

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

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To: MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
From: MLPA Initiative Staff
Subject: Participation in the meeting of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force as it reconvenes on November 10, 2009
Date: November 4, 2009

Purpose of Memo

This memo provides additional information for Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) members regarding your participation in the meeting of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) as it reconvenes on November 10, 2009 in Los Angeles.

BRTF Action on October 22, 2009

The BRTF reviewed the Round 3 MLPA SCRSG marine protected area (MPA) proposals at its recent meeting (October 20-22). During this meeting, the BRTF considered options for what to include in a preferred alternative to be recommended to the California Fish and Game Commission.

A subset of MPAs was agreed upon by the BRTF to be potentially included in a preferred alternative. In addition, there are four general geographies where alternative options have been identified and requested for separate analysis: Point Dume (three options), Palos Verdes (two options), Orange County (two options), and San Diego (four options). All MPA options are currently under consideration and review by the BRTF, and none of the MPAs have been formally included in the preferred alternative.

Materials are available on the MLPA website (http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpaoptions_sc.asp) that summarize the MPA configurations the BRTF is considering for a preferred alternative:

- Subregional maps
- Overview table of MPAs under consideration
- Descriptions of common MPAs
- Descriptions of MPA options in four geographies
- Comparison of proposed allowed uses in MPA options for the four geographies

Additional Information is available in MarineMap; the options in MarineMap are included in five different arrays, titled:

- BRTF Options - MPAs Common to All Options
- BRTF Options - Point Dume MPA Options
- BRTF Options - Palos Verdes MPA Options

- BRTF Options - Orange County MPA Options
- BRTF Options - San Diego MPA Options

Purpose of SCRSG Attendance

The primary purpose of this continuation of the BRTF meeting is to further deliberate upon a preferred alternative to forward to the California Fish and Game Commission. BRTF members have indicated that stakeholder input during these deliberations is important to them.

SCRSG members have diligently worked over the last year to develop MPA proposals for the south coast that take into consideration many different interests, concerns, values and forms of guidance; the BRTF members recognize your efforts to take these things into consideration and value your input on the various MPA options currently under consideration.

What to Expect

The BRTF will continue its geography-based discussion after receiving an overview and evaluations of the various MPA options that staff was requested to conduct. Each stakeholder in attendance will also have the opportunity to actively participate in the discussion and provide feedback on the MPA options under consideration by the BRTF.

How to Prepare

To facilitate discussions, staff is asking each SCRSG member to be prepared to address the overall options being considered in the four geographies (Point Dume, Palos Verdes, Orange County and San Diego). Putting your thoughts in writing would be helpful so that task force members have your ideas in front of them throughout the days' discussion; if you are able to attend you will have an opportunity to summarize what you have submitted. Please feel free to send your thoughts on the options under consideration to the MLPA Initiative office (MLPAOffice@resources.ca.gov) by 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9 so that copies can be printed that afternoon.

Staff has also requested that members of the public provide additional comments in writing to MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov or by contacting an SCRSG member to share their perspective on the options under consideration. Over the last year you have been an important voice for the public; the BRTF will continue to look to you for maintaining that linkage to the public perspective. You are encouraged to draw from the input of your constituents and the public and then make a connection to how those perspectives can be included in creatively balancing multiple interests in the MPA design process.

There will be an additional opportunity for interacting with the BRTF over lunch.

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Meeting Logistics and RSVP

Please join the BRTF at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at:

Sheraton Gateway Hotel Los Angeles
6101 West Century Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90045

If you have not yet RSVP'd to Delbra, please do so immediately so that appropriate arrangements can be made for meals, seating, etc. (dga_mlpa@sbcglobal.net or 916.206.8897).

Regular travel reimbursement will be provided for those who make a request: the 9:30 a.m. start time was established to allow everyone to travel to the meeting that morning. The draft meeting agenda is available on the MLPA website at http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/meetings_sc.asp.