

Principal Investigators - please use this form to submit your MPA Baseline Program project annual report, including an update on activities completed over the past year and those planned for the upcoming year. This information will be used by the MPA Baseline Program Management Team to track the progress of individual projects, and will be provided to all MPA Baseline Program PIs and co-PIs prior to the Annual PIs workshop to facilitate discussion of project integration. Please submit this form to California Sea Grant when complete (sgreport@ucsd.edu, Subject [Award Number, project number, PI, "Annual Report"].)

Project Information

Project Year	2011	Study Region	North Central Coast of California
Project Title & Number	Baseline Monitoring of Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Indicators for MPAs along the North Central Coast of California – Rocky Intertidal Ecosystems, R/MPA-11		

PI name	Pete Raimondi	Co-PI name	
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PI Contact Info
Co- PI Contact Info

(please list additional PIs and contact info in the "Project Personnel" section if necessary)

Address	Long Marine Lab, UCSC, 100 Shaffer Road Santa Cruz, CA 95060	Address	
Email	raimondi@ucsc.edu	Email	
Phone	831 459-5674	Phone	

Project Goals & Objectives

The objective of the proposed surveys and analyses are to (1) produce a quantitative baseline characterization of the structure of rocky intertidal ecosystems in all of the MPA's that have rocky intertidal habitats recently established by the MLPA Initiative in the NCCSR, (2) provide a quantitative comparison between the rocky intertidal ecosystems in these MPAs and associated reference areas in the NCCSR, (3) analytically explore the baseline characterizations for potential indicators of the state of the rocky intertidal ecosystems using newly collected data along with our existing datasets from the region (10 sites where monitoring is ongoing), and (4) integrate these assessments with other components of the baseline survey (e.g., Kelp Forest, ReefCheck, UCD Abalone Urchin, Sandy Beach, collaborative fishing) to inform the role and design of those programs for a future monitoring and evaluation program.

Summary of Project Activities Completed to Date

Overview of Project Year 2 Activities, including progress towards meeting goals & objectives

Since the beginning of the grant period we have made substantial progress toward the goals and objectives identified in the proposed MPA Baseline monitoring program for rocky intertidal ecosystems in the North Central Coast. In 2010-2011, we established 10 new intertidal sites, and completed surveys at 13 sites overall. Community surveys of targeted species and Biodiversity surveys were completed at all 13 sites.

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Highlights from project progress so far, such as successes achieved or interesting stories from the past year

Community surveys were completed in July, 2012 for all North Central Coast rocky intertidal sites. This was prior to the Abalone (and Sea Star) die-off that was reported by the Department of Fish and Game starting August 27, 2011. This will be important to keep in mind when analyzing data collected in future samples.

Description of any unforeseen events and substantial challenges, and resulting effect on data collection

To date, we have been unable to gain access to Stewarts Point SMR to establish a site in 2011, but may potentially establish a site in 2012.

Data status (i.e., paper/raw format or digitized; if digitized, what format?)

Raw data sheets have been scanned into PDF documents; data has been (and is being) entered into Microsoft Access database and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

Activities Planned for following Project Year __ (if applicable) – Please describe remaining work and approximate timelines for completing that work, including any anticipated budget variances necessary to complete the project.

Potential field work for 2012 includes the following: a) re-sample targeted species at sites in the zone where the August, 2011 Abalone (and Sea Star) die-off occurred; b) establish one additional site within Stewarts Point SMR if able.

Quality control protocols are in progress to prepare the dataset to be uploaded to the online PISCO data access site with associated metadata entered into ecological markup language (.eml) format.

Data analysis has also begun in order to complete the final project objectives: provide a quantitative comparison between the rocky intertidal ecosystems in these MPAs and associated reference areas in the NCCSR; analytically explore the baseline characterizations for potential indicators of the state of the rocky intertidal ecosystems using newly collected data along with our existing datasets from the region; and integrate these assessments with other components of the baseline survey to inform the role and design of those programs for a future monitoring and evaluation program.

Project Personnel – Please indicate additional project personnel involved in your MPA baseline project, including students and volunteers, or additional PI contact information if necessary.

	<i>Students Supported</i>	<i>Student Volunteers</i>
<i>K-12</i>		
<i>Undergraduate</i>		
<i>Masters</i>		
<i>PhD</i>		

Number of other Volunteers not counted above:

Additional PI contact info not listed on first page:

Cooperating Organizations and Individuals - Please list organizations or individuals (e.g., federal or state agencies, fishermen, etc.) that provided financial, technical or other assistance to your project since its inception, including a description of the nature of their assistance.

Name of Organization or Individual	Sector (City, County, Fed, private, etc.)	Nature of cooperation (If financial, provide dollar amount.)

Additional Information – Please provide any other project-relevant information, such as descriptions of attached materials, media coverage your project has received, etc.