

Morro Bay East State Marine Reserve; Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area

Size of MPA(s):

3.31 mi² (combined area)

Depth range of MPA(s):

Shore to 22 feet

Key habitats protected:

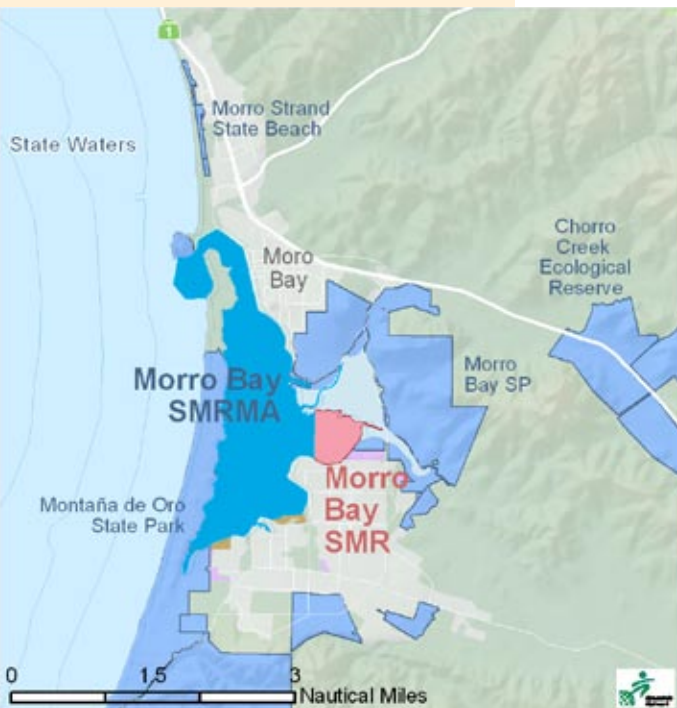
Coastal salt marsh,
eelgrass, tidal channels,
mudflat



Angus



Ream



Morro Bay National Estuary is one of the largest and most important wetland systems on the central coast, sustaining diverse habitats that support sensitive and endangered species.

- Morro Bay serves as an important resting and foraging ground for migratory birds using the Pacific Flyway. Large and diverse invertebrate populations inhabit the mudflats of the Bay; fish use the Bay as a nursery ground and dense meadows of eelgrass support a highly productive environment.
- Morro Bay also supports a variety of recreational activities such as bird watching, sea kayaking, and recreational fishing and is a working commercial and sport fishing harbor. The Morro Bay State Marine Reserve and State Marine Recreational Management Area enhance protection and recreational values in this area.