



Marine Protected Area (MPA) Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16 – 17/18

The MPA Statewide Leadership Team

California’s MPA Statewide Leadership Team (Leadership Team) was convened with the goal of increasing communication and collaboration among agencies and partners to ensure the state is effectively managing the statewide MPA network. The Leadership Team includes state and federal agencies and other partners that play a direct or key support role in management of the network. MPA management encompasses a wide range of partners and activities that require active collaboration and communication to implement successfully. The state has recognized that no one agency or group has the knowledge, capacity or resources to effectively manage the MPA network in isolation. The Leadership Team focuses on leveraging resources and breaking down traditional silos to collaboratively address MPA network management which cuts across jurisdictions and mandates.

Members of the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, led by the Ocean Protection Council (**OPC**), include: the Department of Fish and Wildlife (**DFW**), DFW Law Enforcement Division (**LED**), Fish and Game Commission (**FGC**), California Coastal Commission (**CCC**), California State Lands Commission (**CCSLC**), Department of Parks and Recreation (**DPR**), State Water Resources Control Board (**SWRCB**), California Ocean Science Trust (**OST**), MPA Collaborative Network (**CN**), and West Coast Regional Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (**ONMS**).

Approach to the Work Plan

The Leadership Team has identified the following focal areas as key to successful management of MPAs: Outreach and Education, Research and Monitoring, Enforcement and Compliance and Policy and Permitting. Active, sustained engagement in each of these focal areas is integral to achieve the goals of the Leadership Team. In practice, this means directing the work of the Leadership Team by identifying shared strategic priorities, key actions and outcomes. A key tool for this is the creation of a work plan that was identified as a key task in “[The California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan](#)”¹. The work plan covers a three year period beginning in 2015 and is a key tool in directing MPA management and holding members accountable for identified outcomes.

Work Plan Notations and Acronyms

* Indicates responsible agency will contract or award a grant to lead efforts to complete key action

“Agency” refers to federal, state, tribal, and local authorities.

Parks and Recreation Commission (**PRC**) Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students (**PORTS**)

California Natural Resources Agency (**CNRA**)

Marine Life Protection Act (**MLPA**) Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act (**MMAIA**)

[California Seafloor and Coastal Mapping Program \(CSCMP\)](#)² California Environmental Quality Act (**CEQA**)

U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System’s [Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System \(CeNCOOS\)](#)³

U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System’s [Southern California Ocean Observing System \(SCOOS\)](#)⁴

[Southern California Coastal Water Research Project \(SCCWRP\)](#)⁵

¹ <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2010/03/mapping-californias-seafloor-2/>

² <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2010/03/mapping-californias-seafloor-2/>

³ <http://www.cencoos.org/>

⁴ <http://www.sccoos.org/>

⁵ <http://www.sccwrp.org/Homepage.aspx>

Focal Area: Outreach and Education (page 1-3)

Strategic Priority 1 - Build support and durability of the MPA network goals and performance through improved public awareness					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 Create statewide outreach and education plan	1.1.1 Engage MPA Partners (NGOs, tribes, agencies) in discussion of best practices in MPA messaging	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, play an active role in ongoing development of messaging efforts and strategies	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC, CN	2016
	1.1.2 Compile and maintain inventory of MPA messaging and materials created by agency and non-agency partners	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, have online access to a comprehensive inventory of MPA messaging and available resources (e.g. brochures, sign templates, etc.) developed by state, federal and NGO partners and can easily contribute to the inventory	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*, CN	2016
	1.1.3 Identify priority audiences, audience-specific messages and outreach methods, and who will do the outreach	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, contribute and have access to recommendations on how to maximize the effectiveness of their outreach to different audiences	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*, CN	2016
	1.1.4 Identify opportunities to insert messaging into related, non MPA-specific efforts	Existing programs increase avenues for MPA messaging to a broad constituency without requiring additional investment from MPA SLT members	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*	2016
	1.1.5 Implement outreach and education plan	Agencies and external partners work from a coordinated education and outreach strategy, improving the reach and effectiveness of MPA outreach and education	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*	2016
1.2 Create MPA-focused outreach materials and host or participate in events	1.2.1 Produce printed outreach materials	Agency partners work with the MPA Collaborative Network members to continue producing locally specific materials	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2016
		Printed materials are readily available at key locations used by consumptive users (e.g. harbors, tackle shops, etc.)	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	DFW	2016 - 2018
		Printed materials are readily available at key locations used by non- consumptive users (e.g. aquaria, dive shops, etc.)	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	DFW	2016 - 2018
	1.2.2 Produce video/web/phone app-based materials	Web and video material produced by partners is promoted through Thank You Ocean and other venues	MPA non-agency partners	OPC	2016 - 2018
	1.2.3 Hold or take part in outreach and education events	Promote events through list-serves, Thank You Ocean and other partner websites	MPA non-agency partners	OPC	2016 - 2018

