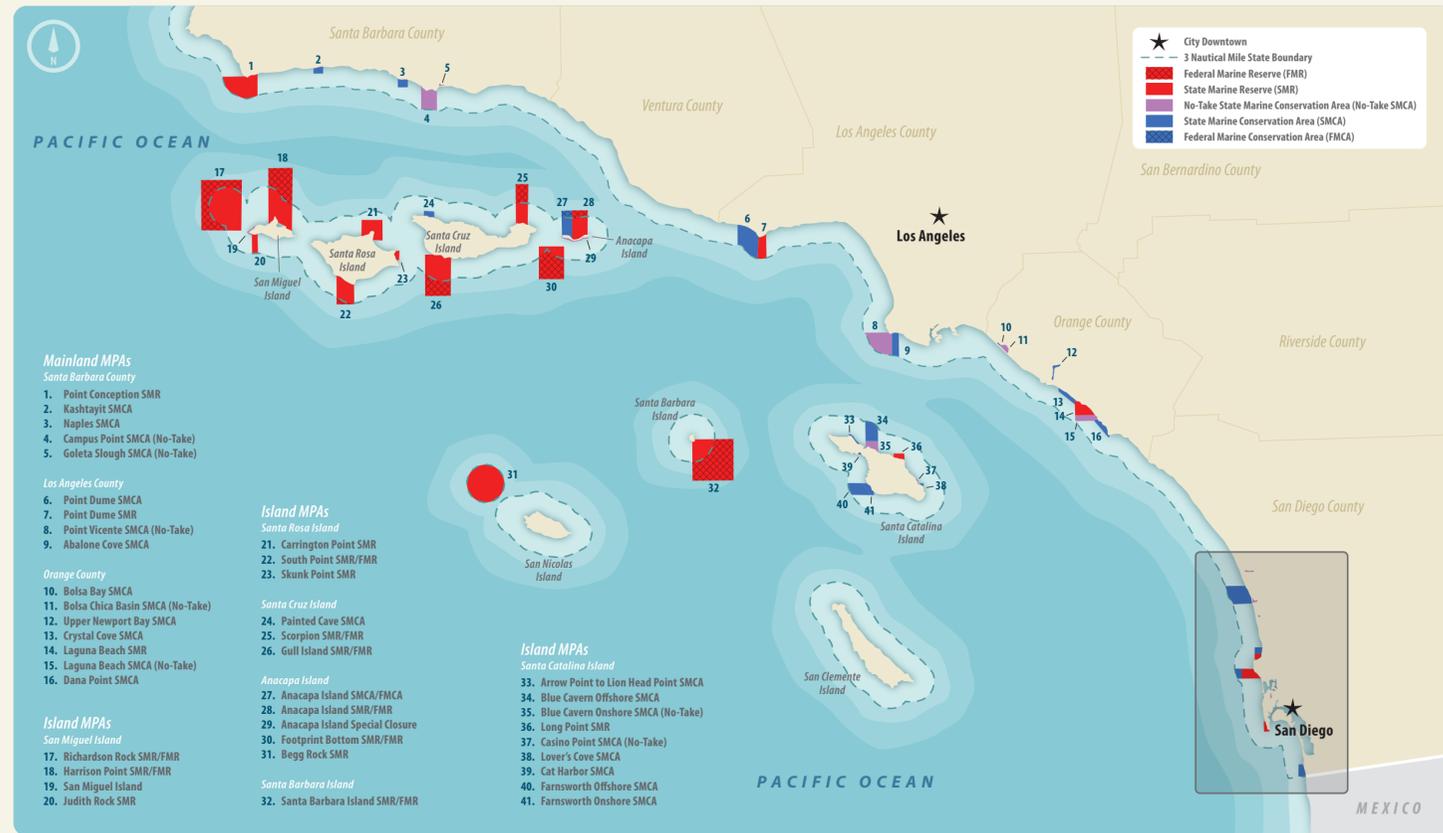
