



## Marine Life Protection Act



### NCCSR Initial Feasibility Analysis

North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group Meeting  
November 28, 2007 • San Rafael, CA  
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California Department of Fish and Game



## Feasibility Evaluation

- MOU requires the Department to prepare a statement of the feasibility criteria used in its evaluation of proposals.
- Department memo prepared June 11, 2007:  
*“Statement of feasibility criteria for use in analyzing siting alternatives during the second phase of the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative”.*



## Design Elements

### Design elements that **INCREASE** feasibility:

- Straight Lines Oriented Due N/S, E/W
- Use of Major Landmarks
- Use of Whole Number Latitude/Longitude
- Multiple zoning of adjacent areas



## Design Elements

### Design elements that **DECREASE** feasibility:

- Distance-from-shore Boundaries
- Depth Contour Boundaries
- Irregular Boundaries
- Doughnut Designs
- Multiple zoning of adjacent areas



## Other Considerations

- Simple Regulations
- Clear goals and objectives
- Accessibility



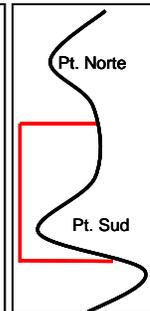
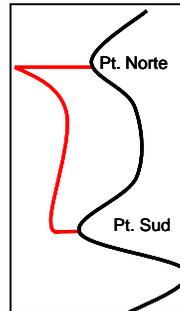
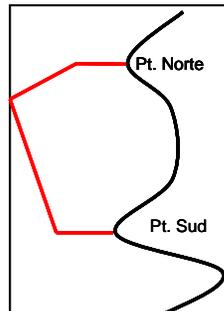
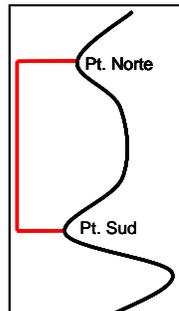
## Examples of Boundary Design - 1

Good!

Irregular Lines

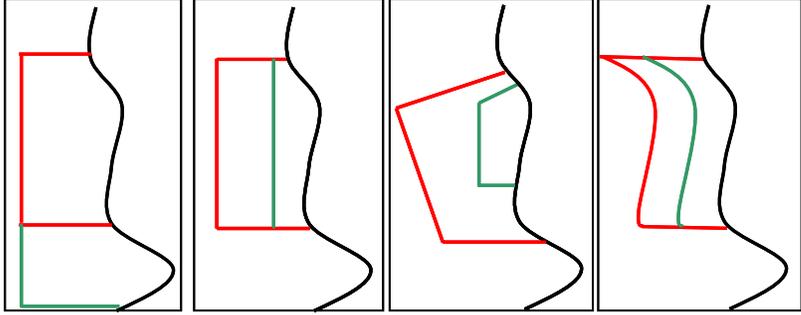
Doesn't use straight lines

Doesn't use major landmarks



 **Examples of Boundary Design - 2**

Best!      O.K.      Doughnut design      Doesn't use straight lines



 **Feasibility Evaluation of Initial Arrays**

- Evaluation of first drafts completed for NCCRSB
- Each external proposal or internal draft array has its own evaluation
- Provides detailed feedback on feasibility of each MPA contemplated



## Frequently Noted Design Elements- Initial Arrays

Frequently noted design elements that decrease MPA feasibility:

