Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Overview of North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group MPA Proposals

Presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

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April 22, 2008 • San Rafael, CA

Refinement of Draft MPA Proposals

Proponents reviewed and incorporated input from:

- other proposals
- public comments and public workshops
- Blue Ribbon Task Force guidance
- Science advisory team evaluation
- CDFG feasibility analysis
- Staff evaluation

MPA Proposals from NCCRSG

Three alternative proposals to existing MPAs (Proposal 0):

- NCCRSG Proposal 1-3
- NCCRSG Proposal 2-XA
- NCCRSG Proposal 4

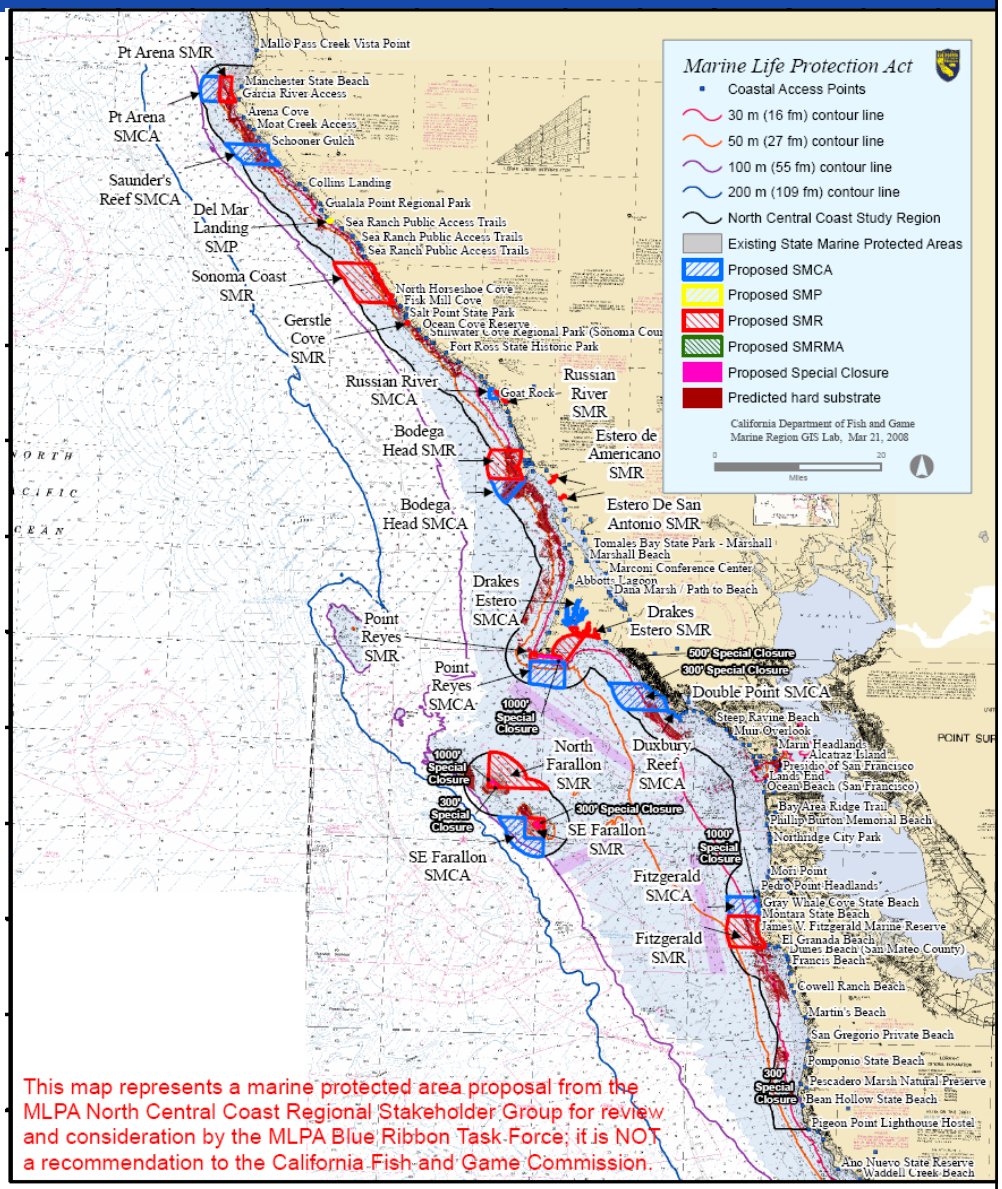
Proposal 1-3

23 MPAs (~22% of region)

- 12 state marine reserve (SMR)
- 1 state marine park (SMP)
- 10 state marine conservation area (SMCA)

0 state marine recreational management area (SMRMA)

7 special closures



North Central Coast Study Region
NCCRSG Proposal 1-3

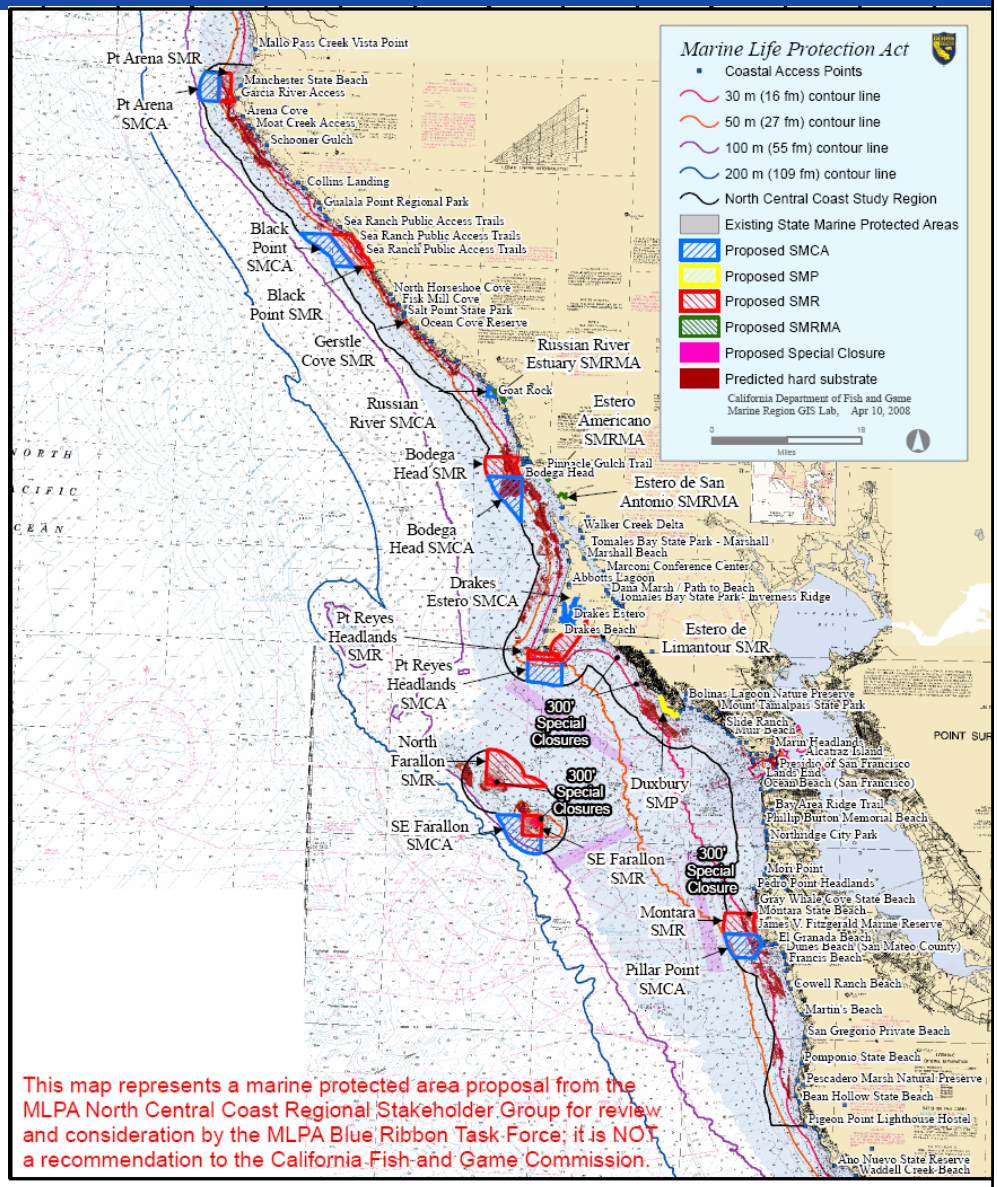
Proposal 2-XA

18 MPAs (~18% of region)

- 9 state marine reserve (SMR)
- 1 state marine park (SMP)
- 8 state marine conservation area (SMCA)

