

California MLPA North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
Draft Supplemental Ground Rule to Guide Use of List Servers
Proposed December 6, 2007

Email communications and use of list servers

- Email list servers have been created to help facilitate communication among NCCRSO members about the MLPA process and, specifically, the NCCRSO's task at hand (helping the State of California redesign the array of MPAs along the north central coast). The lists are intended primarily for asking or answering factual questions related to the MLPA Initiative, exchanging ideas about specific MPAs, requesting or providing specific studies to help inform decision-making, etc.
- NCCRSO members agree that messages to these lists should remain on point to the core charge of the NCCRSO.
- To that end, NCCRSO members agree to keep messages relatively short (no more than a paragraph or two unless more is really necessary to answer a question), and include a statement of what you expect recipients to do with the information (i.e., what is your question, whose question are you answering, how could the information being provided be used in the decision-making process).
- NCCRSO members agree that messages intended for only one person, or a handful of people, be directed to those individuals and not the entire list.
- MLPA Initiative staff does not intend to moderate the list servers. Staff also recognizes that information overload is a real concern to many of the stakeholders. Staff will periodically assess use of the list servers.
- NCCRSO members agree to self-moderate use of the list servers and, when necessary, to gently remind one another of this ground rule.