

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)]

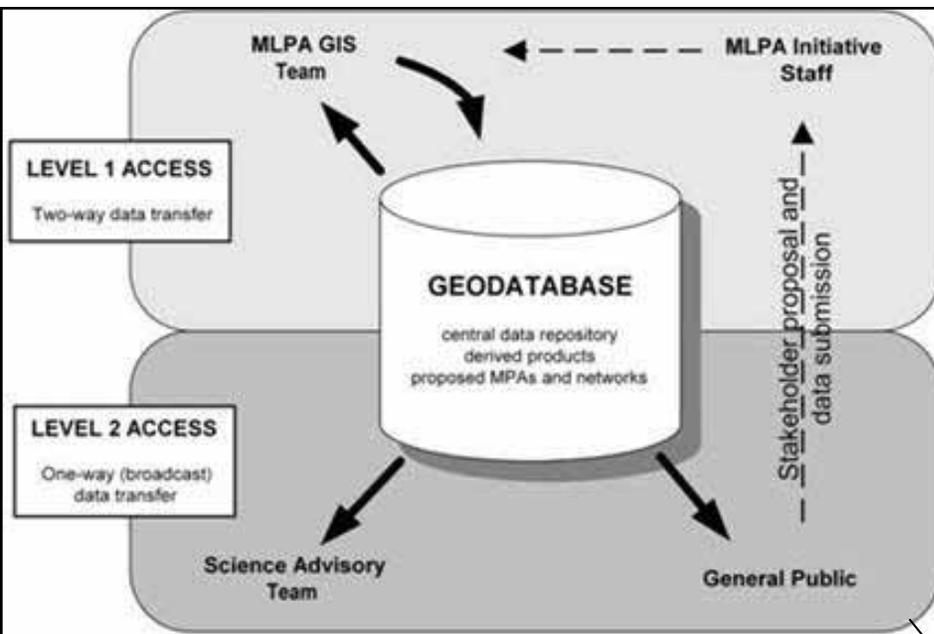
- Spatial data layers (features that can be mapped)
- Contextual information in regional profile
- Local knowledge and information as provided by stakeholders and public
- Scientific input from SAT and other regional experts



Spatial data in GIS

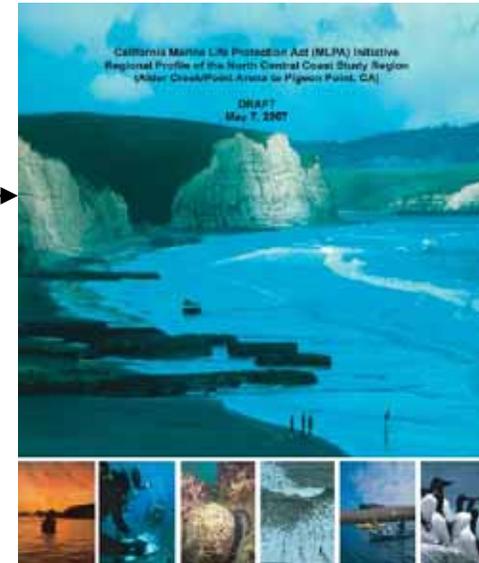
- Geographic information system (GIS)
- Appendix 1 of regional profile: list of over 150 spatial data layers available
 - Base layers
 - Habitat
 - Biological
 - Physical
 - Management
 - Cultural
 - Socioeconomic
- Existing spatial data compiled by state and federal agencies, NGOs, universities
- Housed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

Decision Support System



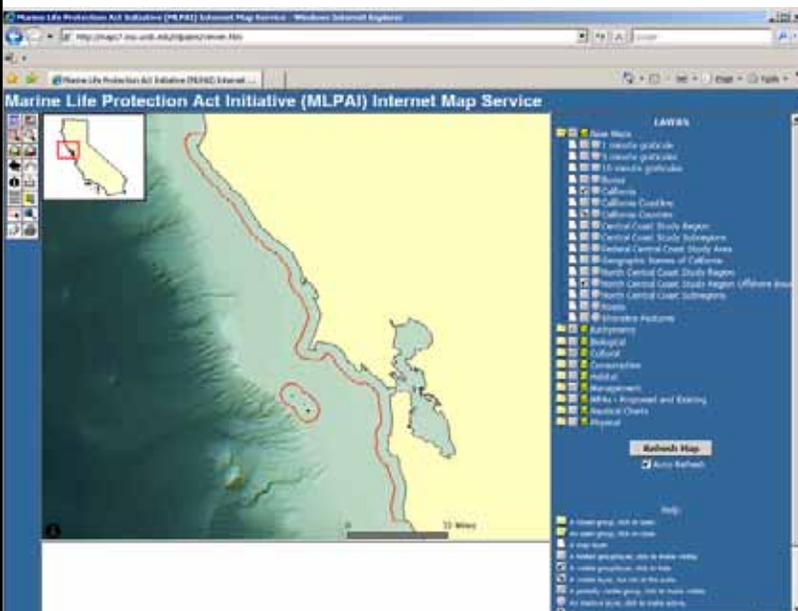
Marine Geodatabase

Internet Mapping
Service Site



Regional
Profile

MPA Decision Support Tool



Internet Mapping Service (IMS) site

Web-based map: www/marinemap.org/mlpa

Data layers
viewable with
any web
browser

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Marine Life Protection Act Initiative (MLPAI) Internet Map Service - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar displays the URL "http://maps7.msi.ucsb.edu/mlpains/viewer.htm". The main content area features a map of the California coastline with a red outline indicating a specific study region. An inset map of California in the top-left corner shows the location of the study area. A vertical toolbar on the left side of the map contains various navigation and map control icons. On the right side, a "LAYERS" panel lists numerous data layers, including "Base Maps", "Bathymetry", "Biological", "Cultural", "Consumptive", "Habitat", "Management", "MPAs - Proposed and Existing", "Neautical Charts", and "Physical". A "Refresh Map" button and an "Auto Refresh" checkbox are located below the layers list. A "Help" section at the bottom right provides instructions for interacting with the map layers. The status bar at the bottom of the browser window shows "Done" and "Internet" with a 100% zoom level.

MPA Decision Support Tool

Allows stakeholders to draw candidate MPAs and analyze features captured

The screenshot displays the 'MARINE PROTECTED AREAS DECISION SUPPORT TOOL' interface. On the left, a panel titled 'MPA Candidates' contains a list of candidates with checkboxes and associated buttons. The candidates listed are:

- *Example MPA Candidate
- *Example
- *Local
- State - Macleayde Beach
- State - Big Ocean
- State - Corral Bay - nearshore
- State - Corral Bay - offshore
- State - Falmouth Beach

Buttons for 'Create', 'Copy', 'Rename', 'Delete', and 'Publish' are located to the right of the list. A note at the bottom of the list reads '* Transfer to Map View'. The main map area on the right shows a coastal region with a green polygon labeled 'Example MPA Candidate' overlaid on a blue and yellow background. The map includes a toolbar with navigation and editing tools.



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