3 state marine recreational management areas (SMRMA)

5 special closures



North Central Coast Study

NCCRSG Proposal 2-XA

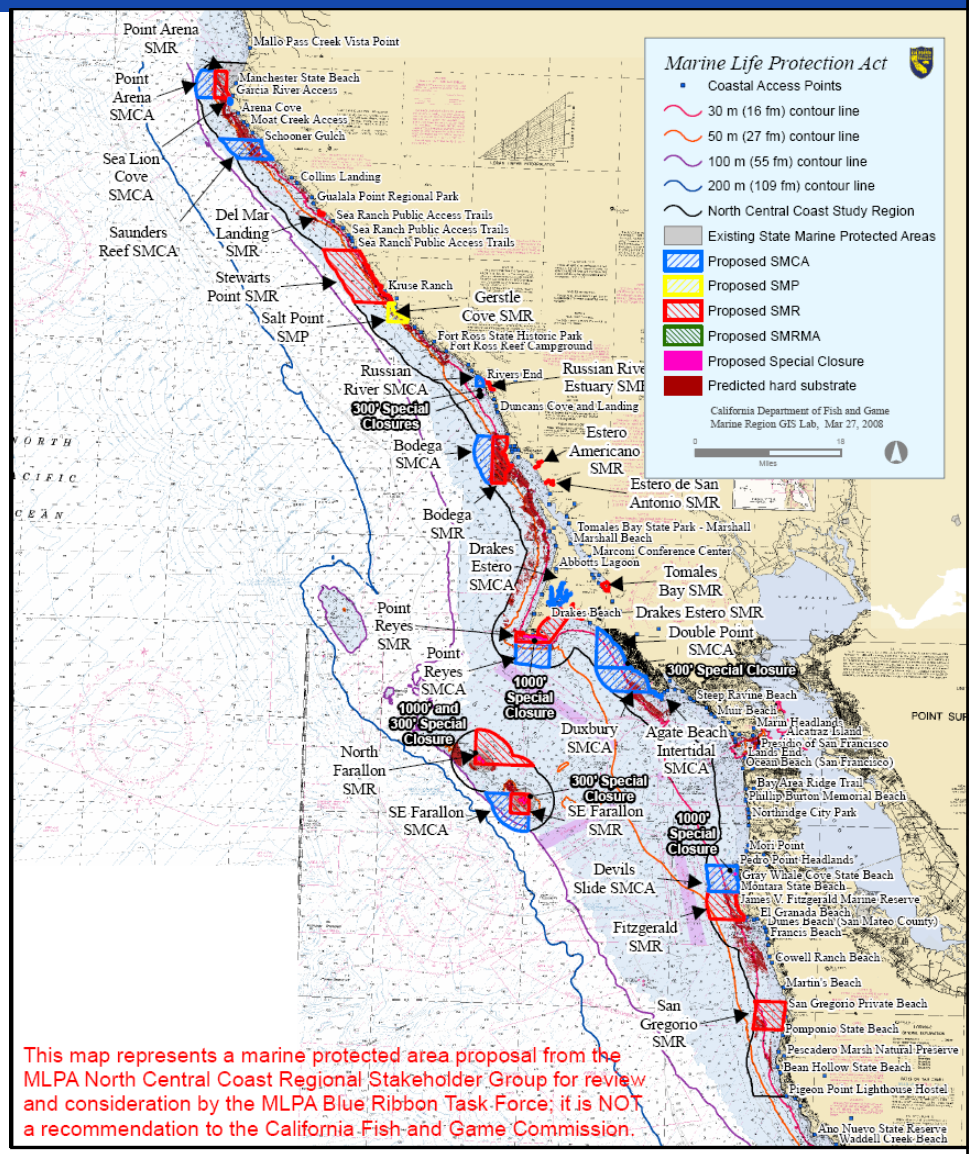
Proposal 4

28 MPAs (~27% of region)

- 15 state marine reserve (SMR)
- 1 state marine park (SMP)
- 12 state marine conservation area (SMCA)

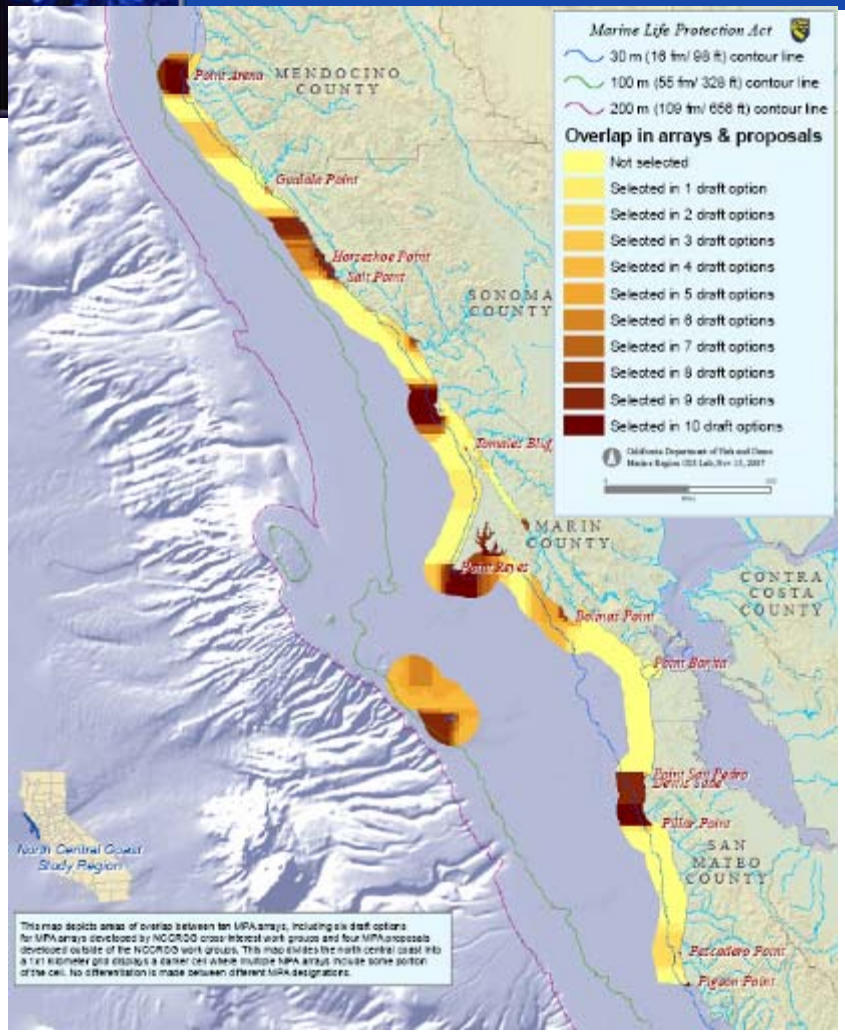
0 state marine recreational management area (SMRMA)