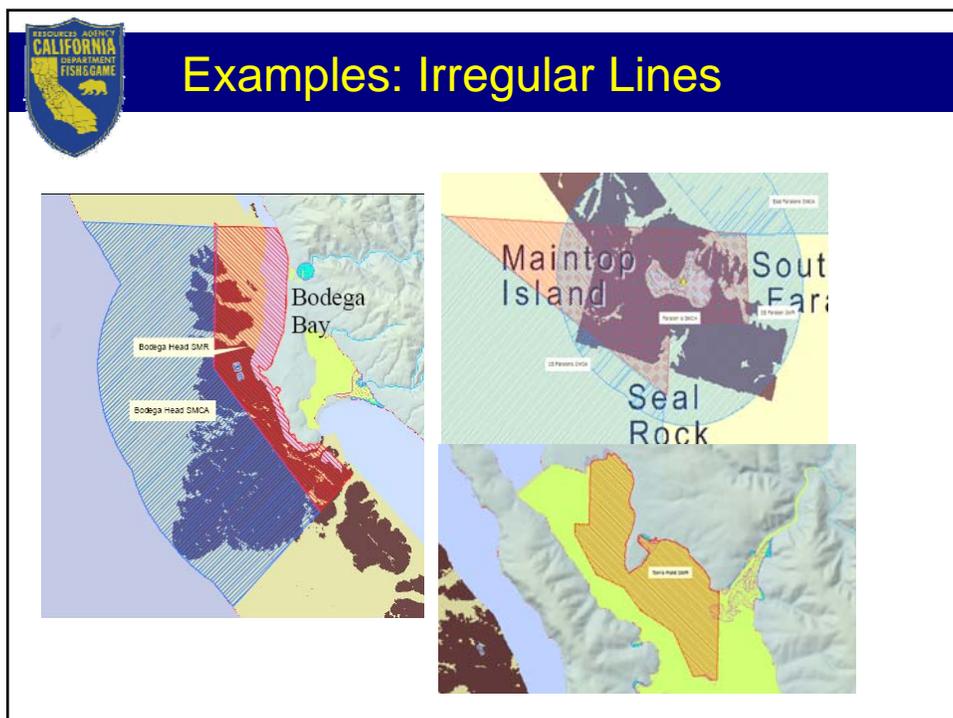
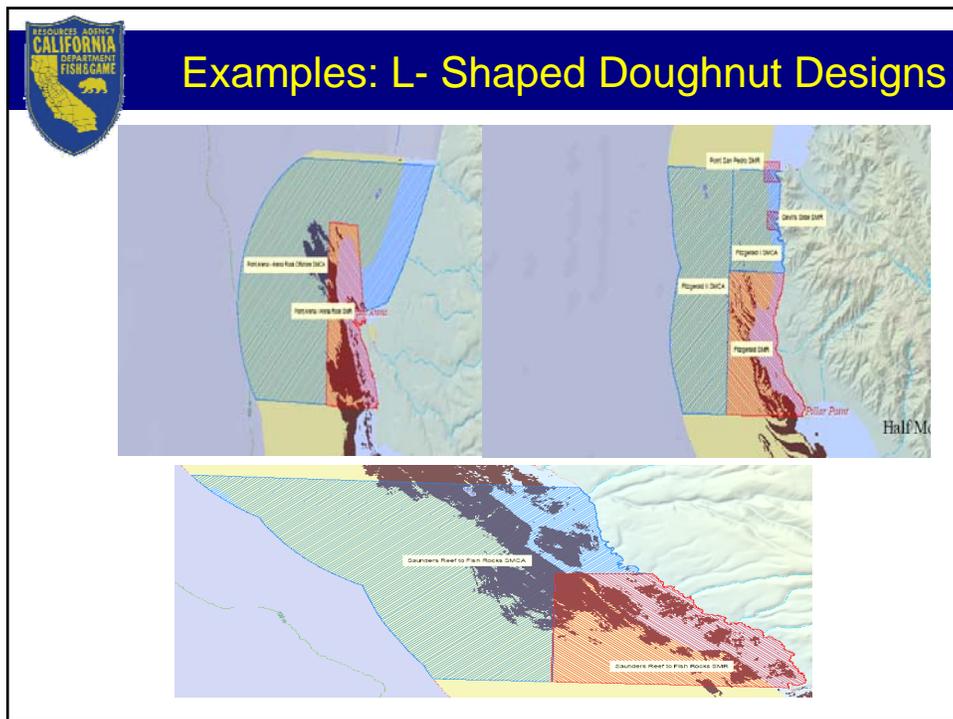
- Boundaries not at whole minute lines of latitude/ longitude or at easily recognizable landmarks (such as points, headlands and bouys);
- Boundaries not orientated in a due north/south, east/west direction;
- Boundaries based on distance offshore or depth contours;

