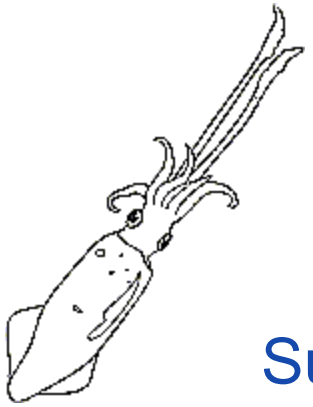
Marine Life Protection Act

Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Update

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting



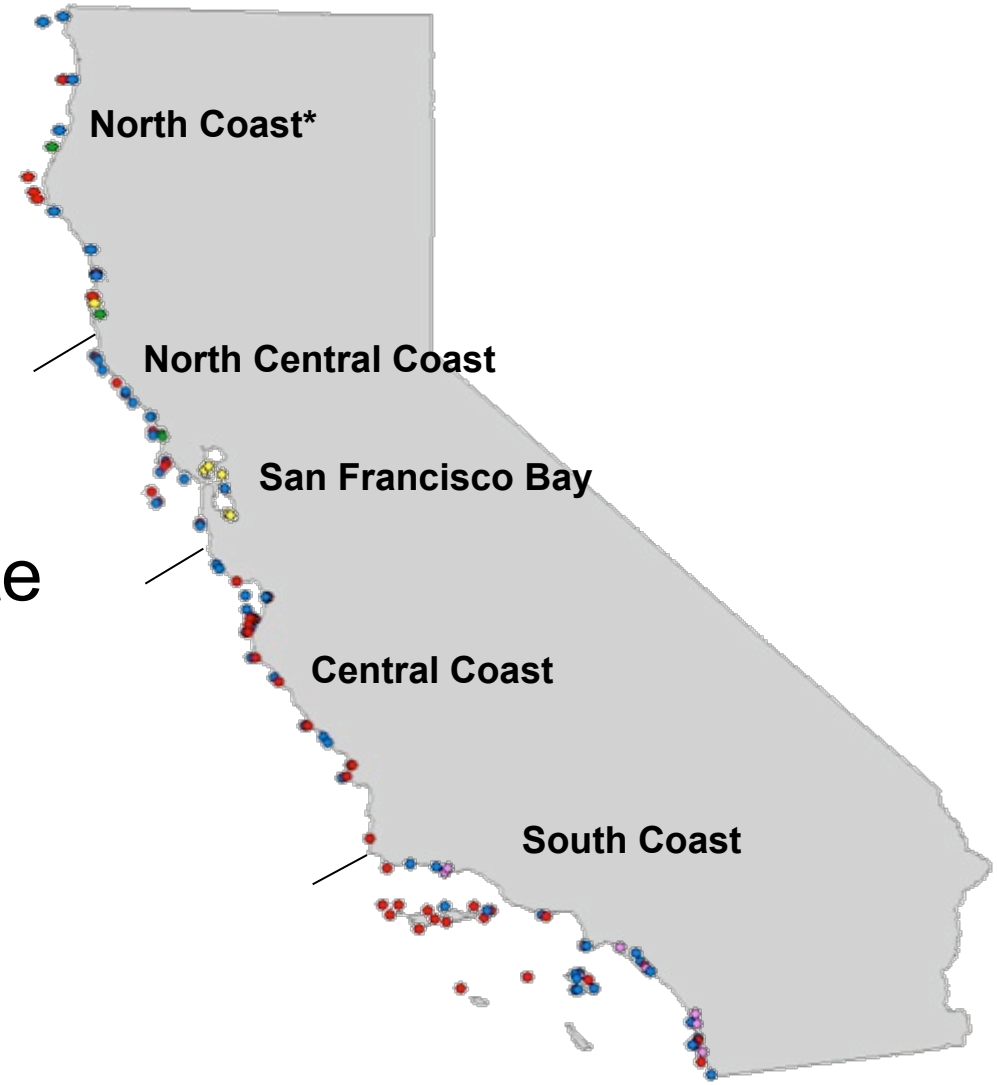
April 21, 2011

Monterey, CA

Susan Ashcraft, Department of Fish & Game

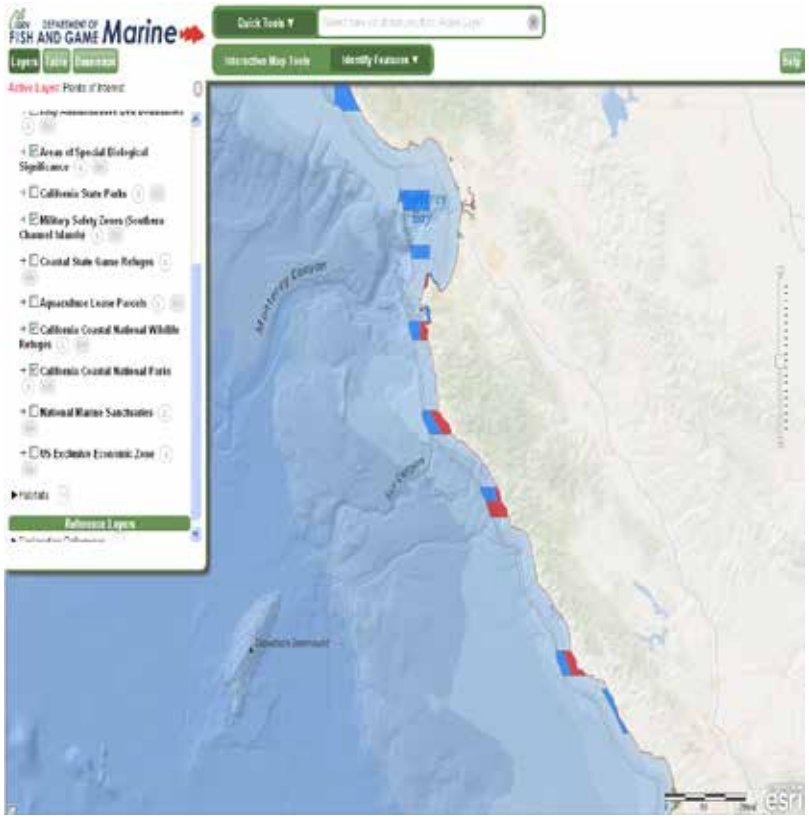
Overview

- Statewide Update
  - MPA Information and Outreach
  - Monitoring
- Regional MPAs Update
- MPAs and Fisheries Integration Workshop



Outreach and Education

- Focus: regulatory information
  - Website
  - Mobile MPA site
  - Regional MPA guides