7 special closures

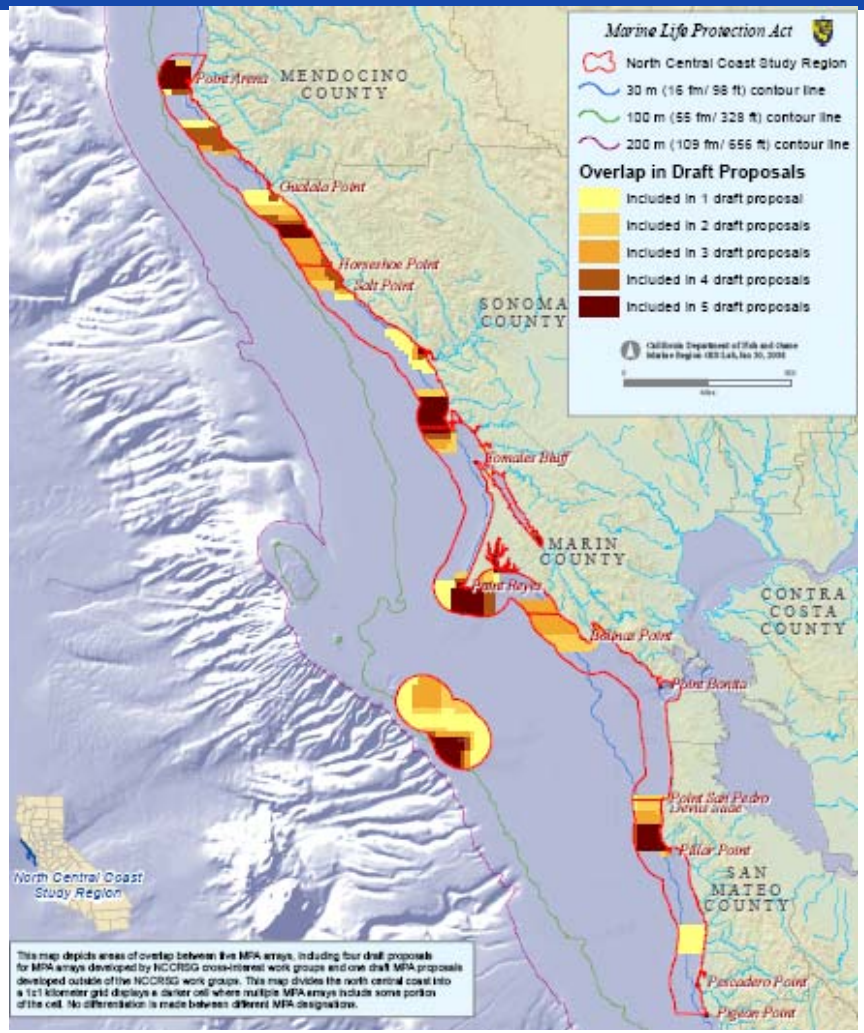


North Central Coast Study Region
NCCRSG Proposal 4

Geographic Overlap Among Proposals



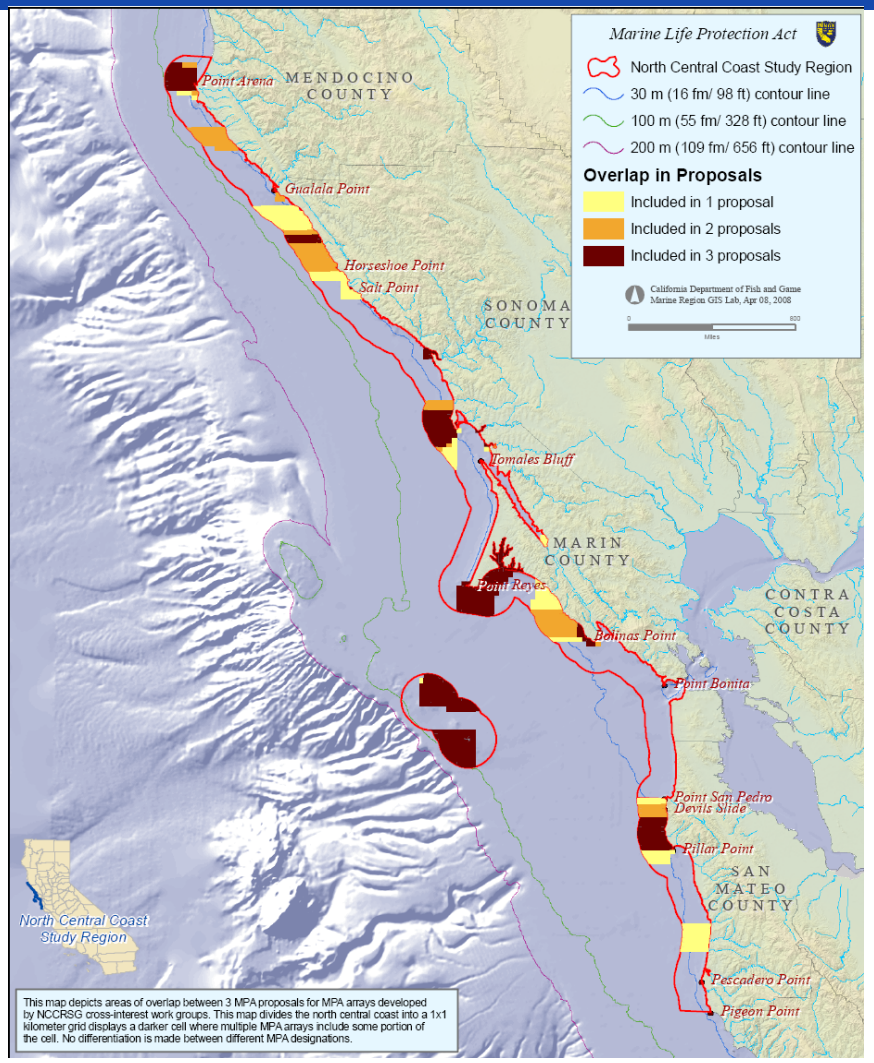
Round 1 (10 “options”)



Round 2 (5 draft proposals)

Geographic Overlap Among Proposals

- High degree of geographic convergence
- Still significant differences among proposals in overall area and specific MPA boundaries and allowed uses at some locations



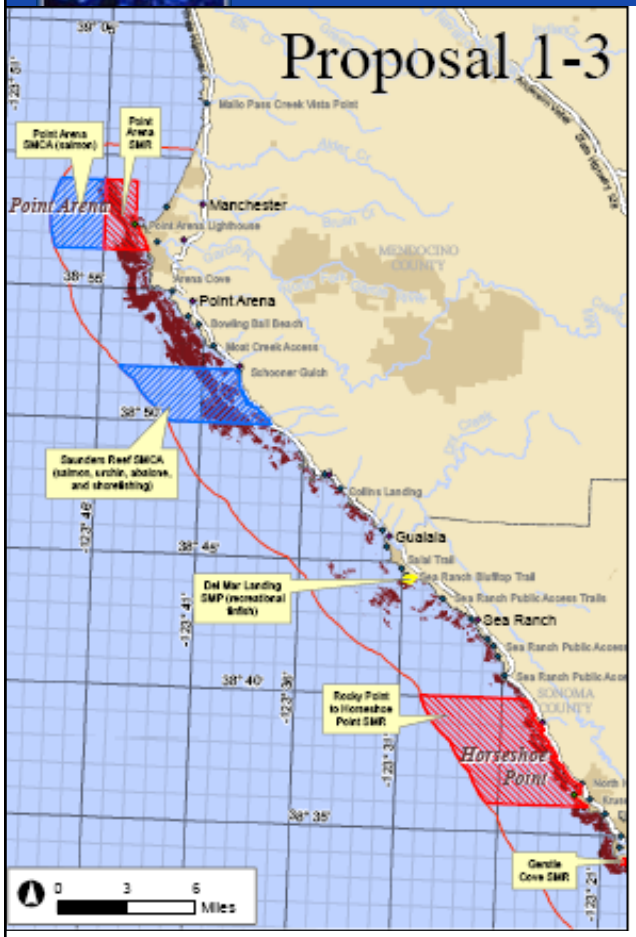
Round 3 (3 final proposals)