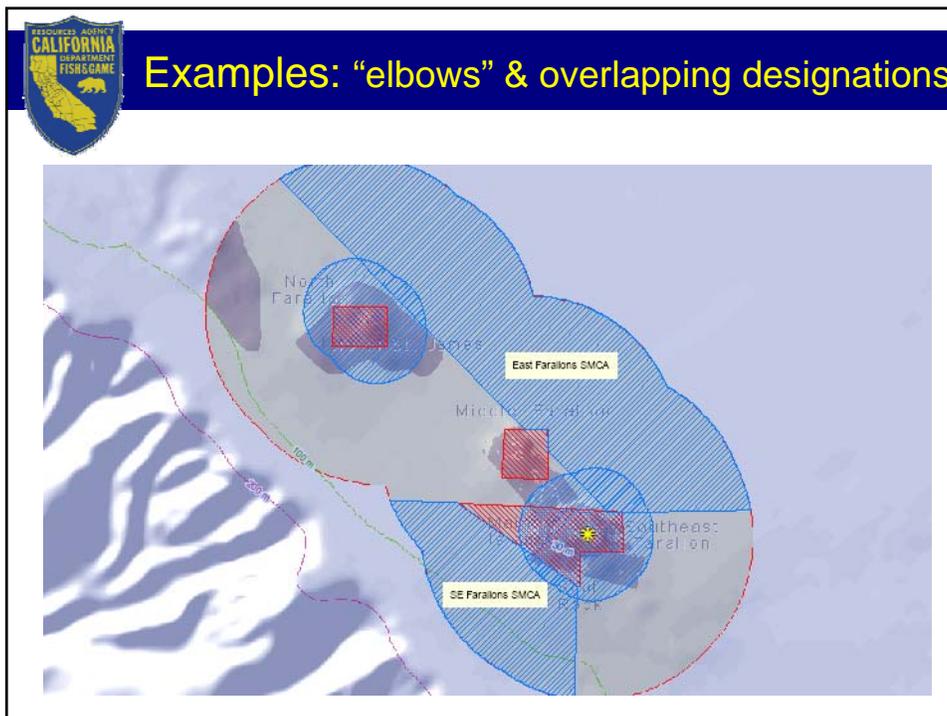
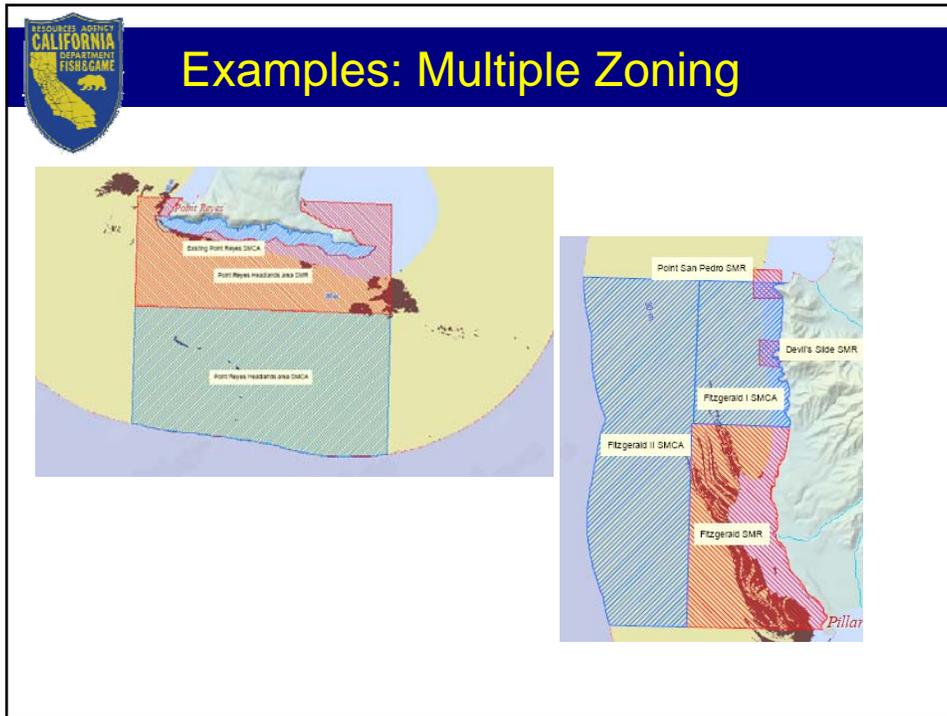


