



## Crescent City Harbor District

(707) 464-6174 or  
[www.ccharbor.com](http://www.ccharbor.com)

### California Department of Fish and Wildlife

For more information:  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

For boundaries and regulations, go to:  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov/marine/MPA](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/marine/MPA)

To protect, maintain, enhance and restore California's marine ecosystems for their ecological values and their use and enjoyment by the public through good science and effective communication.

California Department of  
Fish and Wildlife,  
Marine Region

Image above: Crescent City coastline (Sasha Friedman)  
below: Stellar sea lion (Frank Kovalchek)



Help stop poaching & polluting, call:  
1-888-334-CALTIP (1-888-334-2258)

Report lost fishing gear:  
1-888-491-GEAR (4237)  
or  
[www.lostfishinggear.org](http://www.lostfishinggear.org)

Learn more about clean boating at:  
[www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com](http://www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com)  
415-904-6905

Help protect Seabirds!  
For tips and info on special closures, visit:  
[www.SeabirdProtectionNetwork.org](http://www.SeabirdProtectionNetwork.org)

This publication is available in  
alternate formats by contacting  
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation  
831-647-4209  
or [CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org](mailto:CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org)



Cover: left (Bart Selby); top right (Chad King);  
middle right (Anita Ritenour); bottom right (Ed Bierman)

# A Guide to Fishing and Marine Protected Areas

## Crescent City Harbor



Pyramid Point State Marine Conservation Area  
Point St. George Reef Offshore  
State Marine Conservation Area  
Southwest Seal Rock Special Closure  
Castle Rock Special Closure

# Fishing and California's Marine Protected Areas

## What are Marine Protected Areas?

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are special designated underwater areas, similar to the nation's parks, forests and wilderness areas on land, that prohibit or limit the take of marine resources.

## Why does California need MPAs?

MPAs are recognized tools for protecting, enhancing and restoring marine life. MPAs foster healthy habitats and natural diversity, safeguarding the ocean's bounty for the economic and recreational opportunities of future generations.

## How many MPAs are in California?

California was the first state in the nation to establish a statewide network of MPAs. There are now 124 MPAs from the border of Oregon down to the border of Mexico. The MPA network protects a variety of key habitats by linking MPAs along the coast.

Photo credit: top left (Tressa Bronner); top right (NOAA/NOS); middle center (Bart Selby)



kelp bass (Steve Lonhart)



black rockfish (Chad King)



kayaking (Claire Fackler)



copper rockfish (Chad King)



crab pots (Bart Selby)



dungeness crab (Bart Selby)

## Is Fishing Allowed in MPAs?

Fishing and the take of marine life such as shellfish or seaweed is not allowed in marine reserves and no-take marine conservation areas, which make up about half of California's marine protected areas. An inset map of local MPAs with their regulations is provided in this brochure.



## Is Anchoring and Transit Allowed in MPAs?

Boats are allowed to anchor and transit through an MPA, however, fishing gear may not be deployed when in marine reserves or other MPAs that prohibit fishing for the species you have onboard. For additional information, scan the QR code on the right to visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's website.

## MPAs & Fishing Regulations



Scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone or other internet enabled device to visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's MPA mobile website.

The website allows you to search for information about MPA boundaries and regulations. You can also use your GPS location to locate the closest MPA(s) and determine whether or not you are currently in an MPA.

## Go Fishing

Recreational & Commercial Fishing Information:  
phone: 831-649-2870  
website: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishing](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishing)

Recreational Groundfish "hotline"  
831-649-2801  
Recreational Salmon "hotline"  
707-576-3429

