

## REVISED\* Request for Proposals

### North Central Coast Marine Protected Areas Baseline Program

(\* changes indicated by yellow highlighting)

#### I. Funding Opportunity Description

The North Central Coast Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Baseline Program is a collaborative effort among the State Coastal Conservancy, Ocean Protection Council (OPC), California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), California Ocean Science Trust, MPA Monitoring Enterprise, and California Sea Grant. The program seeks to provide a summary description, assessment and understanding of ecological and socioeconomic conditions, inside and outside North Central Coast MPAs to be designated under the Marine Life Protection Act, at or near the time of MPA implementation. It also seeks to document the initial socioeconomic effects of MPA implementation and initial ecological changes in select ecosystem elements predicted to respond rapidly to protection.

\$4,000,000 has been authorized to support the North Central Coast MPA Baseline Program. Proposals will be accepted for projects of up to three years in duration and including total funding requests of up to \$3,720,000, with a maximum indirect cost rate of 25%. A bidders' conference will be held on Tuesday, August 25, 2009, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm in the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library & Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum, located in the International Terminal of the San Francisco airport, to provide more information to potential applicants and promote partnerships among applicants and collaborators. Additional details of this conference are available on the Sea Grant website. Project proposals will be due no later than 5:00 pm PDT September 28, 2009, and awards are expected to be made by December 18, 2009. Selected projects may begin any time after award contracts have been fully executed, but must commence within one year of the date of adoption of new MPA regulations by the FGC and preferably prior to implementation of regulations. Additional information and project requirements are provided below.

#### A. Background

The 1999 Marine Life Protection Act (Chapter 10.5 of the California Fish & Game Code, §2850-2863) directs the state to reevaluate and redesign California's system of marine protected areas (MPAs) to meet the following goals:

1. Protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function and integrity of marine ecosystems.
2. Help sustain, conserve and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
3. Improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
4. Protect marine natural heritage, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic values.
5. Ensure California's MPAs have clearly defined objectives, effective management measures and adequate enforcement and are based on sound scientific guidelines.
6. Ensure the State's MPAs are designed and managed, to the extent possible, as a network.

The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) further requires monitoring of MPAs, specifically "monitoring, research, and evaluation at selected sites to facilitate adaptive management of MPAs and ensure that the [MPA] system meets the goals











































