

Memorandum

Date: 11 February 2008

To: Marine Life Protection Act Blue Ribbon Task Force, Master Plan Science Advisory Team and North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

From: **John Ugoretz**
Department of Fish and Game

Subject: **Department of Fish and Game update of feasibility criteria for use in analyzing siting alternatives during the second phase of the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative.**

The Department of Fish and Game's guidelines for feasibility were drafted to help ensure that MPAs created during this process are readily enforceable and easily understood by the public. The Department's feasibility guidelines were outlined in the June 11, 2007 memo¹. However, during NCCRSG MPA planning negotiations it became clear that further clarification to the members of the NCCRSG regarding some of the feasibility guidance was needed. This memo provides clarification regarding two issues related to the Department's feasibility criteria:

Diagonal Lines: Diagonal lines may be utilized for MPA boundaries under limited circumstances. Diagonal lines must follow the angle of the coastline and be "anchored" at whole minute lines of latitude and longitude. Also, diagonal lines should be placed sufficiently offshore so that potentially less equipped nearshore users (i.e. kayakers) will be able to determine the boundaries of the MPA. Diagonal lines should only be used when their use will simplify both user needs and enforcement of the area.

Distance Offshore: MPA boundaries should not be described using distance offshore. Boundaries created using distance offshore are confusing for the general public and are difficult to enforce and prosecute. If distance offshore is desired around offshore islands it should extend from the shoreline to three miles, the extent of state waters.

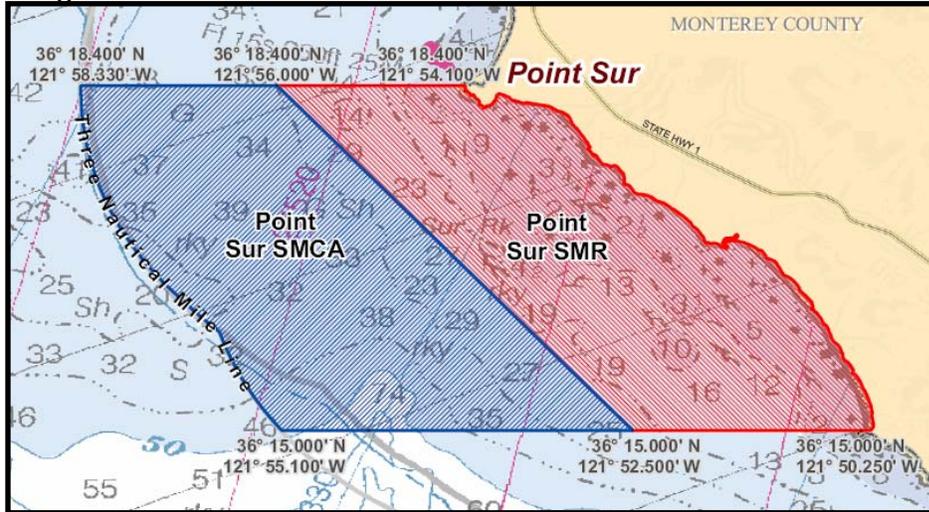
MPA Corners: Offshore MPA corners should fall on whole minutes of latitude and longitude. Half-minutes are less desirable and 1/10th minutes the least preferred and hardest to enforce. Onshore MPA corners that do not line up with a visible landmark should fall on whole minutes of latitude and longitude. Half minutes are less desirable and 1/10th minutes the least preferred and hardest to enforce. Onshore corners that do line up with a visible landmark should use a 1/100th of a minute resolution (e.g., 36

¹ CDFG. Statement of feasibility criteria for use in analyzing siting alternatives during the second phase of the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative. June 11, 2007.

degrees 24.56 minutes). This allows boundaries to be accurately drawn to the desired point.

The following figures illustrate some appropriate use of both diagonal lines and the use of distance offshore around offshore islands:

Diagonal line:



Distance offshore around an offshore island:

