make their home there, and harbor seals haul-out and pup in the bay. Two steelhead creeks, Chorro and Los Osos, have their confluence inside the bay.

While Morro Bay harbor was once fished heavily by several commercial interests, it no longer is. However, it is fished extensively by recreational fishermen. During often-time rough spring and summer wind conditions, the harbor provides a safe area for small to moderate vessels to fish for halibut, bat rays, rockfish, lingcod, and perch. The numerous public piers and revetment areas provide “family” and low-income/subsistence fishing and crabbing opportunities not available elsewhere. For these reasons Morro Bay harbor is a good candidate for a SMCA that allows recreational fishing only. Since commercial oyster bed leases exist in the back bay and live bait is sometimes taken commercially, this MPA is not a candidate for a “park” designation.

In addition, the Morro Bay Harbor SMCA would be an excellent location to monitor water quality and its effect on the estuarine environment, and recommend measures and funding mechanisms to improve it. This MPA and its monitoring/management would dovetail well into the Morro Bay National Estuary's program of watershed, water quality, and ecosystem monitoring, management, and improvement programs.

Diablo Canyon SMR Diablo Canyon SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: The SMR in this proposal is the current boundary of the existing Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant security exclusion zone, which is a 1-mile radius around the plant. The two small coves that harbor the inlet and outlet structures for the plant will not be in the SMR. The proposed SMCA is bounded by the mean high tide line, and a line running west from the point 35 degrees 14.0 minutes, and seaward to 40-fathoms, and a line running west from the point 35 degrees 11.5 minutes, and seaward to 40-fathoms.

Approximate Area: The SMR in this proposal is 2-miles alongshore, and extends 1-mile offshore in a half-circle radius. It is approximately 1.57 square nautical miles in area. The SMCA in this proposal is 4.6 statute miles alongshore (including the areas both north and south of the SMR), and is approximately 6.0 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: The 1-mile radius exclusion zone will be complete no-take. The SMCA will be highly restrictive, as only take of salmon (recreational and commercial) will be allowed.

Habitats & Rationale: This SMR/SMCA proposal builds on the existing de-facto marine reserve that is the 1-mile security exclusion zone around the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant area. Since the area is off-limits to all vessels, it is a logical place to build an MPA. Although the power plant does have thermal and larval impingement impacts of the ecosystem, those impacts will eventually be mitigated by the process that is underway at this time with the Regional Water Quality Control Board. It is a highly productive area of soft and hard rocky reefs and kelp forests. Many of the 19 NFMP fishes are present, as are red and black abalone and southern sea otters. The area is very isolated by land, and moderately isolated by sea. However, the State Park system will eventually open some of the newly State-acquired land to the north of the plant to public use, so non-consumptive uses will benefit from these MPAs. Since it is in the downcoast lee of Point Buchon, it is a likely larval retention area.

The area of this proposal has been traditionally fished extensively by both commercial and recreational interests, especially for bottom fish. However, sufficient coast will remain open to fishing to the south of the MPAs to accommodate safe passage of smaller vessels operating out of Port San Luis, and sufficient coast will remain open to fishing to the north of the MPA to not force vessels operating out of Morro Bay to “hop-scotch” into open waters. Finally, siting of these MPAs will take advantage of the long-established PG&E marine lab, which has conducted extensive marine ecosystem studies and education since the plant’s operational beginning in the late 1970’s.

Avila-Port San Luis SMCA

Proposed Boundaries: This proposal will encompass the area bounded by a line from the tip of the Port San Luis breakwater to Fossil Point.

Approximate Area: This SMCA proposal encompasses an arc of coastline enclosed by a straight line, and is approximately 0.96 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: Only recreational fishing, and commercial kelp and bait-fish harvest will be allowed. In addition, a long-established salmon rearing and out-planting operation will continue to be allowed within this SMCA.

Habitats & Rationale: Similar to the reasoning behind the Morro Bay SMCA, this area has extensive sandy habitats, as well as tidal and sub-tidal rocky reef in numerous areas. The inshore area harbors juvenile rockfish, including many species of concern.