Strategic Priority 2 - Create a broad understanding of regulations and increase compliance					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
2.1 Develop, install and maintain regulatory and interpretive signage statewide	2.1.1. Signage is properly permitted and installed in priority locations	Verification from grantee and contract manager of proper installation of signs	OPC, DFW, DPR, CCC and other non-agency partners	OPC*	2015
	2.1.2 Develop and implement project to install signs at remaining high and medium priority locations	Verification from grantee and contract manager of proper installation of signs	OPC, DFW, DPR, CCC and other non-agency partners	OPC*	2016
2.2 Continue production of DFW outreach materials focused on regulation compliance	2.2.1 Regionally specific materials including maps and booklets with regulations are produced	Outreach materials reach both traditional and non-traditional audiences	DFW, FGC	DFW	2016 -2018
	2.2.2 Continue to support production of additional products on different media (waterproof paper, mobile devices, etc.) to maximize reach and effectiveness	Outreach materials reach both traditional and non-traditional audiences	DFW, FGC	DFW	2016 -2018
2.3 Coordinate with private companies that produce products which provide information to the public about MPA regulations	2.3.1 Regularly monitor products (e.g. GPS layers, phone applications, etc.) to ensure accurate information is being disseminated	Commonly used GPS systems accurately depict MPAs	DFW, CN, LED	DFW	2015-2018
Strategic Priority 3 - Develop consistent messaging with state, federal and other partners					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
3.1 Create and distribute DFW Partnership Guide	3.1.1 Expand on existing DFW MPA Outreach Quick Reference Guide for partners	DFW Partnership Guide is posted widely on the web and provides specific detail on review process, available resources and roles of various partners and agencies in review of outreach materials	DFW, OPC and other non-agency partners	DFW	2016
3.2 DPR effectively disseminates MPA messaging and actively engages in MPA management support activities	3.2.1 Update webpage on "state underwater parks"	DPR website explains the department's history in identifying special underwater areas and how the term "underwater park" is no longer applicable since the MMAIA. Also includes link to DFW MPA webpage	DPR, OPC	DPR	2014
	3.2.2 Provide MPA training to staff and docents using a "train the trainer" model	OPC provides trainer and training materials developed in partnership with MPA partners and Collaborative members to coastal districts as requested	DPR, OPC	DPR	2015