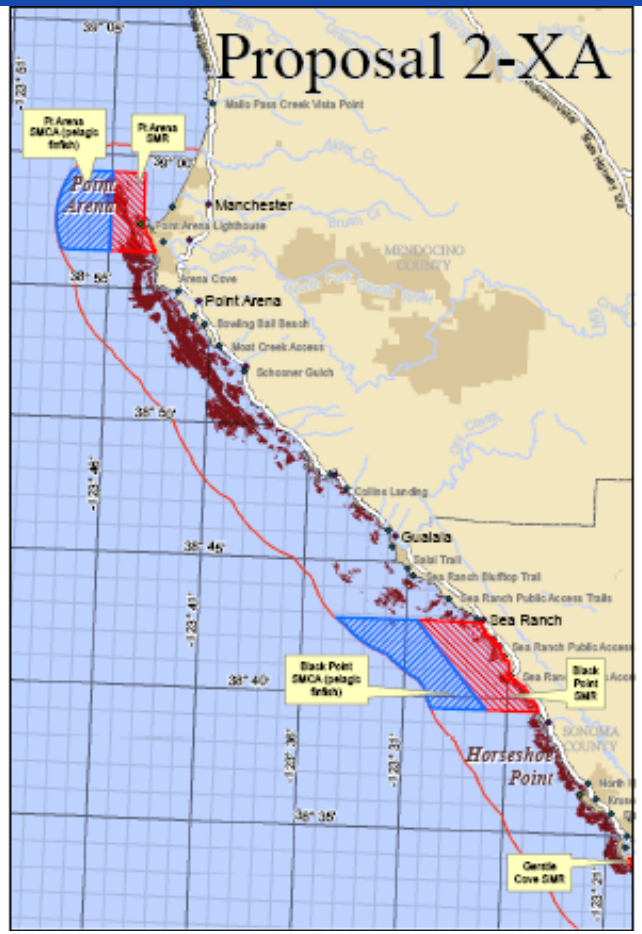
Subregion 1: Point Arena - Horseshoe Point

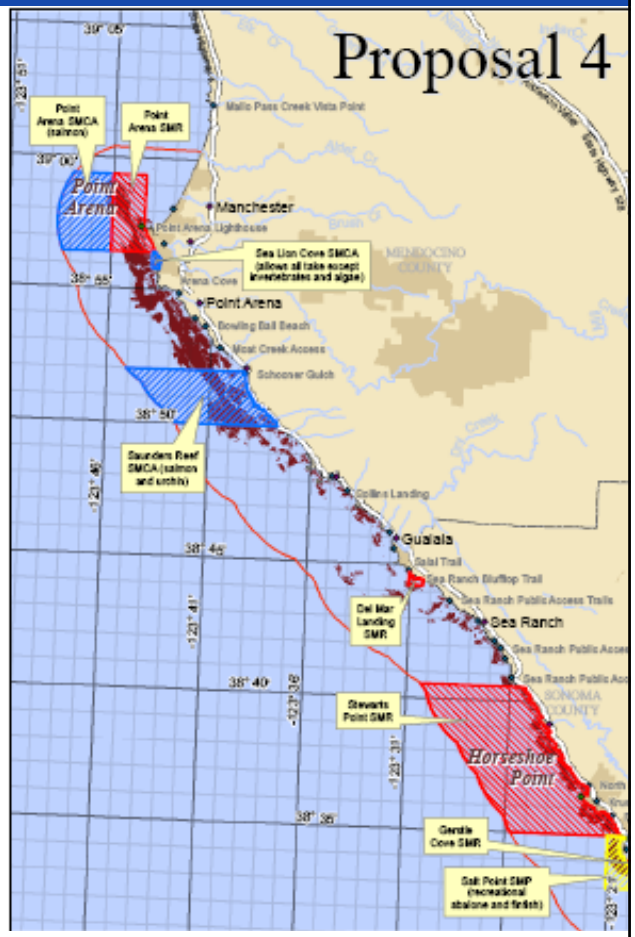
Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

- Existing MPAs: Manchester and Arena Rock SMCA and Del Mar Landing SMP
- Port of Point Arena - urchin, salmon, near-shore finfish, Dungeness crab
- Stornetta Lands / Sea Lion Cove – recreational abalone fishery
- Saunders Reef – large iconic reef; important to consumptive users
- Tribal Use – gathering at many locations
- Private lands – varied interest in having MPA in adjacent waters
- Access – limited and key to all user groups

Subregion 1: Alder Creek - Horseshoe Point







Similarities – similar MPA cluster at Point Arena; eliminate existing Manchester-Arena SMCA

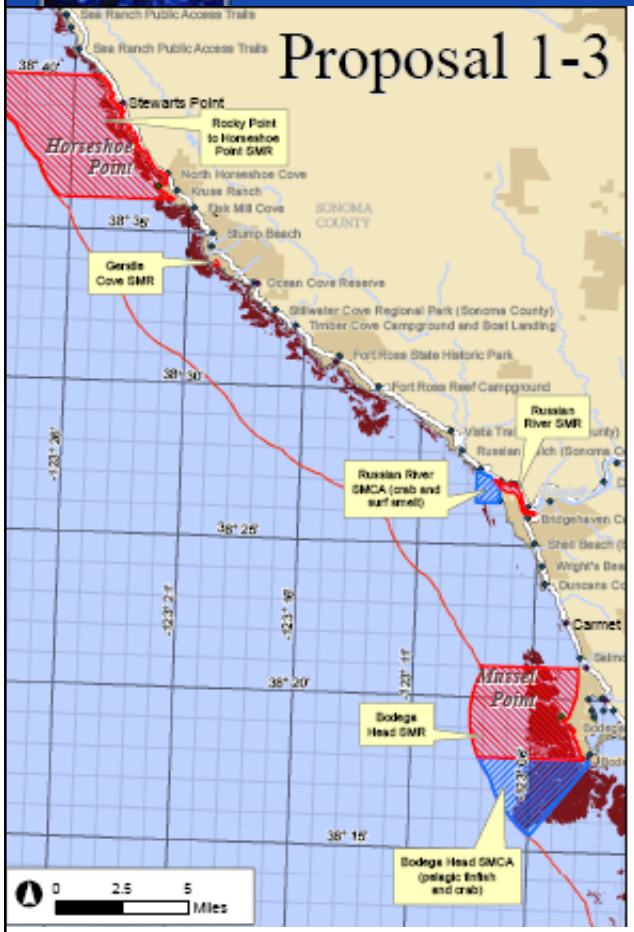
Differences – Sea Lion Cove; Saunders Reef; Black Point to Salt Point options; existing Del Mar SMP

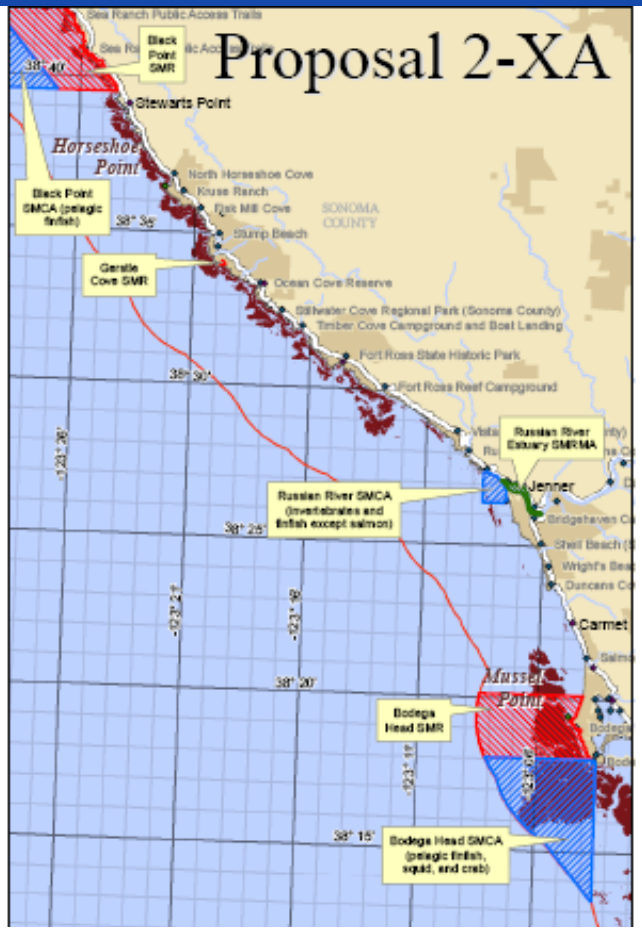
Subregion 2: Horseshoe Point - Bodega Head

