

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 5, 2009
To: MLPA South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) Members
From: Facilitation Team, MLPA Initiative Staff
Re: Process guidance in preparation for the February 10, 2009 work session
Cc: MLPA I-Team staff

Dear SCRSG members,

We are writing to help you prepare for the upcoming February 10, 2009 work session. Accordingly, the purpose of this memorandum is to provide SCRSG members with guidance to put this meeting in context and give you a good sense of what to expect and as we take our next steps.

After hearing from several SCRSG members, we understand that there was some confusion about the outputs expected from the January 29, 2009 work session. In particular, many SCRSG members were uncertain about future opportunities for proposing additional MPAs and how the work groups would move forward to discuss and refine the shapes that were presented. This document should help explain the process, and we've prepared some answers to several frequently asked questions (FAQs). We've also included contact information for the MLPA staff that are in your workgroups if you have further questions.

Purpose of February 10, 2009 work session

The primary purpose of the February 10 work session is to continue your work group efforts to develop "preliminary MPA options" and to begin discussions on developing one or two "draft MPA arrays". Here are some important clarifications:

- We are at a very early step in the process where SCRSG members are being invited to introduce some initial MPA ideas (what we are calling "preliminary MPA options") for preliminary discussion and consideration. We are in the very important phase of gathering information from your fellow SCRSG members about the ideas they have for possible MPAs. This is an opportunity to discuss each idea without becoming attached to a specific location, shape, or set of allowed uses. We call it "inventing without committing."
- At the January 29, 2009 work session, we began but did not complete the process of identifying preliminary MPA options. Some of the work groups also discussed the preliminary MPA options suggested in their sessions.
- At the February 10, 2009 work session, work group members will be invited to:
 - Offer new preliminary MPA options for the study region (i.e., create new MPA options from scratch).

- Offer modifications, refinements, or additions to preliminary MPA options already introduced. You can suggest modifications to boundaries, MPA designations, or allowed uses.
- Offer alternatives to MPA options introduced by other SCRSG members.
- At the February 10, 2009 work session, work groups will begin to consider how best to assemble two “draft MPA arrays” (still not formal proposals) for evaluation by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team, BRTF, State Parks, Department of Fish and Game, staff and for public comment. This task of developing two “draft MPA arrays” will be completed at the March 3-4, 2009 SCRSG meeting. SCRSG members may want to include a range of options in their two MPA arrays, in order to maximize the usefulness of feedback from preliminary evaluations.

At the February 10 work session, we will also identify 2-3 members from each work group to serve as co-leads. These co-leads will be asked to present their group’s preliminary MPA options to the full SCRSG at its March 3-4, 2009 meeting. We recommend these co-leads represent diverse interests and geographies. We will revisit these co-lead roles, as needed, to consider whether new members wish to rotate into that role. Co-leads will also serve as point persons in coordinating between work groups and the I-Team. We also hope that the co-leads will have a knack for fostering cross-interest group dialogue and sharing of ideas. It is important that the co-leads have the ability to express the progress of the entire work group.

How to Best Prepare for February 10, 2009 Work Session

Key preparation steps for the February 10, 2009 work session include the following:

1. Review the preliminary MPA options shared during the January 29 work session. These will be available on MarineMap beginning Friday, February 6, 2009. Please see attached memo describing the instructions for MarineMap use.
2. Come to the work session prepared to identify and discuss any additional preliminary MPA options. These can be brand new shapes, modifications, or alternatives to previously proposed shapes.
3. OPTIONAL: develop your new shapes in MarineMap and share these with your work group and the I-Team in advance of the February 10, 2009 work session. See attached memo describing the instructions for MarineMap use and file sharing.
4. Consider whether you would like to serve as one of your work group’s co-leads.

How to incorporate Ecotrust data?