	3.2.3 Develop MPA-specific curriculum for Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students (PORTS) by leveraging existing materials	Existing coastal PORTS programs use MPA curriculum which is currently under development	DPR, DFW, OPC	DPR	2015
	3.2.4 Engage with Division of Boating and Waterways staff to identify opportunities to insert MPA messaging into existing outreach campaigns	MPA messaging is inserted in at least one ongoing Boating and Waterways outreach campaign	DPR, OPC	OPC	2016 - 2018
3.3 Create and distribute a map of California waters that includes all protected areas (state and federal)	3.3.1 Collect map layers of MPAs, Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERRs), National Marine Sanctuaries (NMSs), etc.	Agencies and the public can view the distribution of all protected areas in California in one place for the first time	DFW, DPR, OPC, OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
	3.3.2 Determine and distribute map showing state waters that receive full protection (e.g., % coverage of SMRs) and some protection (i.e., % coverage of all other protected areas)	The state and public have a more complete understanding of the percentage of CA state waters and coastal areas that are protected	DFW, DPR, OPC, OST, SWRCB	OST	2017
3.4 ONMS effectively disseminates MPA messaging and actively engages in MPA management support activities	3.4.1 Communicate and depict Federal/State jurisdictions to clarify their complementary nature	Explanatory infographic or other messaging concept is broadly distributed to state and federal agencies as well as public audiences to ensure types of allowed use are clearly understood	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2017
	3.4.2 Provide MPA training to staff and docents	OPC provides trainer and training materials as requested to ensure ONMS staff and docents have accurate and updated information about the state's MPA network	ONMS, OPC	OPC	2015
3.5 Effectively disseminate MPA messaging through OPC	3.5.1 Update content and structure of OPC website to better reflect current MPA programs and partnerships, ensuring consistency with partner web pages by using links where appropriate	OPC website hosts or links to relevant documents related to the design, designation, implementation and management of the MPA Network	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2016
		OPC website describes OPC's current role in MPA management and highlights current and previous MPA projects	OPC	OPC	2016
		OPC website links to and describes partner agencies and organizations	OPC	OPC	2016
	3.5.2 Update content on CNRA website	CNRA website accurately describes current work of OPC and other key management agencies including DFW and DPR	OPC, DFW, DPR	OPC	2015
	3.5.3 Use Thank You Ocean Campaign to update constituents about MPA Collaboratives and significant MPA events	Thank You Ocean and MPA Collaboratives serve as conduits of information regarding MPA efforts	OPC	OPC	2015 - 2018
		Thank You Ocean website links to mpacollaboratives.org	OPC	OPC	2015
Relevant MPA news is included in monthly Thank You Ocean newsletter and shared via Thank You Ocean social media platforms		OPC	OPC	2015 - 2018	

Focal Area: Enforcement and Compliance (page 4)

Strategic Priority 1 - Increase capacity and effectiveness of enforcement					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 Use technology and other tools to increase effectiveness and efficiency of enforcement resources in the field	1.1.1 Develop statewide Records Management System (RMS) to collect, organize and track citation data.	DFW implements an RMS to improve its ability to collect, store, and query law enforcement data in the field	DFW	LED	2016-2018
		DFW Submits AB 2402 report to the legislature on a feasibility study for electronic data management	DFW	DFW	2016
	1.1.2 Identify enforcement priority areas based on poaching hotspots, seasonal trends, potential for resource impact, level of use, and potential for violations	RMS allows accurate analysis of the enforcement efforts/needs for specific MPAs	DFW	LED	2016-2018
	1.1.3 Explore existing and emerging technologies and enforcement monitoring systems to enhance MPA enforcement	Regularly assess available technologies and deploy those with potential to enhance MPA enforcement	DFW	LED	2015-2018
1.2 Maintain and enhance cooperative enforcement efforts with local, state and federal agencies	1.2.1 Promote interagency cooperation and collaboration for more effective MPA enforcement	Develop and facilitate MPA Collaborative Network programs for statewide MPA enforcement	LED, CN	CN	2015-2018
1.3 Increase judicial system and law enforcement officer awareness of the value of MPAs and knowledge of MPA regulations	1.3.1 Develop educational tools specifically for judges and district attorneys	Develop MPA enforcement video and distribute widely to court and enforcement officers	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
		Design and facilitate MPA training to be provided to the judicial system within all CA coastal counties	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
		Encourage designation of at least one wildlife/marine specialist within each DA office	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
	1.3.2 Hold Enforcement Trainings for court officers	Hold at least one training in each county and conduct training effectiveness evaluations	LED, CN	LED, CN	2015-2016
1.4 Plan and conduct an LED Needs Assessment to determine if they have the resources to effectively enforce MPA regulations	1.4.1 Identify and address LED personnel needs for MPA enforcement	Identifying appropriate staffing levels and equipment requirements for existing and anticipated future needs, including recruiting officers from diverse communities	DFW	LED	2016 - 2018
	1.4.2 Identify and address LED equipment needs for MPA enforcement	Identify funding source(s) to purchase items needed for MPA enforcement	DFW, OPC	LED	2016 - 2018