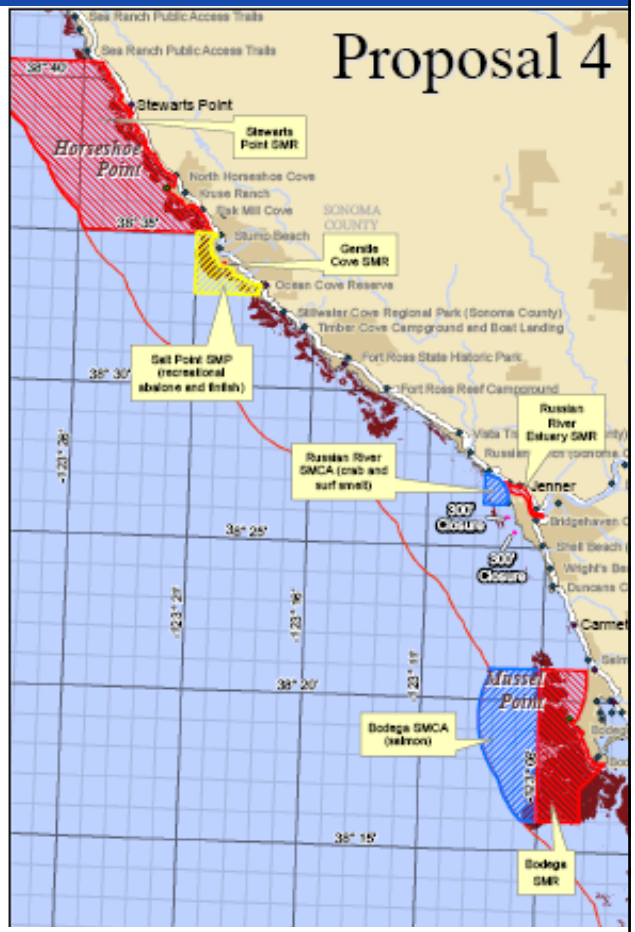
Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

- Existing: Salt Point SMCA, Gerstle Cove SMCA, Fort Ross SMCA, Sonoma Coast SMCA, Bodega SMR
- State Parks – would like adjacent MPAs (including SMR) at Salt Point
- Port of Bodega Bay: D.crab; salmon; herring; Dover sole / Thornyheads / Sablefish (DTS)
- Key access areas (eg. Salt Point, Russian River, Salmon Creek) for both consumptive (abalone, angling) and non-consumptive use (diving, wildlife viewing, kayaking)

Subregion 2: Horseshoe Point - Bodega Head







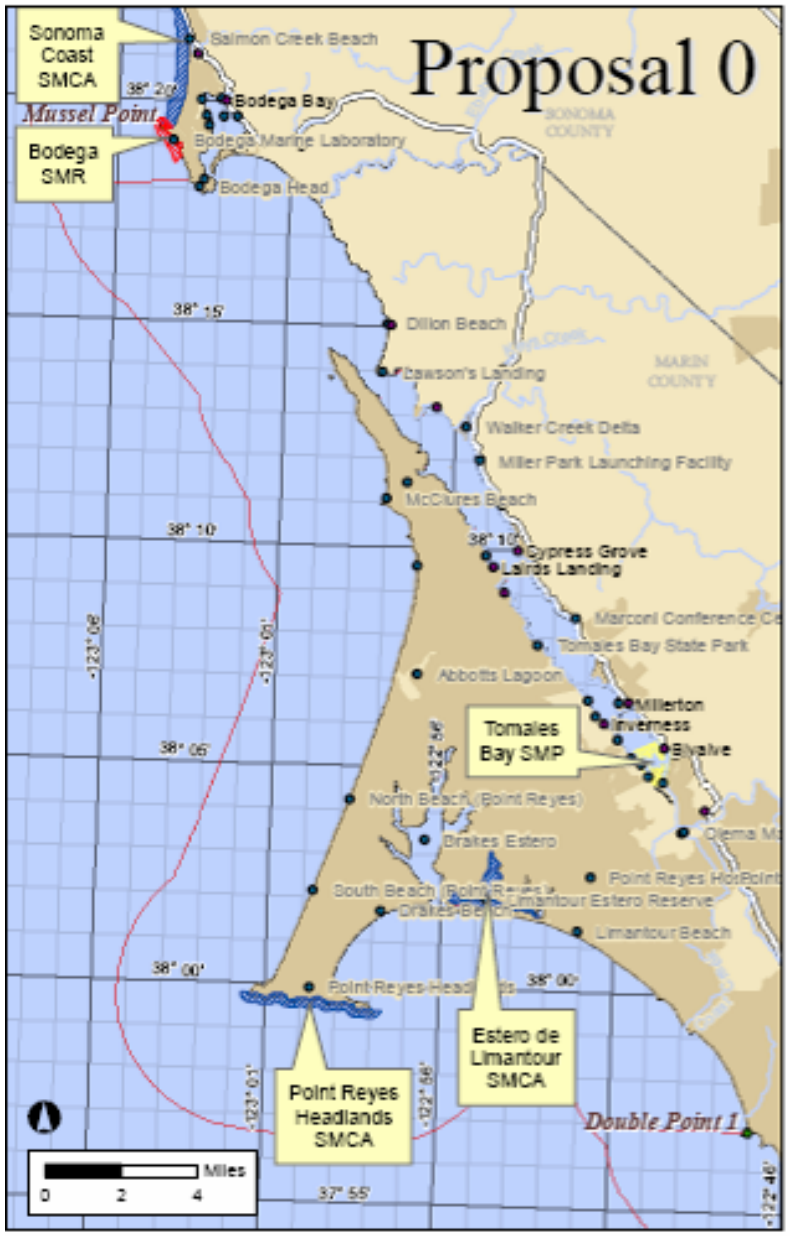
Similarities –similar proposals at Russian River; Gerstle Cove SMR; eliminate Fort Ross and Sonoma Coast SMCAs