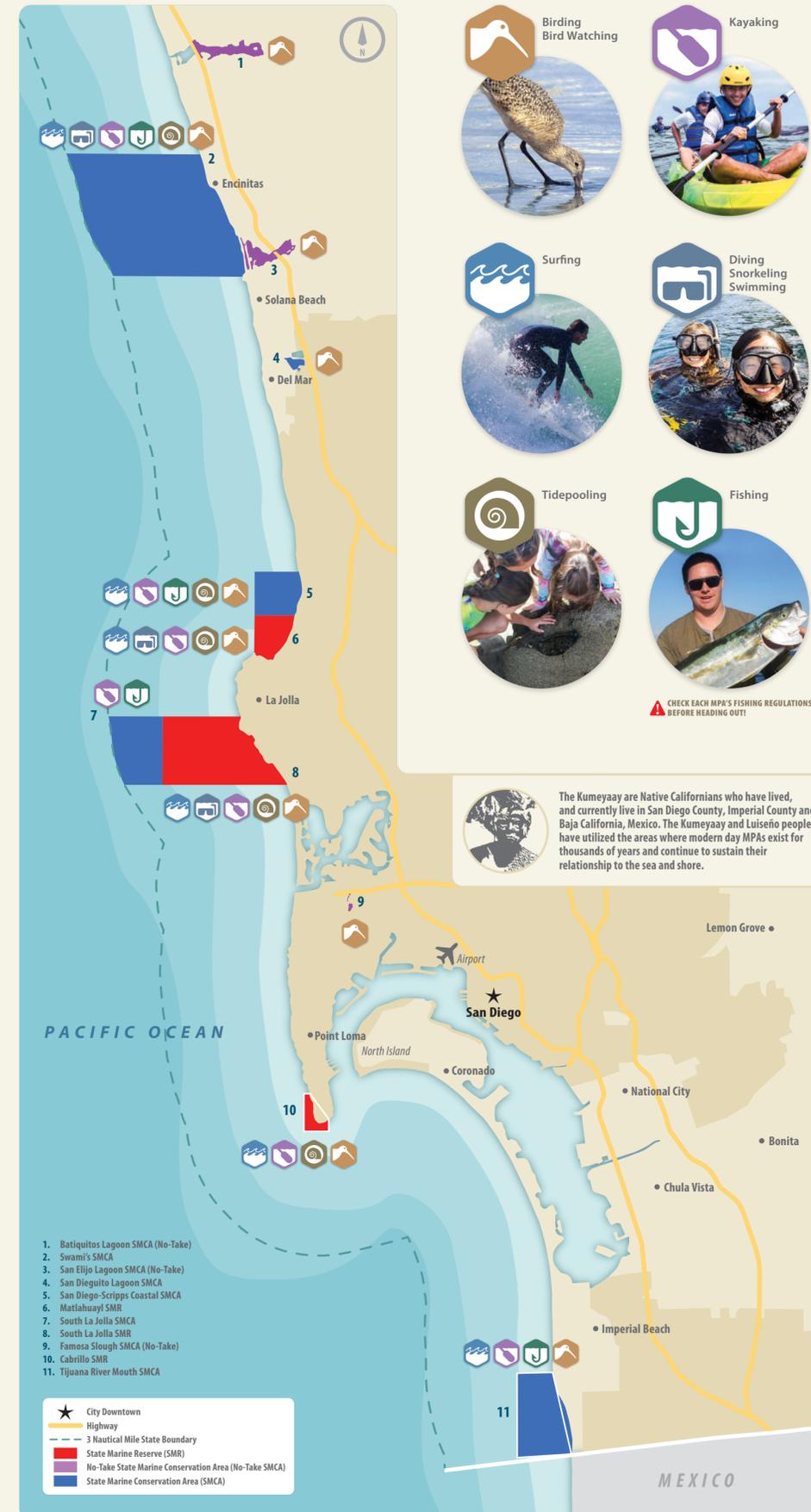