Focal Area: Research and Monitoring (page 5 – 8)

Strategic Priority 1 - Establish a benchmark of ecosystem and socioeconomic condition in all MLPA coastal regions that informs the initial five-year regional MPA network management reviews (management reviews)					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 Identify and pursue opportunities to bring additional results to bear on establishing a benchmark of conditions in each region (i.e., projects and programs outside the official MPA monitoring programs)	1.1.1 Coordinate state and federal entities to incorporate relevant oceanographic and physical habitat data and results	CSCMP spatial data inform management reviews	OST	OST	2015
		CeNCOOS, SCOOS, and other partners' oceanographic data inform management reviews	OST	OST	2015
	1.1.2 Coordinate with SCCWRP and member agencies to incorporate relevant water quality data and results	SCCWRP's Bight Regional Monitoring Program data inform management reviews	OST, SCCWRP	OST	2015-2018
	1.1.3 Coordinate with agency, tribal, academic and citizen scientists to ensure relevant scientifically robust datasets are incorporated	Relevant datasets from agency, academic, tribal and citizen scientists are incorporated as appropriate into management	OST	OST	2015-2018
1.2 Develop State of the Region assessments to inform management reviews	1.2.1 Synthesize results and explain methodology of each baseline program and other monitoring efforts in the regions to build a snapshot of baseline conditions for each region	Ensure that the monitoring programs and results are cohesive, align with program purposes, and realize value beyond MPAs	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018
		MPA monitoring results and reporting in the North Coast incorporate traditional ecological knowledge	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2017
		Build a more comprehensive understanding of ecosystem condition and trends to support management decisions and inform the approach to long-term monitoring	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2018
		Information sharing among agencies and tribal governments results in a common understanding of ecosystem condition and trends	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2018
1.3 Engage with California's diverse ocean communities to share results from the baseline programs	1.3.1 Share results of baseline monitoring broadly through a variety of venues, including community meetings and the Western Society of Naturalists (WSN) Annual Meeting	Diverse constituencies, including scientists, fishing communities, tribes, and decision makers see baseline monitoring results as credible, accessible, and useful for management	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2016
		Build trust in MPA monitoring results before and after they are released	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018
	1.3.2 Maintain communication with California's ocean community and tribes, including through the MPA Collaboratives, and encourage contributions to oceanspaces.org	Tribal governments are engaged in the monitoring program	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018

Strategic Priority 2 - Design and implement a partnership-based monitoring program that assesses MPA network performance and informs multiple mandates

Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
2.1 Align marine and water quality protected area (i.e., ASBSs, MPAs) monitoring programs to leverage resources, capacity and expertise across mandates and jurisdictions	2.1.1 Compare goals for ASBS and MPA monitoring programs and identify potential areas of overlap	Evaluation of whether the two programs aim to meet similar objectives or if there are discrepancies	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
		Agencies involved in ASBS & MPA monitoring better understand goals of each other's programs	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
	2.1.2 At a regional scale, review monitoring plans, reports and/or work plans to identify overlaps in program components	Map illustrates where ASBSs and MPAs are co-located and where data for each monitoring program has been collected	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
		Internal document identifies overlaps in requirements, methodology, funding sources, and personnel	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
		Highlight overlapping areas with potential for collaboration between the two programs	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
	2.1.3 Assess whether current structure of ASBS and MPA monitoring programs hinders or limits progress in achieving program goals	Deficiencies or problematic components in the two programs are identified	OST, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
		Ways to address identified impediments are identified	OST, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
	2.1.4 Develop and begin to implement interagency strategy to resolve any inconsistencies between monitoring programs that hinder accomplishment of program goals	Agencies involved in ASBS and MPA monitoring improve collaborative efforts	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016-2017
2.2 Align fisheries and MPA monitoring to leverage resources, capacity and expertise across mandates	2.2.1 Prioritize and align data collection and approaches that can inform both 1) essential fisheries information needed for stock assessments and fisheries management decisions, and 2) ecological information needed to assess the condition and trends of marine ecosystems	Key indicators, metrics, and datasets that can inform both fisheries and MPA management at multiple scales are identified	DFW, OST, OPC	DFW	2015-2016
		Focal MPAs where data collection could inform both MPA and fisheries management are identified	DFW, OST, OPC	DFW	2016-2017
2.3 Develop and adopt a comprehensive data and information management plan for MPA monitoring that leverages existing technology solutions and ensures long-term, public accessibility	2.3.1 Work with data management experts to identify opportunities and develop a written plan to leverage existing technology solutions	Adopted plan is cost-effective and feasible to implement	DFW, OST	OST	2015
		MPA monitoring data and results are easily accessible and curated for long-term, public accessibility	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2018
	2.3.2 Implement plan as part of long-term monitoring	Plan is added as appendix to regional long-term monitoring work plan	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018