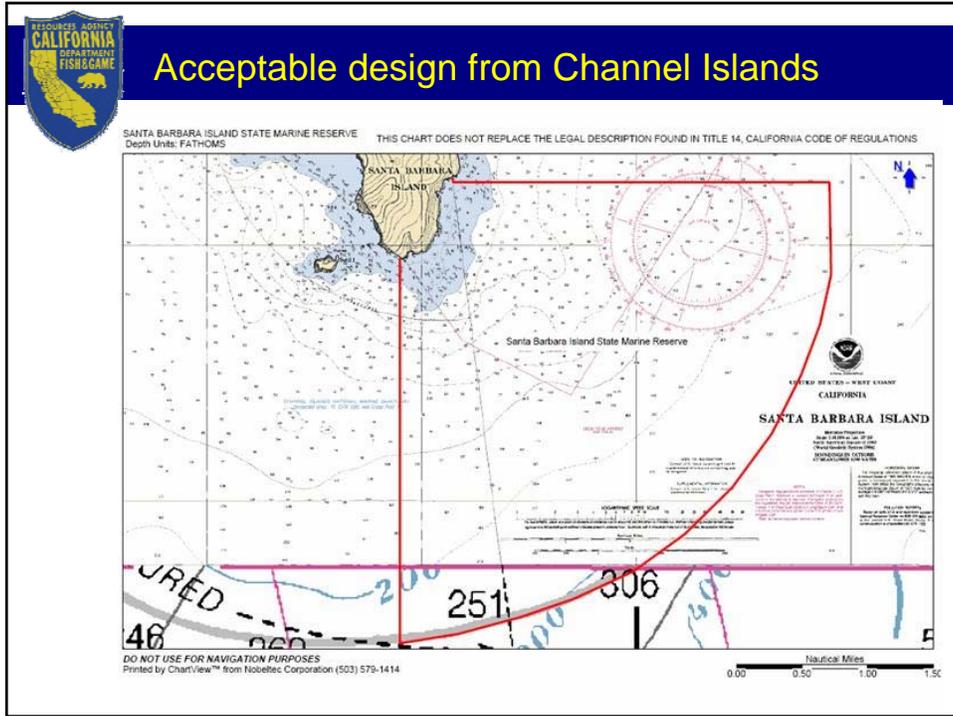
## Frequently Noted Design Elements- Initial Arrays

(Continued)

- Shoreline boundaries not specifically defined;
- Doughnut designs (which occurs when MPAs surround one another);
- MPAs with complex regulations;
- "Special Closures" not clearly defined or specifically identify the species to be protected; and
- "Floating corners" in offshore waters not at clear lines of latitude/ longitude







## Summary of Feasibility Elements- Initial Arrays

Array Name	Total # of MPAs	Goals Defined (%)	Objectives Defined (%)	Accessibility (%)	Simple & Clear Regulations (%)	Meets Boundary Guidelines (%)	Meets Multiple Zoning Guidelines (i.e. doughnut or L-shaped designs) (%)
Turquoise A	23	100	0	96	57	17	74
Turquoise B	22	100	0	95	41	18	68
Jade A	24	100	0	96	54	8	71
Jade B	17	100	0	100	59	18	88
Emerald A	26	88	0	96	69	12	77
Emerald B	31	87	0	97	55	10	65
External A	16	0	0	100	56	6	75
External B	15	100	100	100	100	40	73
External C	19	79	0	100	58	21	100
External D	20	95	95	100	70	0	55
<b>Totals</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>74</b>



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- ### Summary
- Feasibility criteria will be used by the Department to form recommendations to the Fish and Game Commission.
  - Initial feasibility evaluations are intended to help focus the RSG workgroups as they develop initial MPA proposals from draft MPA arrays.
  - The criteria taken together should form the guiding principle used in designing MPA proposals (along with MLPA Master Plan and science guidelines).



## Special Closures memo

- Interest in closed areas to reduce disturbance to sea birds (nesting, breeding, roosting) and marine mammals (rookeries, haul-outs, breeding colonies)
- Department memo prepared October 19: *Special Closures as they apply to the Marine Life Protection Act*
  1. Recommends that any no-access regulations be proposed as Special Closures
  2. Recommends SAT analysis: year-round versus seasonal
- Be specific about what species you are protecting and why
- Be judicious along coastline (public access points, public beaches and public awareness are issues).