Southern California's MPAs



San Diego County



How to enjoy your local MPAs!



Tidepooling!

For a more engaging experience with marine organisms, plan a day for tidepooling! During low tide look for pools of water forming in rocky intertidal zones. Enjoy and explore these areas, but remember that removal and disturbance (including touching) are prohibited. For more tidepooling guidelines check out the "Good Tidepooler Rules."



The "Good Tidepooler Rules"

Follow these guidelines to minimize your impact on tidepool organisms and habitat:

- Never remove animals, shells or rocks from the tidepools
- Walk gently, taking care not to step on plants or animals
- Never pick up animals; observe them where they are
- Never turn over rocks



WILDCOAST is an international team that conserves coastal and marine ecosystems and wildlife. California's network of marine protected areas spans from the Oregon border south to Mexico and covers 16% of the state's ocean resources.

WILDCOAST is playing a leading role in the conservation and management of these globally significant MPAs. Through public engagement, policy development, monitoring and education, we are making sure that California's coastline and marine environment is as spectacular in the future as it is today.

For more information, please visit: wildcoast.org



TO REPORT VIOLATIONS IN ANY MARINE PROTECTED AREA CALL 1-888-334-CALIF (888-334-2258)

For detailed maps and regulations visit: www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs
This guide was made possible through generous support by the County of San Diego's Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and the Ocean Protection Council's MPA Collaborative Network Small Grants Program.

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San Diego County

Marine Protected Areas Wildlife and Recreation Guide

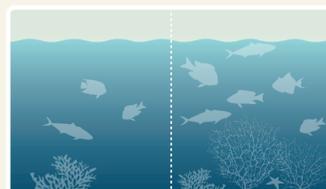


Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

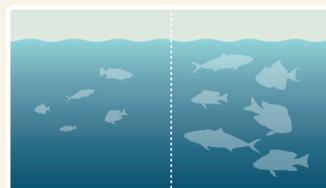
protect the diversity and abundance of marine life, the habitats they depend on, and the integrity of marine ecosystems. The Marine Life Protection Act recognizes that a combination of MPAs with varied amounts of allowed activities and protections (marine reserves, marine conservation areas, and marine parks) can help conserve biological diversity, provide a sanctuary for marine life, and enhance recreational and educational opportunities. MPAs can also provide scientific reference points to assist with resource management decisions, and protect a variety of marine habitats, communities, and ecosystems for their economic and intrinsic value, for generations to come.

Potential benefits of MPAs:

Increase in the total number of fish:
Higher density = more sea life



Increase in the average size of fish:
Increase in biomass = bigger and more abundant sea life



More and bigger sea life = a healthier ocean

There are 11 MPAs

established in San Diego County that fall under three categories:

State Marine Reserve (SMR)

Take, damage, injury, or possession of any marine resource (living, geological or cultural) is prohibited. Non-Consumptive recreational activities are encouraged.

In San Diego County (See Map):
Matlahuayl
South La Jolla
Cabrillo

No-Take State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)

No-Take of any living, geologic, or cultural resource is allowed, EXCEPT for take incidental to specified activities permitted by other agencies.

In San Diego County (See Map):
Batiqitos Lagoon
San Elijo Lagoon
Famosa Slough

State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)

Take, including fishing/harvest of some marine/resource is permitted. Some consumptive recreational and commercial activities are allowed at specific locations.

In San Diego County (See Map):
Swami's
San Dieguito Lagoon
San Diego-Scripps Coastal
South La Jolla
Tijuana River Mouth

Although all of the animals found on this page can be seen in Southern California MPAs, those labeled with a star (*) are more likely to gain a direct benefit from MPAs. Animals marked with a star have smaller home ranges and/or spend significant portions of their lives within MPAs. As these animals grow larger, their offspring can help repopulate adjacent waters.