2.4 Develop an MPA Monitoring Plan for the North Coast region to be submitted to the Fish & Game Commission for consideration as an appendix to the MLPA Master Plan	2.4.1 Identify metrics that consider management and community priorities, and are informed by results from the North Coast MPA Baseline Program	Monitoring metrics are based on the best available science and reflect management and community priorities	DFW, OST	OST	2017
	2.4.2 Develop an inventory of short- and long-term evaluation questions	Monitoring program is designed to answer evaluation questions	DFW, OST	OST	2016-2017
	2.4.3 Conduct peer-review process of technical components of plan	Monitoring approaches identified by plan are scientifically rigorous and feasible	DFW, OST	OST	2017
2.5 Diversify monitoring collaborations and include multiple sources of knowledge (e.g. agency, academic, tribal, local) to broaden participation and deepen understanding of MPA network and relevant ocean conditions	2.5.1 Develop and begin to implement an approach for integrating multiple sources of knowledge (e.g., traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), ecological data, socioeconomic data)	Guiding document provides a framework for integrating traditional ecological knowledge with other sources of information into long-term monitoring statewide	OST	OST	2015-2016
		Data use guidelines for North Coast baseline monitoring results are complete and can be applied to long-term MPA monitoring activities	OST	OST	2015-2016
	2.5.2 Develop an inventory of relevant citizen science monitoring programs that exist statewide	Extent and capacity of existing citizen science monitoring programs informs approach to long-term monitoring in each region	OST	OST	2016-2018
Strategic Priority 3 - Develop an approach to statewide MPA network assessment (network assessment) that builds upon the monitoring framework to inform management decisions at a statewide scale					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
3.1 Increase alignment of research activities with state priorities, to increase usefulness for management decisions across agencies	3.1.1 Consider MPA network goals in state agency-contracted research on ocean issues and align research activities with these goals when feasible	Deliberate consideration of statewide MPA network goals in agency-contracted ocean/fisheries-related research	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OST	2016-2018
3.2 Pursue MPA research and monitoring activities that have the potential to inform and/or align multiple management mandates and priorities	3.2.1 Identify and pursue opportunities for alignment of research activities with information needs for fisheries management	MPA network assessment informs fisheries management	DFW, OST	DFW	2016
	3.2.2 Incorporate monitoring approaches and strategies identified by the West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Science Panel	MPA and OAH monitoring activities are geographically and temporally aligned	OPC, OST	OPC	2016
		OAH research and modeling activities informs and are informed by MPA monitoring	DFW, OPC SAT	OST	2016-2018
	3.2.3 Engage regional experts to develop and recommend approaches for assessing impacts of climate change on ocean ecosystems and resources and evaluate how a changing climate may affect our ability to meet MPA management and policy goals	Long-term MPA monitoring produces data that contributes to our understanding of climate change impacts	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2016-2018
MPA monitoring and network assessment help determine climate change impacts to ecosystem structure and function		OPC, OST	OST	2016-2017	

