

# Underwater Secrets of a Marine Protected Area





**Marine protected Areas are safe places in the ocean for plants and animals to grow and reproduce.**

They provide a healthy ecosystem by keeping the ocean in balance.



Here we have urchin barrens. The ocean is out of balance.



The kelp forest provides a place for fish to hide, to grow, and to reproduce.



There is a food web with enough food to sustain biodiversity.



# Birds



# Mollusks





# Invertebrates



# Fish



# Mammals



# Plants

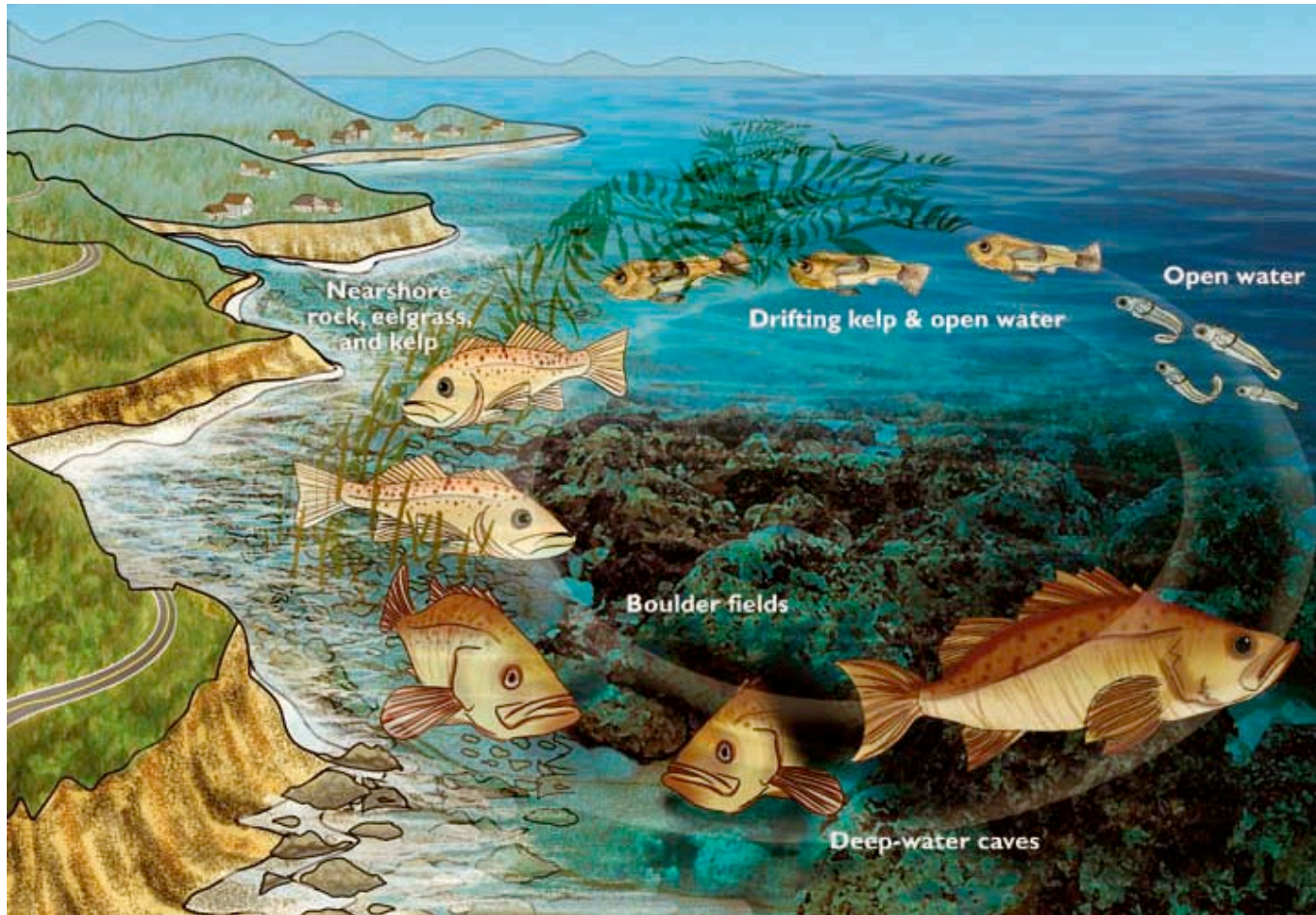




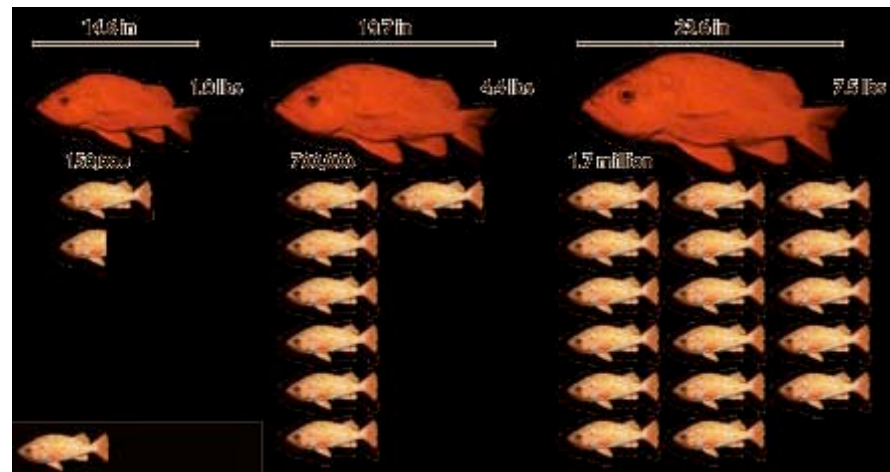
## **Marine protected areas help sustain ocean life.**

They provide the habitat fish and other marine animals need to complete their life cycles.

# Life Cycle of the Bocaccio



Larger females produce more offspring than smaller ones.





This white scallop grew much bigger than the red one because it was in a protected area.



## Monterey County Marine Protected Areas

This map shows areas where no fishing is allowed; but also, areas where different human marine activities can take place.





**The End**