▲ THE IMAGES OF ORGANISMS ARE NOT MADE TO SCALE

Mammals



Bottlenose dolphin
Tursiops



Pacific whiteside dolphin
Lagenorhynchus obliquidens

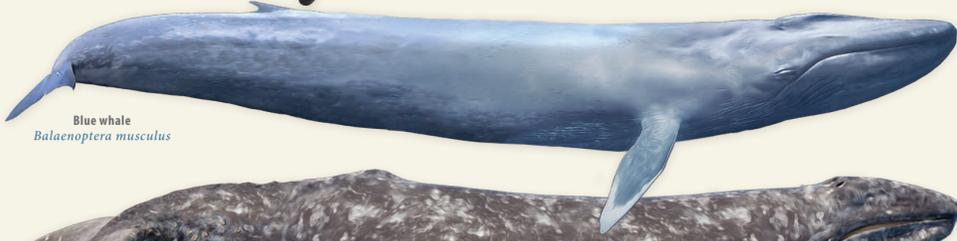


*Harbor seal
Phoca

Mammals



*Sea lion
Otariinae



Blue whale
Balaenoptera musculus



Gray whale
AKA Pacific gray whale, California gray whale
Eschrichtius robustus

Mammals

Short beaked common dolphin
Delphinus delphis

Reptiles



*Green sea turtle
AKA Green turtle,
Pacific green turtle
Chelonia mydas

Birds



*Great blue heron
Ardea herodias

Birds



*Tern spp.
Sternidae



*Gull spp.
Laridae



*California least tern
Sterna antillarum browni



Osprey
AKA Sea hawk,
River hawk, Fish hawk
Pandion haliaetus



*Double-crested cormorant
Phalacrocorax auritus



*Brown pelican
Pelecanus occidentalis

Fish



Garibaldi
AKA Garibaldi damselfish
Hypsypops rubicundus



*Blacksmith
AKA Blacksmith chromis,
Blacksmith damselfish
Chromis punctipinnis



Giant kelpfish
Heterostichus rostratus



*Male California sheephead
Semicossyphus pulcher



*Female California sheephead
Semicossyphus pulcher



Señorita
Oxyjulis californica

Fish



*California scorpionfish
AKA Spotted scorpionfish
Scorpaena guttata



Pacific seahorse
Hippocampus ingens



*Opaleye
Girella nigricans



Californian killifish
Fundulus parvipinnis



*Goby spp.
Gobiidae



Pacific jack mackerel
AKA California jack mackerel
Trachurus symmetricus

Fish



Topsmelt
Atherinops affinis Ayres



Californian anchovy
Engraulis mordax



Pacific sardine
Sardinops sagax



*Croaker spp.
Sciaenidae



*White sea bass
Atractoscion nobilis



California corbina
Menticirrhus undulatus

Fish



*Rockfish spp.
Sebastes



*Kelp bass
AKA Calico bass
Paralabrax clathratus



*Barred sand bass
Paralabrax nebulifer



*Spotted sand bass
Paralabrax maculatofasciatus



*Giant sea bass
Stereolepis gigas



California halibut
AKA California flounder
Paralichthys californicus

Fish



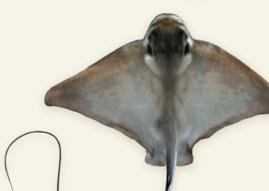
Pacific bonito
Sarda chiliensis lineolata



Sunfish
AKA Mola
Mola mola



*Shovelnose guitarfish
Rhinobatos productus



Bat ray
Myliobatis californica



Round stingray
AKA Haller's round ray
Urolophus halleri



*Leopard shark
Triakis semifasciata

Fish



*Horn shark
Heterodontus francisci



Spiny dogfish
AKA Spurdog, Mudshark, Piked dogfish
Squalus acanthias



Sevengill shark
Notorynchus cepedianus



Great white shark
Carcharodon carcharias

Invertebrates



*California Two-spot octopus
Octopus bimaculoides

Invertebrates



Bat star
Patiria miniata



*Purple sea star
AKA Ochre sea star,
Ochre starfish
Pisaster ochraceus



Banded brittle star
Ophiolepis superba



*California sea cucumber
Parastichopus californicus



Sea anemone spp.
Actiniaria

Invertebrates



*Wavy top turban
Megastraea undosa



*Abalone spp.
Haliotidae



*Sea snails
Gastropoda



*California spiny lobster
Panulirus interruptus



*Sea urchin
Echinoidea



Western sand dollar
AKA Pacific sand dollar
Dendraster excentricus