3.3 Develop and implement an ecological impact assessment tool to identify potential cumulative impacts to MPAs from research, monitoring and education activities to inform issuing Scientific Collecting Permits (SCP)	3.3.1 Develop a framework for an automated ecological impact assessment to help inform management decisions about issuing SCPs	OPC working group with DFW , DPR, FGC convened to clarify roles and responsibilities in SCP for marine areas adjacent to park units	DFW, DPR, OPC, FGC	OPC	2016
		Published manuscript that describes the assessment tool's purpose, function and components	DFW, OPC SAT	DFW	2015-2016
3.4 Develop a statewide monitoring approach document that is distinct from regional monitoring plans and work plans	3.4.1 Clarify respective roles and purposes for regional and statewide monitoring	Strengthened decision support for adaptive management	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2016
	3.4.2 Develop guidelines for incorporating a broad range of data into statewide monitoring including information on management, outreach, education and other activities	Build efficiency into monitoring programs across state mandates	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017
		MPA monitoring data (ecological, socioeconomic) are considered together with oceanographic monitoring and enforcement/compliance monitoring to build a more robust understanding of the state of the network	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017
		Fisheries, coastal zone and water quality management both inform and are informed by MPA monitoring	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017

Focal Area: Policy and Permitting (page 9 – 11)

Strategic Priority 1 - Improve governance of MPA network through adaptive management					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 FGC and PRC develop and convey process for receiving requests for changes to MPA network	1.1.1 Post guidance on relevant agency websites detailing appropriate process	Members of the public can easily access information that clearly articulates how, if, and when FGC and PRC will receive and evaluate proposals and hear discussion about potential changes to the MPA network, as well as the criteria used to determine if action by either commission is warranted	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, PRC	2017
1.2 Oversee and maintain effective MPA regulations	1.2.1 Adopt regulations that are clear accurate and enforceable	Regulatory ambiguities, inaccuracies, needs or enforcement challenges are addressed through the rulemaking process	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, DFW, DPR, PRC	2015 - 2018
1.3 Partner agencies identify emerging issues and develop recommendations to address them	1.3.1 MPA SLT serves as a forum for agency communication about emerging issues identified by staff or constituents that may require a response by more than one agency	Members of the MPA SLT raise emerging issues to staff at partner agencies and elevate them when appropriate, including at the biannual "MPA Milestones" meetings that all MPA SLT agency Directors attend	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, PRC	2015 - 2018
1.4 Assess pending agency regulations for potential impacts to MPAs	1.4.1 Partner agencies provide informal input to proposed regulations that may affect MPAs early in the process	Proposed new or revised regulations that could affect MPAs are brought to MPA SLT meetings for discussion prior to adoption	Coastal Regulatory Agencies (CCC, CSLC, FGC, DFW, DPR, PRC, SWRCB)	OPC	2015 - 2018
1.5 Clarify MPA network objectives	1.5.1 Conduct review of original intent regarding placement, design, and regulations of the MPA network	Coastal Regulatory Commissions have access to a comprehensive inventory that captures existing documentation regarding design considerations for each MPA in the network	FGC, CN, OPC, DFW	FGC, DFW	2018
	1.5.2 Assess whether stated goals and objectives of MPAs are compatible with the design considerations	FGC identifies any MPAs that may be out of alignment with the adopted design considerations	FGC, DFW	FGC, DFW	2018
1.6 Continue discussions with tribal governments about management	1.6.1 Respond to requests for information sharing and tribal consultations	Hold meetings with Tribal governments for the purpose of identifying areas of common ground and areas of disagreement that will help inform further discussion.	DFW, FGC, OPC	FGC, DFW	2015 - 2018
Strategic Priority 2 Integrate MLPA and MPA network goals, objectives and partnership-based management approach into relevant management documents					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
2.1 Update MLPA Master Plan (Master Plan)	2.1.1 Update language regarding MPA management review cycle	MLPA Master Plan update includes a clearly defined management review cycle that is explicitly connected to adaptive management of the MPA network	DFW, OPC, FGC	DFW	2015