  - Fishing regulations booklets
- Introducing: *MarineBIOS*



Outreach and Education

- Vital Partnerships
  - Enforcement
  - Agencies (State, Federal, City & County)
  - Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation - MOU pending
- Under Development:
  - Long-term statewide strategy
  - Partnership guidelines
  - Plans for External Advisory Group

MPA Monitoring

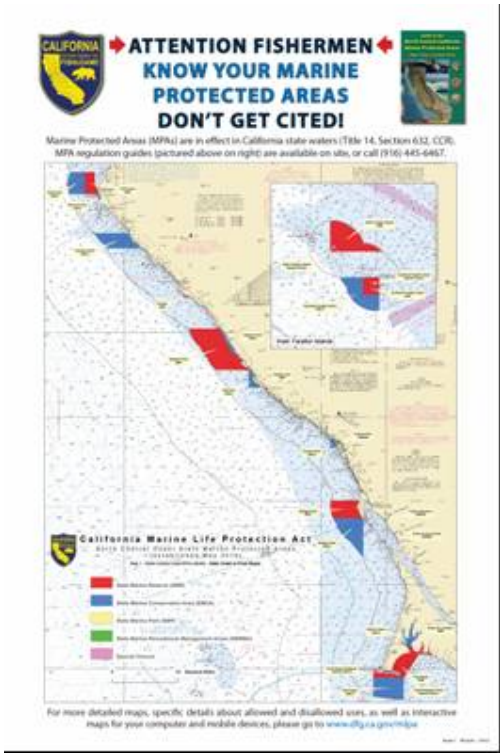
- **Monitoring Plans -** Ecosystem focus
  - Central Coast-Analyzing data
  - North Central-Collecting data
  - South Coast-Collecting data*
  - North Coast-Planned for late 2012
  - Statewide to be determined