Differences – Salt Point to Black Point options; Bodega options

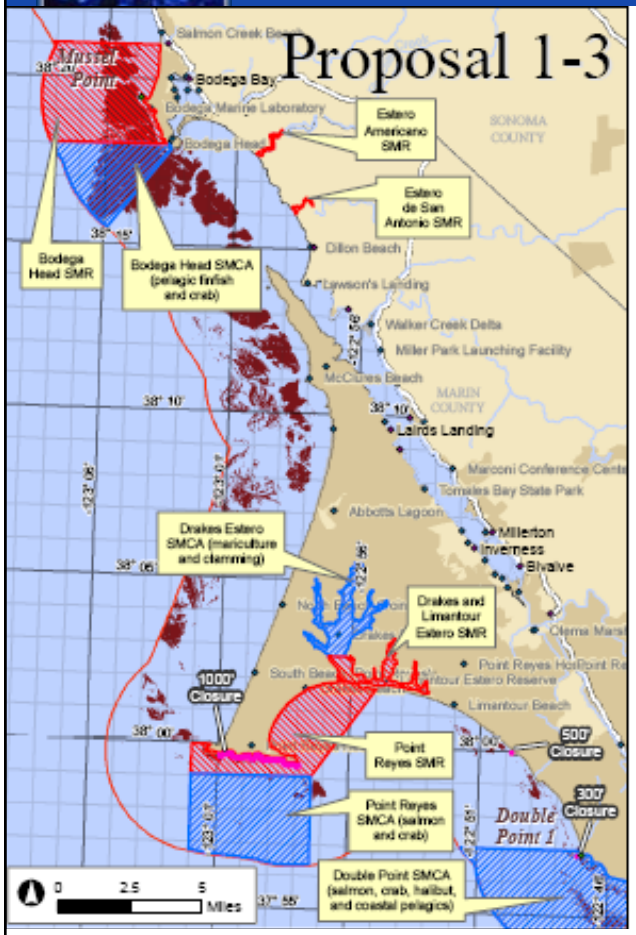
Subregion 3: Bodega Head - Double Point

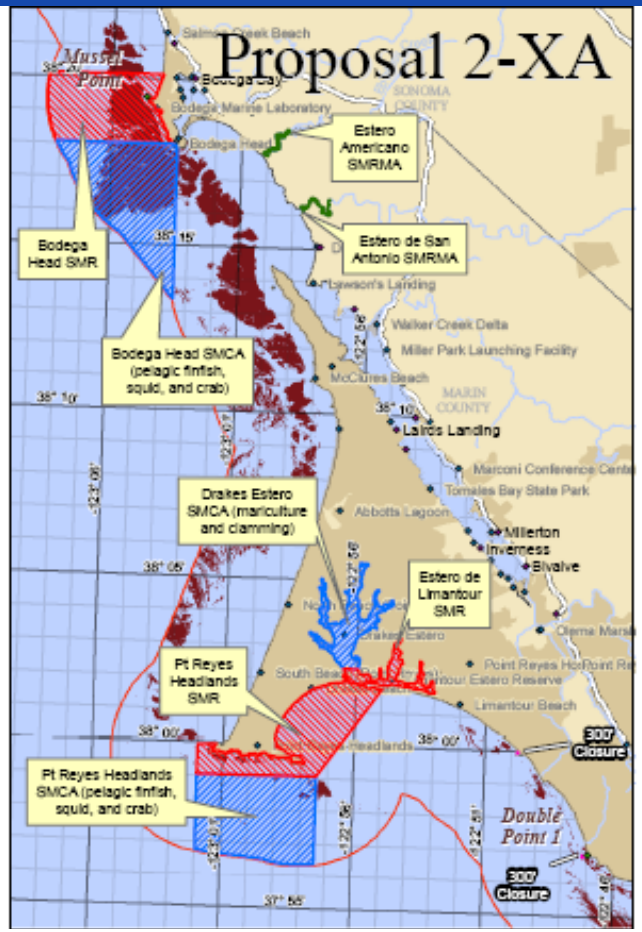
Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

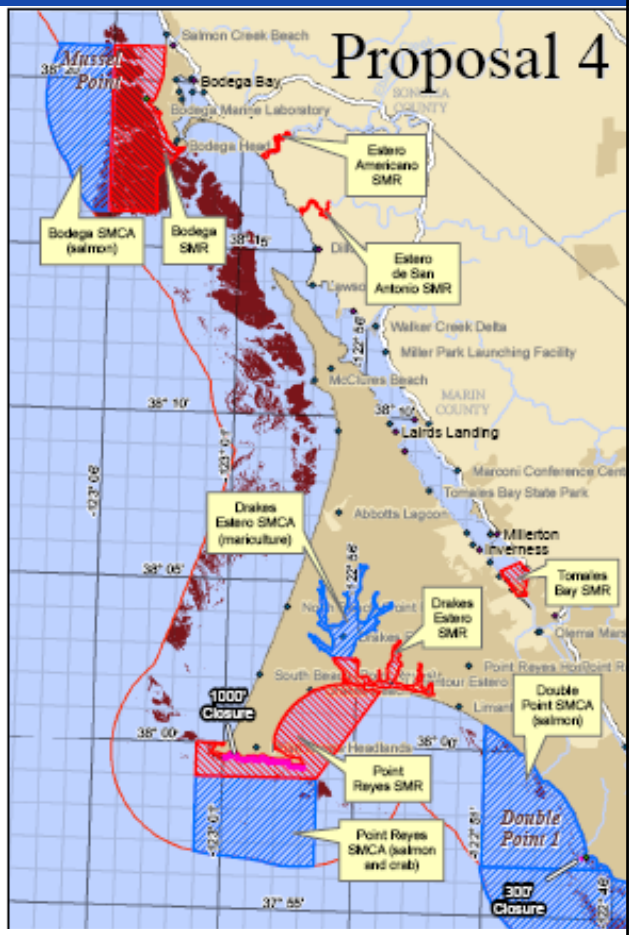
- Existing MPAs: Tomales Bay SMP, Point Reyes Headlands SMCA, Estero de Limantour SMCA
- Ports of Bodega (D. crab, salmon, herring, DTS) and Bolinas (D. crab, halibut, salmon, deeper near-shore rockfish)
- Point Reyes – ecologically important; also important for commercial and recreational fishing from Bodega and Bolinas
- Waterfowl hunting – esteros and Tomales Bay; use of SMRMAs
- Aquaculture leases - Drakes Estero and Tomales Bay



Subregion 3: Bodega Head - Double Point







Similarities –similar proposals at Esteros and Point Reyes to replace existing MPAs

Differences – Tomales Bay options

Subregion 4: Double Point - Point San Pedro

Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

- Existing MPAs: Duxbury Reef SMCA
- Dependence of port of Bolinas on adjacent areas (D. crab, halibut, salmon, deeper near-shore rockfish)
- Duxbury Reef – large iconic reef and rocky intertidal; important for anglers (commercial and recreational)

Subregion 4: Double Point - Point San Pedro

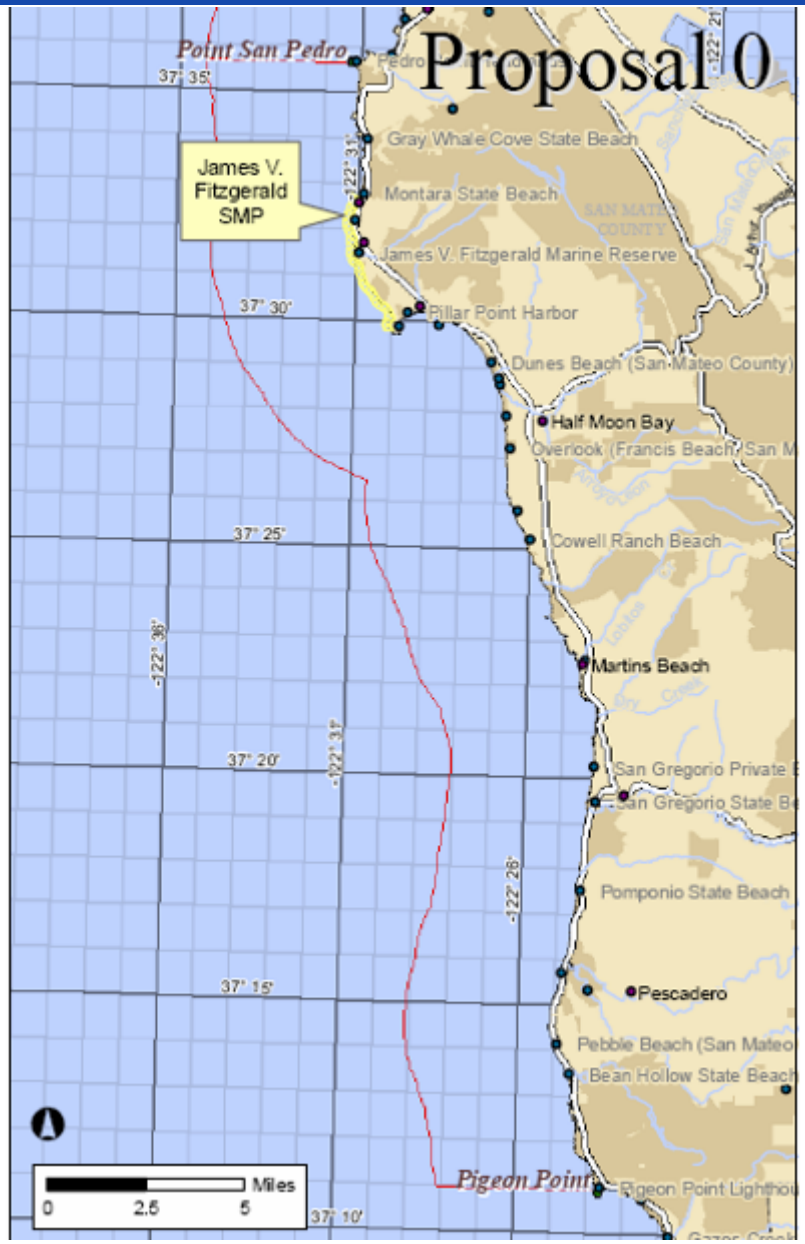
Similarities – All proposals have some protection of Duxbury intertidal