	2.1.2 Align monitoring section with other relevant documents	Monitoring section of the MLPA Master Plan is aligned with the existing MPA monitoring framework and regional monitoring plans	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	DFW	2015
2.2 Insert relevant content into MLMA Master Plan update	2.2.1 Describe role and value of partnerships	Relevant sections of the MLMA Master Plan update (such as development of FMPs, assessing impacts on non-consumptive users, and public involvement strategy) include language about partnerships	DFW, FGC, OPC	DFW	2016 - 2018
	2.2.2 Highlight value of MPA monitoring data	MLMA Master Plan update references MPA monitoring data in relevant contexts	DFW, FGC, OPC, OST	DFW	2016 - 2018
2.3 As SWRCB planning and policy documents are updated, insert relevant content	2.3.1 Integrate considerations of the MPA network during development of Once Through Cooling (OTC) policy amendment where relevant	Adopted amendment to SWRCB OTC Policy includes relevant references to MPA network goals, objectives, and partnership-based management	OPC, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
2.4 Insert relevant content into agency Strategic Plan updates	2.4.1 CSLC Strategic Plan update reflects CSLC commitments regarding MPAs	Relevant portions of the CSLC Strategic Plan reference MPAs and CSLC's specific role with respect to MPA management	OPC, CSLC	CSLC	2015
	2.4.2 CCC Strategic Plan update reflects CCC commitments regarding MPAs	Relevant portions of the CCC Strategic Plan reference MPAs and CCC's specific role with respect to MPA management	OPC, CCC	CCC	2018
Strategic Priority 3 – Enhanced protection for MPA resources is provided in relevant resource agency authorizations					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
3.1 Create tools to improve and highlight inter-agency coordination	3.1.1 Conduct inventory of existing interagency MPA coordination procedures	White paper outlining and summarizing: legislative or policy foundations for special consideration of MPAs, current agency practices, and recommendations to improve communication and coordination is created and distributed to agency staff	CSLC, CCC, SWRCB, OPC	OPC	2015
		Public document discussing how agencies coordinate is broadly distributed to relevant stakeholders	OPC	OPC	2015
3.2 Improve consistency in approach to analyzing impacts of projects to MPAs	3.2.1 Develop internal interagency coordination guidance document for staff use	Interagency coordination document includes an identified MPA point of contact for each agency	OPC	OPC	2015 – 2016
	3.2.2 Guidance document for using CEQA for MPAs	Develop guidance document for state agencies that serve as lead for CEQA review which includes broadly applicable suggestions on avoiding and minimizing impacts to MPAs	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2017
	3.2.3 Draft MPA-specific guidance for potential inclusion in next Office of Planning and Research CEQA guideline update	CEQA guidelines require lead agencies to consider factors such as sediment re-suspension, invasive species introduction, substrate disturbance, noise effects on living organisms, and water quality impacts when determining the significance of project impacts to MPAs	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC/CNRA	2018

Strategic Priority 4 - Identify marine resource enhancement/mitigation opportunities and impact avoidance strategies within or associated with MPAs					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
4.1 Develop knowledge base from existing data regarding marine resource enhancement, mitigation, and impact avoidance strategies pertinent to MPAs	4.1.1 Review MPA monitoring results to identify areas that may benefit from marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	Develop regional lists and/or maps that identify opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies in the MPA network	DFW, OST, OPC	OST	2016
	4.1.2 Consult with local MPA Collaboratives about opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance	Regional lists and maps developed under 4.1.1 depict opportunities identified by local MPA Collaboratives	DFW, OST, OPC, CN	OPC and CN	2016
	4.1.3 Inventory projects related to marine resource enhancement, mitigation and impact avoidance strategies that could benefit the MPA network	Regional lists identify successful/unsuccessful projects as well as projects that require additional funding to reach completion	DFW, DPR, SWRCB, CSLC, OPC, OST, CCC	OPC	2016
4.2 Use regulatory/policy tools to carry out marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	4.2.1 Identify opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies in current regulatory/policy requirements at participating MPA SLT agencies	Create internal document summarizing relevant regulatory/policy requirements relevant to marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	DFW, CSLC, CCC, SWRCB, OPC	OPC	2017
4.3 Identify and support research projects on MPA mitigation	4.3.1. Utilize existing and promote new research to evaluate MPA mitigation projects	State agencies on the Resources Agency Sea Grant Advisory Panel (RASGAP) assert the importance of funding research proposals that assess potential MPA mitigation strategies	CSLC, CCC SWRCB, DFW, OPC	OPC	2016 - 2018