Central Coast MPAs

- **5 year anniversary - Fall 2012**
  - 5 year review planning
  - Analysis of baseline data
  - Public Symposium (early 2013)
  - Formal review process - Fish and Game Commission (late 2013)
  - MPA management next steps

North Central Coast MPAs

- Increased outreach and education efforts
- Broader distribution of existing outreach materials
- Baseline data collection still on-going

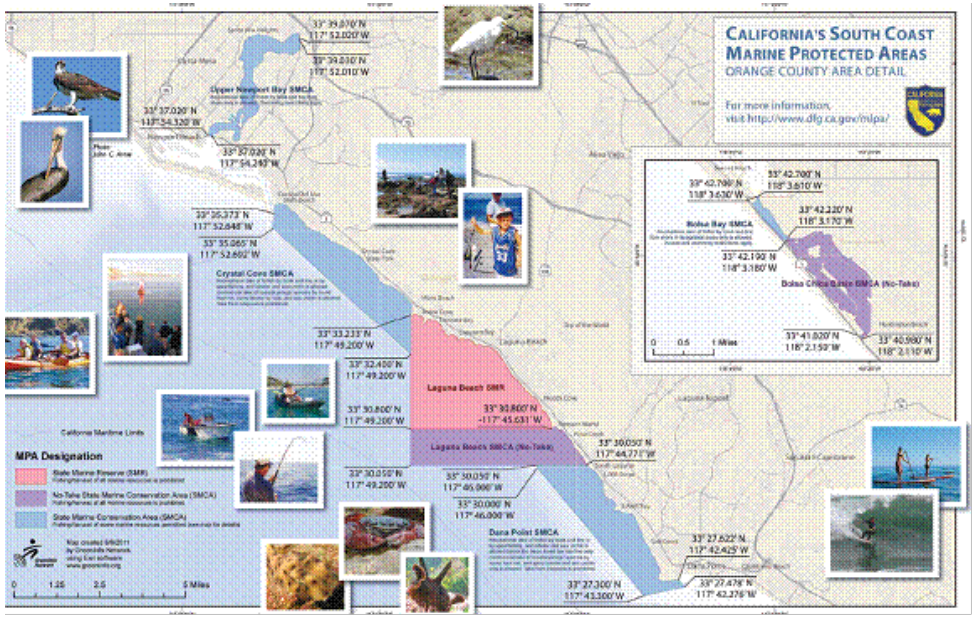


South Coast MPAs

- Effective January 1, 2012
- Department Products:
  - New MPA information online in advance
  - Mobile MPA site updated January 3
  - *Notice flyer* posted & distributed
  - Regulations booklets
  - Soon: South Coast MPA booklet

South Coast MPAs (cont)

- Partnership Collaborations
  - Channel Islands NMS Partner agencies
  - NGO consortium and local county agencies
  - County-specific MPA tri-fold brochures



South Coast MPAs (cont)

- Targeted Outreach
  - Local governments
  - Sportfishing community
  - Commercial lobster fishery

- Enforcement is keeping busy
- Some challenges with misinformation

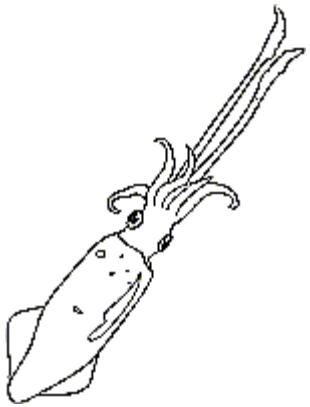
North Coast MPAs

- Proposed regulations process underway
- Draft EIR:
  - Early March release
  - 45 day comment period
- April: Discussion
- June: Adoption
- Monitoring to start mid-2012

MPAs and Fisheries Integration

- March 2011: DFG-convened workshop
- 22 scientists participated
- Key questions:
  - *Expected biological effects of MPAs on California marine fisheries?*
  - *Can MPAs be incorporated into stock management?*
  - *Should fisheries management strategies change in response to a network of MPAs?*

- Report available: **http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/mfig.asp**

Visit Us Online

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