



California's Marine Life Protection Act Initiative presents...

North Coast Summer Public Open Houses July 6-8, 2010

The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) requires the state to re-examine and redesign California's system of marine protected areas. Draft marine protected area proposals have been developed for the area north of Point Arena to the California-Oregon border. Stop by these open houses anytime to visit informational stations, review and comment on draft marine protected area proposals, provide input on particular areas of interest, and ask questions of staff and regional stakeholders.

Drop by anytime! *Please note specific day and evening times associated with each location.*

Tuesday, July 6

5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
C.V. Starr Community Center
300 South Lincoln Street
Fort Bragg, CA

Wednesday, July 7

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.
The Octagon/Beginnings
5 Cemetery Road
Briceland, CA

5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center
921 Waterfront Drive, Rm 211
Eureka, CA

Thursday, July 8

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Redwood National & State Parks
South Operations Center
121200 Highway 101
Orick, CA

5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Elk Valley Rancheria Community
Center
2332 Howland Hill Road
Crescent City, CA

RSVP: To ensure adequate refreshments and seating, please RSVP to Delbra Gibbs (916.424.8897 or dga_mlpa@sbcglobal.net).

The success of the MLPA Initiative is dependent upon the active involvement of the public. Visit an open house and share your ideas!

***For more information, please contact the MLPA Initiative at
916-654-1885 or visit www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa***

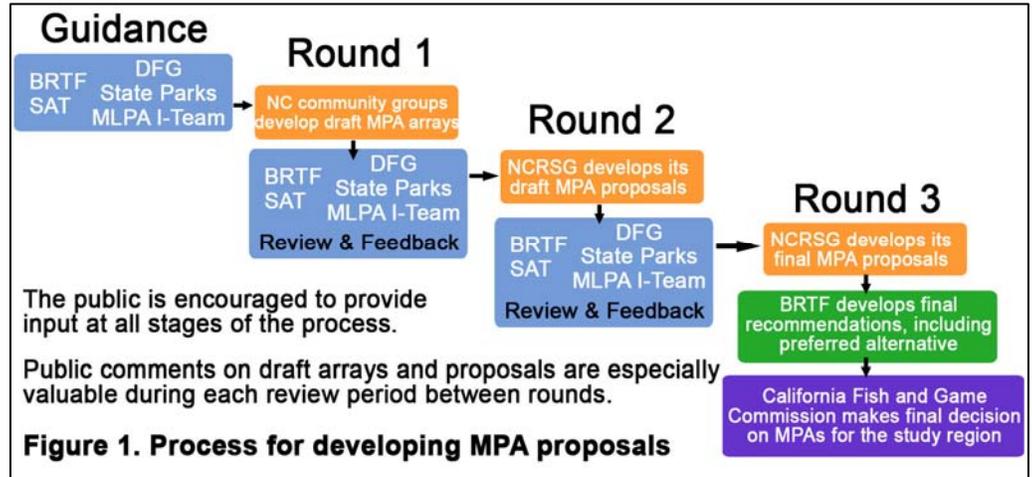


What is the format of the public open houses? The open houses are informal and do not require that you attend the entire time. Rather, informational stations are set up where you can move around at your leisure to view maps, receive written materials, ask questions of staff or regional stakeholder group members who helped develop the marine protected area (MPA) proposals, and submit your own ideas or suggestions for how to improve the draft MPA proposals.

What is the process for developing marine protected area (MPA) proposals within the north coast study region? To fully integrate the robust local knowledge available within the MLPA North Coast Study Region (state waters from Alder Creek, near Point Arena, to the California/Oregon border), community groups and/or individuals were invited to develop external MPA arrays as the first round of MPA proposal development. In January, 34 individuals were appointed to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG). The NCRSG was provided with the draft arrays developed by community groups, and have developed revised proposals that incorporate many of these ideas.

What is the timeline for MPA planning in the north coast?

MPA proposals developed through the MLPA Initiative are crafted over three iterative rounds. In October 2009, north coast communities were invited to develop draft MPA arrays as part of Round 1 of the MPA planning process. During Rounds 2 and 3, NCRSG members will have the opportunity to integrate ideas from the external arrays as they develop the next stage of MPA proposals. During each round of planning, the alternative MPA proposals are evaluated by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and MLPA Initiative staff. In addition, guidance is provided by the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force, which will develop a final set of recommendations in October 2010 and then present them to the California Fish and Game Commission in December 2010. The public has an opportunity to provide input at all stages of the process.



Where is the NCRSG in the MPA development process for the north coast study region?

Draft MPA proposals for the study region are now in Round 2 and have been submitted for various evaluations. The results of these evaluations and public comment (including comments received at the public open houses) will help inform the process of developing Round 3 proposals, which will begin on July 29, 2010. Ultimately, in October 2010, Round 3 proposals will be delivered to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF), the group overseeing this process. Final recommendations are then developed by the task force to advance to the California Fish and Game Commission in December 2010.

What if I can't attend one of the public open houses in person?

If you are not able to attend, you may also provide your feedback on Round 2 draft MPA proposals by visiting http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mpaproposals_nc.asp. Here, you can complete an online form expressing your comments, which will be shared with the NCRSG and BRTF. Additionally, print copies of the feedback forms are available at a number of [local libraries and government offices](#). Your comments will be most helpful if received no later than July 14, 2010 so the information can be distributed to NCRSG and BRTF members prior to the start of Round 3.