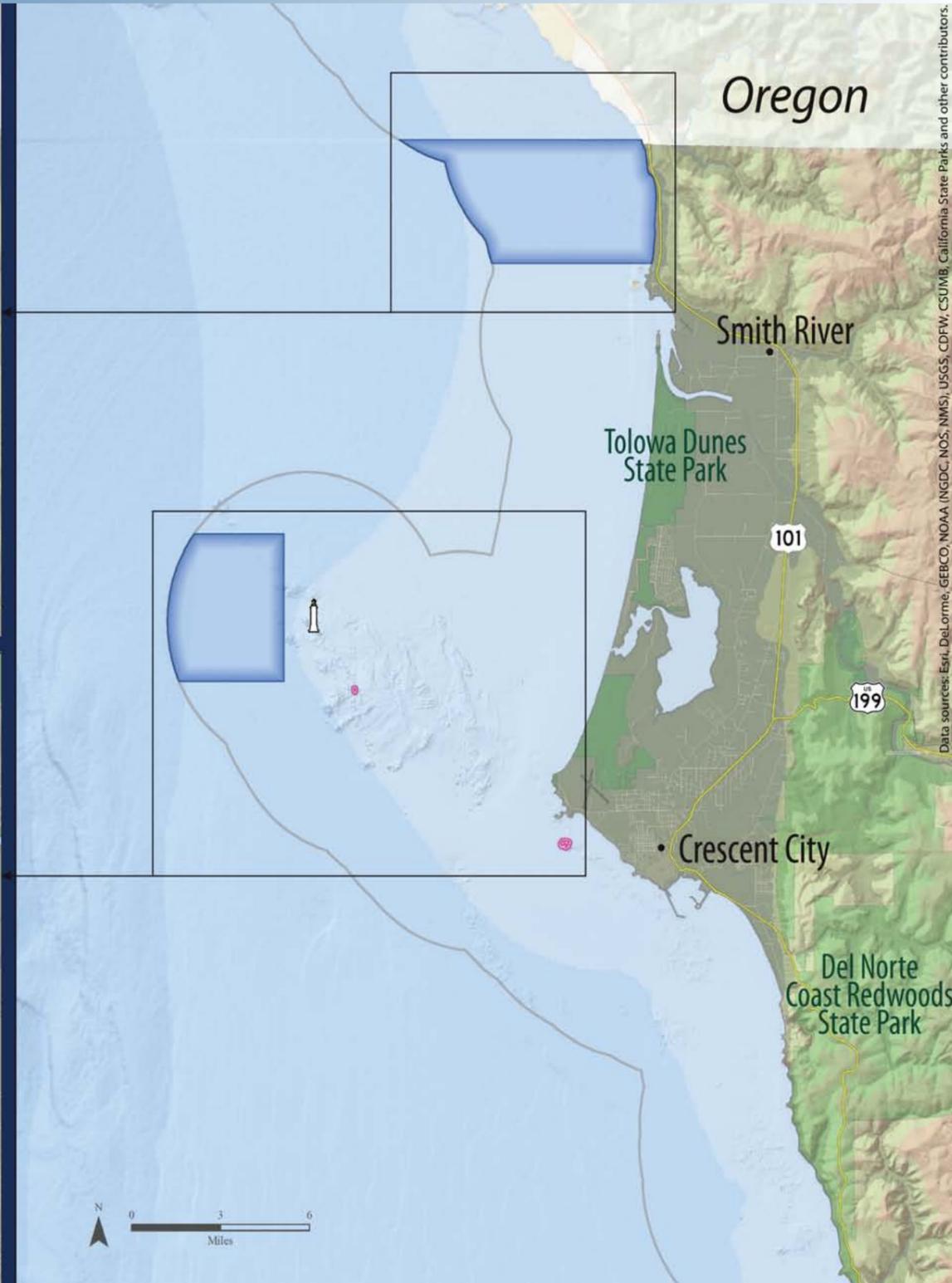
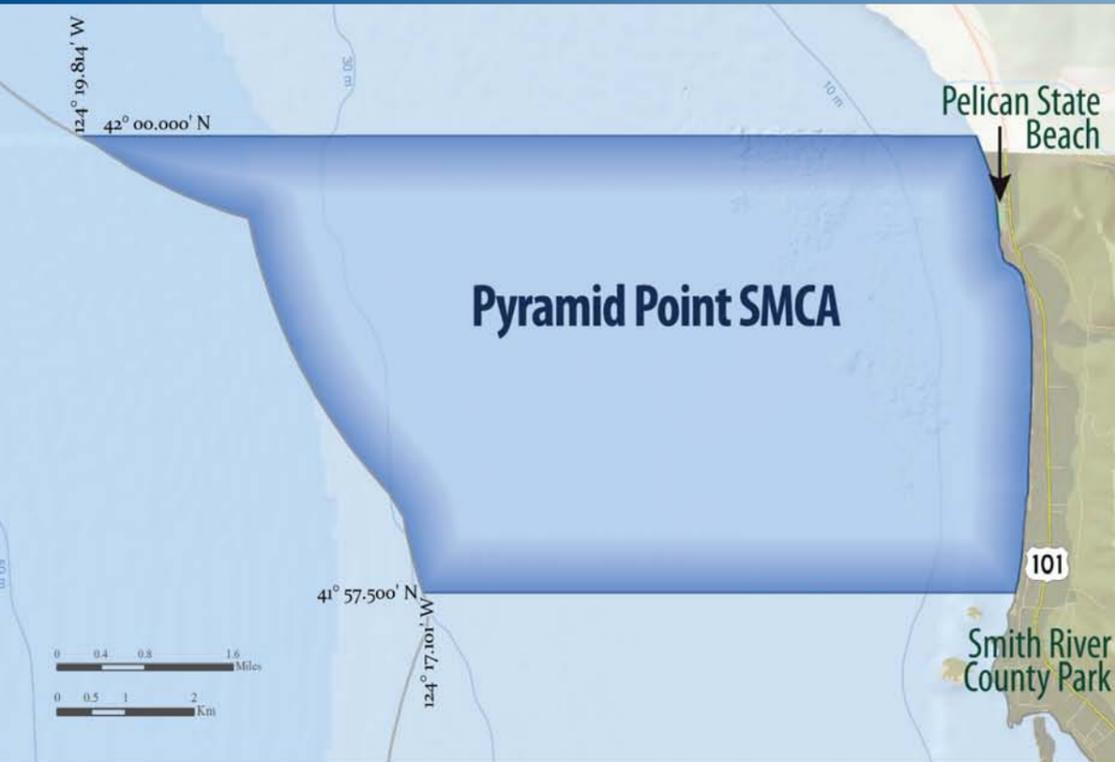
MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Pyramid Point SMCA	Recreational take of surf smelt by dip net or Hawaiian type throw net. Includes take exemptions for some federal tribes <sup>1</sup>