Ecotrust data on stated importance of geographies to commercial and recreational fisheries, in the form of data layers on MarineMap and hard copy confidential maps, will be available for use at the February 10, 2009 work session. Work group members are encouraged to consider potential socioeconomic impacts as they identify preliminary MPA options using information from Ecotrust, other data layers, and fellow SCRSG members. There will be an update on Ecotrust information available at our March 3-4 SCRSG meeting. While many of the participants in the Ecotrust survey are more familiar with the data layers, this information has not been shared with all of the SCRSG members until very recently. It is expected that this information, along with the other MPA design-related information, will be incorporated in future

iterations of this work group process. Please see the attached memo on the Ecotrust data update for additional details.

MLPA Staff Contact Information

Work Groups	Lapis	Opal	Topaz
Facilitators	Eric Poncelet eponcelet@kearnswest.com 415-391-7900	Rebecca Tuden becky@concurinc.net 510-649-8008	Scott McCreary scott@concurring.net 510-649-8008
Planners	Dominique Monie dominiquemonie@gmail.com 805-692-1413	Evan Fox evanfox@gmail.com 650-387-9306	Darci Connor darciconnor@gmail.com 503-440-4737
CDFG staff	Michelle Horeczko mhoreczk@dfg.ca.gov 562-342-7198	Matt Erickson merickson@dfg.ca.gov 707-875-4277	Elizabeth Pope-Smith epope@dfg.ca.gov 707-445-5301
GIS staff	Chad Miller cmiller@dfg.ca.gov 831-649-7143	Chris Macdonald macdonald@msi.ucsb.edu 805-455-2936	Paulo Serpa pserpa@dfg.ca.gov 831-649-7143

Work Group Listservs

The work group listservs (for lapis, opal, and topaz) are available for use. The addresses are:

- MLPA_Lapis@lists.resources.ca.gov
- MLPA_Opal@lists.resources.ca.gov
- MLPA_Topaz@lists.resources.ca.gov

The purpose of the gems listservs is to facilitate communication and the exchange of ideas within work groups. As a reminder of other list serv instructions see either the 1/30 or 2/2 e-mails from Melissa Miller-Henson.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

At the work sessions a number of questions were raised that staff believes would be helpful to clarify for the entire SCRSG. Here are the answers to the key questions raised:

1. **When is the last opportunity to add a proposed MPA to the workgroup for discussion?** MPAs include a name, a location, a shape, an MPA type and allowed uses. We will be adding new MPAs all the way through this SCRSG process, which runs through October of 2009. For Round 1 of the MPA proposal development, we anticipate that new ideas will emerge and be discussed through the March 3-4, 2009 SCRSG meeting.
2. **What incentives do fishermen have to propose an MPA?** All of the SCRSG members share the common goals of ensuring a healthy ocean for future generations and minimizing socio-economic impacts from the MPA planning process. Fishermen likely hold the best information on which areas will have the least potential socio-economic impact on their livelihoods and home ports. Fishermen can help inform the placement of MPAs by identifying such locations or proposing alternative MPAs that achieve MLPA goals with fewer potential negative socio-economic impacts.

3. **What if I'm not familiar with a particular portion of the study region where an MPA is proposed, but I am supposed to represent my whole constituency in the work group discussions?** We encourage full coordination and information exchange with your fellow SCRSG members throughout the planning process. This includes coordination between work groups. Please feel free to consult with your fellow SCRSG members during breaks and between meetings. Since this process is iterative, there is ample time to discuss and comment on proposals before they are finalized. Once the proposed MPAs have been shared at the full SCRSG meetings, we encourage you to communicate these now "public" arrays/proposals with your broader constituency. You are also welcome to discuss any of your individual MPA shapes or ideas with your constituency and other SCRSG members. Please note, however, that this discussion should be done to gain input and inform your ideas.

4. **What is the best way to build on someone's initial MPA shape? I don't want to offend my fellow SCRSG members, but I have some suggestions that I think are important.** We expect and encourage SCRSG members to provide alternatives and modifications to the draft MPAs. We recommend that you be respectful of the ideas and interests of your work group members and clearly communicate your rationale for proposing modifications. In the coming weeks, you will be able to go directly into MarineMap and copy any shapes that are identified during work group discussions, save them to your personal account, and make any modifications you wish. It may also be helpful to discuss your ideas with your work group members to help identify the specific aspects of the MPA that meet your interests and which aspects you would like to modify to better meet your interests.