Differences – Duxbury/Double Point options

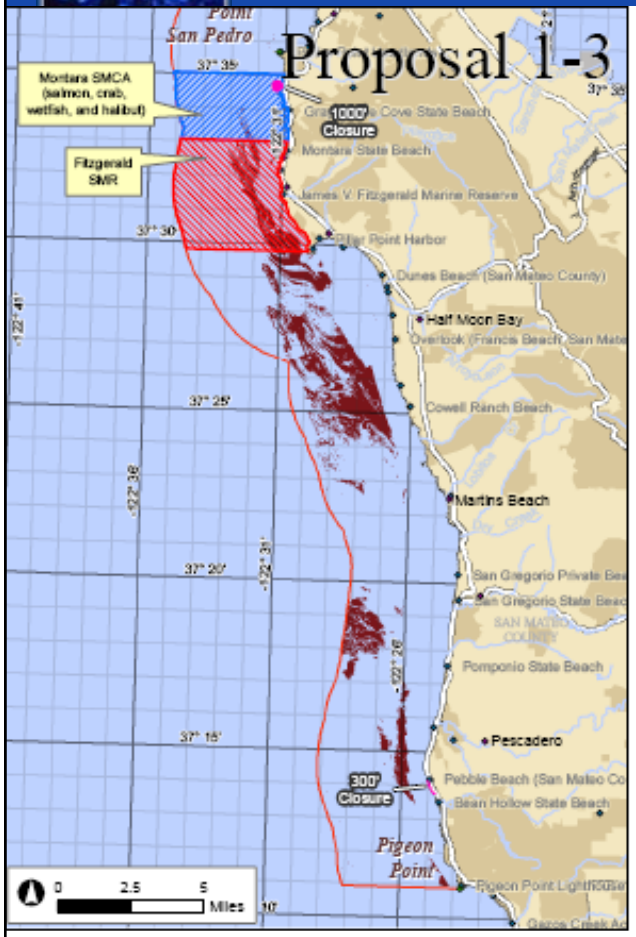
Subregion 5: Point San Pedro - Pigeon Point

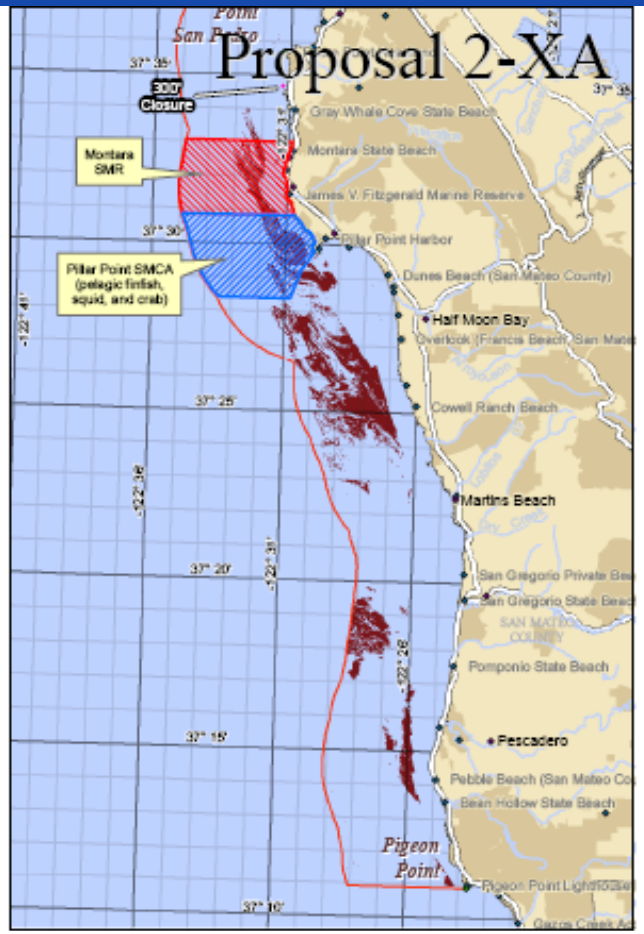
Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

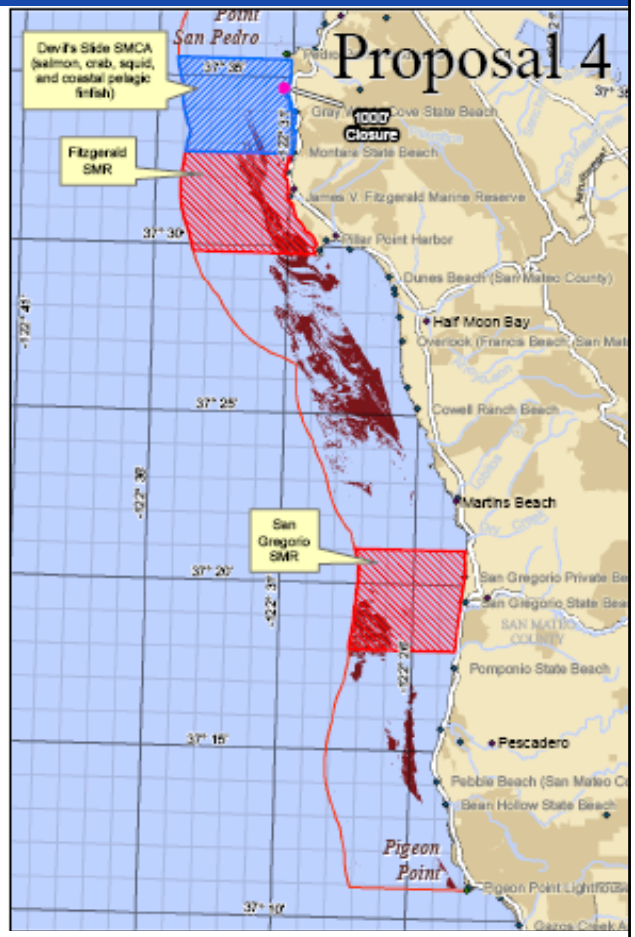
- Existing MPAs: James V. Fitzgerald SMP
- Long history of protection, education, outreach at Fitzgerald
- Port of Half Moon Bay / Pillar Point: D. crab, salmon, halibut, squid
- Point San Pedro small boat fleet
- Recreational shore-based and small boat anglers; party boats from Pillar Point