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Point St. George Reef Offshore SMCA	Recreational and commercial take of salmon by trolling or troll fishing gear, and Dungeness crab by trap. Includes take exemptions for some federal tribes <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Certain federally recognized tribes are exempted from the area and take regulations for this MPA. For information regarding tribal take, please see California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632(a)(11)

Name	Special Closure Restrictions
Special restrictions on boating and access apply as follows:	
Southwest Seal Rock and Castle Rock Special Closures	<p><b>Year Round:</b>            Except as permitted by federal law or emergency caused by hazardous weather, <b>no vessel shall be operated or anchored</b> at any time from the mean high tide line to a distance of 300 ft. seaward of the lower low tide line of any shoreline of the special closure area.</p> <p>No person except employees of CDFW, USFWS, NOAA or USCG during performance of their official duties, or unless permission is granted by CDFW, shall enter the area.</p>

## Crescent City Harbor Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)



### MPAs - Good for the Ocean; Good for You! Know the Rules Before You Head Out.

For Ocean Fishing Laws and Regulations, go to: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/regulations.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/regulations.asp)

For MPA boundaries, maps, coordinates and allowed uses, go to: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/MPA/MPA\\_summary.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/MPA/MPA_summary.asp)

### Regulations

This document is provided as a courtesy, and does not replace the official laws and regulations found in the California Fish and Game Code or the California Code of Regulation Title 14.

- A fishing license is required for any fishing.
- All existing take regulations still apply in addition to the ones listed above.
- Unless otherwise stated, all non-consumptive recreational activities are allowed.
- "Take" means to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish, mollusks, or crustaceans, or attempting to do so.

MPA Mobile Website

