

## Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



### Data to Support MPA Planning

Presentation to the MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

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### Data Available for Planning

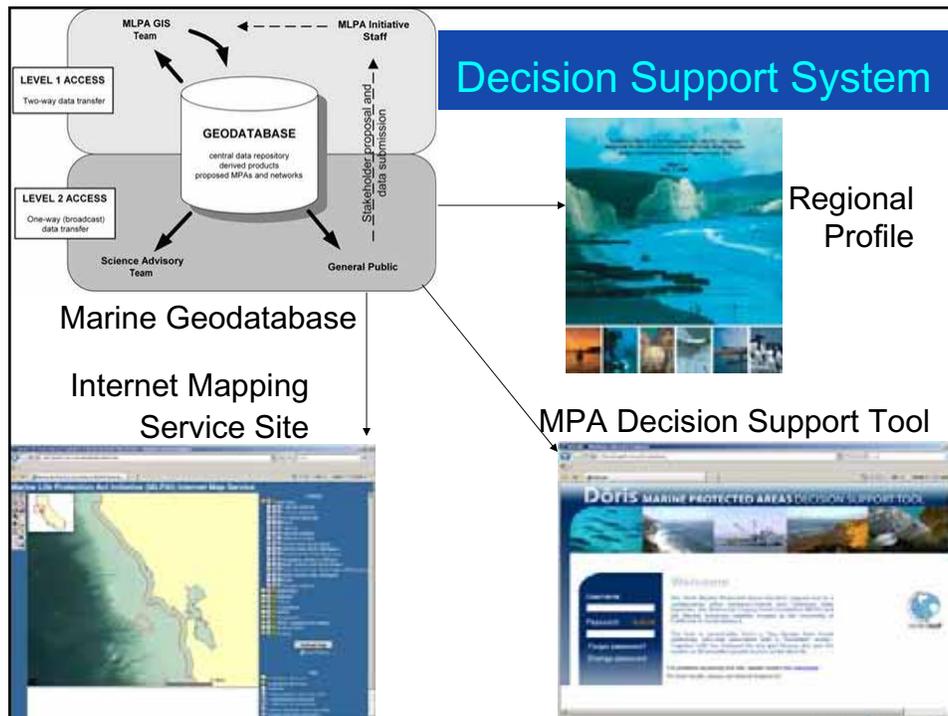
**The Marine Life Protection Act requires use of the “best readily available science.....”**  
[Fish and Game Code, Section 2855(a)]

- Spatial data layers (features that can be mapped)
- Contextual information in regional profile
- Local knowledge and information as provided by stakeholders and public
- Scientific input from SAT and other regional experts



## Spatial data in GIS

- Geographic information system (GIS)
- Appendix 1 of regional profile: list of over 150 spatial data layers available
  - Base layers
  - Habitat
  - Biological
  - Physical
  - Management
  - Cultural
  - Socioeconomic
- Existing spatial data compiled by state and federal agencies, NGOs, universities
- Housed at UCSB in a GIS database

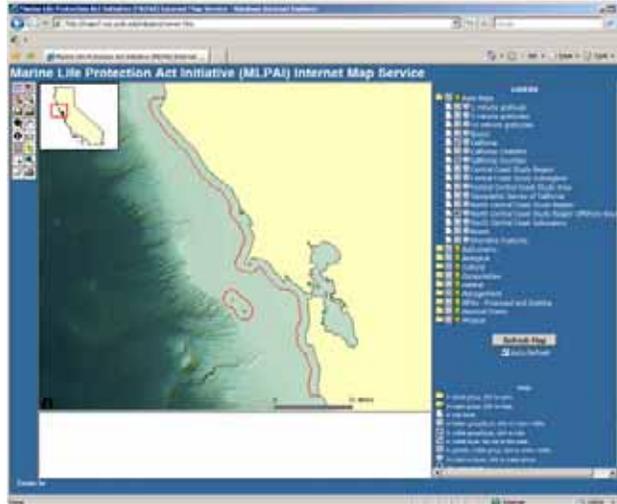




## Internet Mapping Service (IMS) site

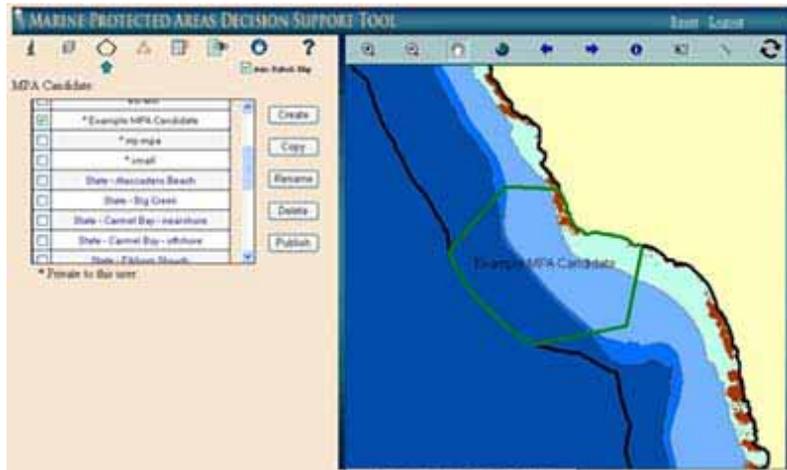
Web-based map: [www.marinemap.org/mlpa](http://www.marinemap.org/mlpa)

Data layers  
viewable with  
any web  
browser



## MPA Decision Support Tool

Allows stakeholders to draw candidate MPAs  
and analyze features captured





## Additional Data Collection Efforts

### **High resolution seafloor mapping (Kvitek lab, CSU Monterey Bay)**

- For entire study region (Ano Nuevo to Point Arena)
- Distinguish hard/soft substrata by depth zone
- Will greatly improve upon the existing coarse-scale seafloor habitat data



## Additional Data Collection Efforts

### **Commercial Fisheries Survey – Ecotrust**

- Build on lessons learned in similar survey in central coast
- 22 fisheries in study region
- Uses structured interviews to
  - Identify extent of commercial fishing grounds in region
  - Identify areas of stated importance to fishermen for each fishery



## Ongoing Discussions

- Areas of importance to recreational fishing groups – scoping meeting in near future with recreational fishing representatives to discuss use and limitations of existing California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) data
- Areas of importance to selected non-consumptive user groups – identifying appropriate approach to collect some additional information