Subregion 5: Point San Pedro - Pigeon Point







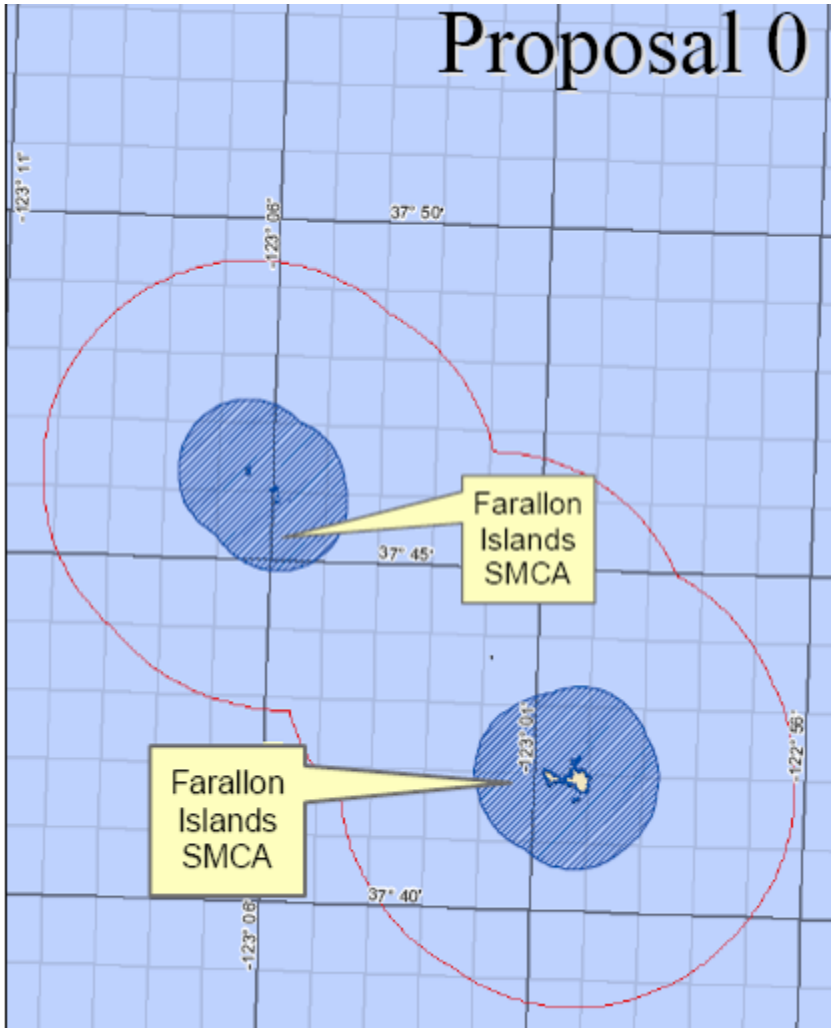
Similarities – All propose expanding Fitzgerald

Differences – Fitzgerald/Pillar Point options; San Gregorio

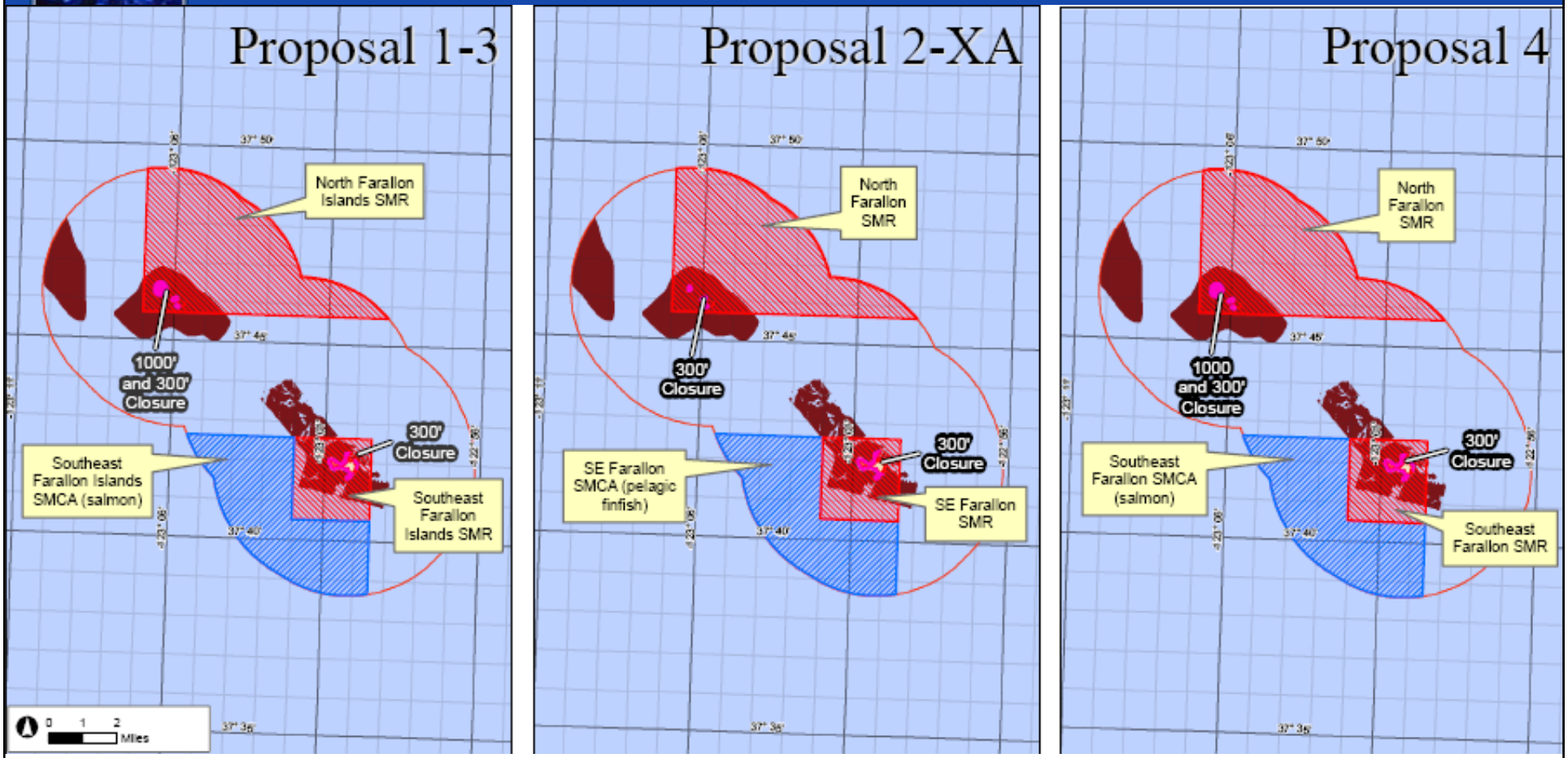
Subregion 6: Farallon Islands

Some Tradeoffs / Considerations

- Existing MPAs: Farallon Islands SMCA
- Ecotourism (whale watching, seabird and marine mammal watching, etc)
- Special Closures to protect seabirds and marine mammals
- Commercial fisheries from Bolinas, SF, HMB (salmon, rockfish, squid)
- Recreational – party boats, private boats (rockfish, salmon, etc)
- Anchoring/safety concerns



Subregion 6: Farallon Islands



Similarities – MPA clusters around North and SE Farallon

Differences – Language on allowed take; special closures

Special Closures in Each Proposal

Special closures proposed to protect marine birds and mammals (see detailed maps)

	Prop 1-3	Prop 2-XA	Prop 4
Total Number	7	5	7

Location	--	--	Arched Rock
	--	--	Gull Rock
	Point Reyes	--	Point Reyes
	Point Resistance	Point Resistance	--
	Stormy Stack	Stormy Stack	Stormy Stack
	Egg Rock	Egg Rock	Egg Rock
	Bean Hollow	--	--
	North Farallon	North Farallon	North Farallon
	Southeast Farallon	Southeast Farallon	Southeast Farallon

Summary

- High degree of convergence at specific geographies (eg. Point Arena, Russian River, esteros, Point Reyes, Farallones)
- Differences at some geographies (e.g. Saunders, Black Point / Salt Point, Bodega, Duxbury, Fitzgerald) represent tradeoffs among protection goals and socioeconomics
- NCCRSG members here to explain those tradeoffs