The in-harbor area is an important weather refuge, affording safe recreational fishing opportunities from shore, the piers, and small vessels. Since kelp cutting and live bait-type fishing will be commercially allowed, this area could not have been designated a SMP although it is essentially a recreational-only fishing area.

Pismo-Oceano Intertidal SMCA

Pismo-Oceano Pismo Clam Restoration SMCA

Proposed boundaries: Nearly identical to the Morro Bay-area Pismo clam reserve adjustments, this proposal is an adjustment to the existing Pismo clam preserve in the Pismo-Oceano area. This MPA proposal makes the same intertidal SMCA and Pismo clam SMCA adjustments as with the Morro Bay-area proposals.

Approximate Area: The intertidal SMCA is 3.8 statute miles alongshore, and approximately 0.06 square nautical miles in area. The Pismo clam SMCA is 3.8 nautical miles alongshore outside of the intertidal SMCA, and is approximately 3.3 square nautical miles in area,

Proposed Regulations: Take of all tidal invertebrates will be prohibited in the intertidal SMCA, and take of Pismo Clams only will be prohibited in the Pismo Clam SMCA. Commercial and recreational fishing by hook and line will be allowed in both of these proposals.

Habitats & Rationale: Same as for the Morro Bay-area intertidal SMCAs and Pismo clam SMCAs.

Vandenberg SMR (northern)

Vandenberg SMCA Vandenberg Ecological SMR (southern)

Proposed Boundaries: The existing Ecological Protection State Marine Reserve will be retained as the Vandenberg Ecological SMR, in the southern end of Vandenberg Danger Zone 4. The boundary of the Vandenberg SMCA is the area that encompasses Danger Zone 4 in its entirety, excluding the areas encompassed by the northern and southern SMRs within. The boundary of the northern SMR proposal is the mean high tide line, and a line extending west along the northern boundary of Danger Zone 4, and seaward to 10-fathoms, and a line extending west from a point at Bear Creek at 34 degrees 38.75 minutes, and seaward to 10-fathoms.

Approximate Area: The existing Ecological SMR is 3.68 statute miles alongshore, and is 1.87 square nautical miles in area. The SMCA is 8 miles alongshore, and is 24.5 square nautical miles in area. The proposed SMR is 3 miles alongshore, and is 1.9 square nautical miles in area.

Proposed Regulations: These two SMRs would restrict all take, and most all entry. The SMCA would allow only commercial and recreational salmon and crab take from vessels, and recreational fishing from shore.

Habitats & Rationale: This trio of MPAs builds on the existing Vandenberg Marine Resources Protection Act Ecological Reserve. The current ecological reserve would be maintained. In addition, a second reserve with identical restrictions would be added at the north end of Danger Zone 4 from near the confluence with the Santa Ynez river south approximately 3 miles, and out to the 10-fathom curve. The SMCA proposal would encompass the remainder of Danger Zone 4. In all, these MPA encompass nearshore and high-energy rocky reef habitat, sandy bottoms and beaches, and a steelhead river confluence. In addition, *according to the DFG prelim analysis for Vandenberg: This area appears to function well in protecting high pop. densities of black abalone. No other site along s.ca. mainland contains high densities of black abalone.* The proposed northern SMR replicates bottom type of existing Vandenberg Reserve. With the freshwater plume at Santa Ynez River mouth, this site would benefit by coordination with Regional Water Quality Monitoring Board to establish water quality monitoring site at Bear Creek and SY River watershed confluence w/ ocean. (Existing pilot project now underway through Region 3 RWQMB, monitoring Santa Maria River with plans to expand to SY River). The deepwater Arguello Canyon is nearby, and this area is a dynamic interface between the southern Californian bioregion and the Oregonian bioregion.

Since all of Danger Zone 4 is a “no-stopping” area designated by the Department of Defense, all bottom contact fishing, except for crabbing, is not possible.