

**CALIFORNIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## Marine Life Protection Act



### Preliminary Evaluation of Existing North Central Coast Study Region Marine Protected Areas

Presentation to the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group  
 July 10-11, 2007 • Pacifica, CA  
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 Marine Region  
 California Department of Fish and Game

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## Summary of Existing MPAs

Type of MPA	# MPA	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	1	0.28 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.04%
State Marine Park (SMP)	3	1.49 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.19%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	9	25.12 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.29%
<b>All MPAs Combined</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26.88 mi<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>3.52%</b>

**NCCSR = North Central Coast Study Region**

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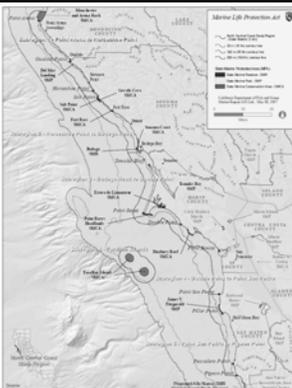
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## Map of Existing MPAs




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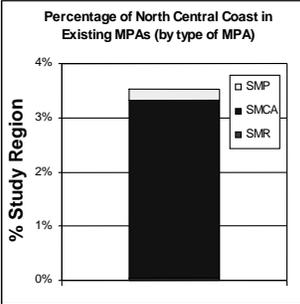
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**Percent by MPA Type**

Types of MPAs:

- State Marine Reserve (SMR)
- State Marine Park (SMP)
- State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)



Percentage of North Central Coast in Existing MPAs (by type of MPA)

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**Size and Depth of MPAs**

MPA Name	Size (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Along-shore Span (mi) <sup>A</sup>	Depth Range (ft)
Manchester and Arena Rock SMCA	6.68 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.0 mi	0-141 ft
Del Mar Landing SMP	0.09 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.3 mi	0-55 ft
Salt Point SMCA	1.63 mi <sup>2</sup>	2.2 mi	0-182 ft
Gerstie Cove SMCA	0.01 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.1 mi	0-3 ft
Fort Ross SMCA	0.11 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.9 mi	0-32 ft
Sonoma Coast SMCA	0.89 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.3 mi	0-14 ft
Bodega SMR	0.28 mi <sup>2</sup>	1.1 mi	0-30 ft
Tomales Bay SMP	0.63 mi <sup>2</sup>	1.2 mi	0-3 ft
Point Reyes Headlands SMCA	0.79 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.1 mi	0-80 ft
Estero de Limantour SMCA	0.86 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.1 mi	0-3 ft
Duxbury Reef SMCA	0.66 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.0 mi	0-6 ft
James V. Fitzgerald SMP	0.76 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.4 mi	0-31 ft
Farallon Islands SMCA	13.51 mi <sup>2</sup>	5.1 mi	0-244 ft

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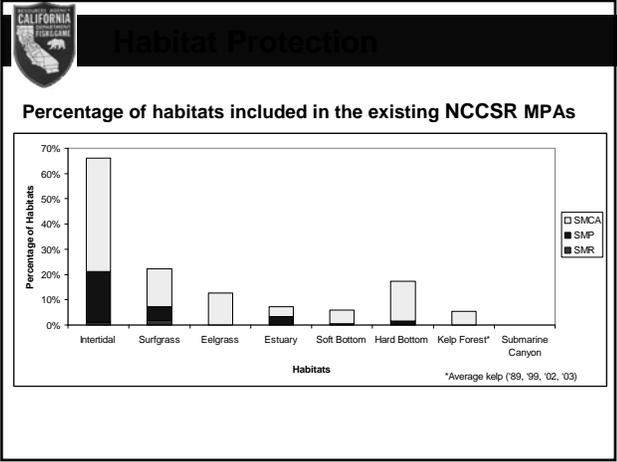
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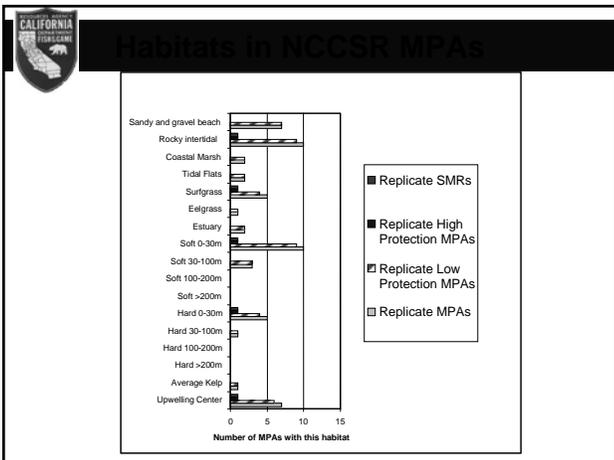
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- ### DFG Feasibility Guidelines
- MPA effectiveness is influenced by boundary design
    - can boundaries be feasibly implemented
    - understood by the public
    - enforced
  - DFG provided feasibility guidelines in the Statement of Feasibility Criteria

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- ### DFG Feasibility Guidelines
- Design elements that increase feasibility include:
- Boundaries
    - Straight lines
    - Easily recognizable landmarks
    - Multiple zoning of adjacent areas
  - Regulatory simplicity
  - Accessibility
  - Siting within, adjacent to, or near special management areas

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## Summary of Feasibility Analysis

Design elements that decrease MPA feasibility are :

- MPAs which do not extend protection offshore into adjacent subtidal waters
- The use of depth contours or distance offshore as boundary delineations
- Complex regulations
- Differing levels of protection within a protected area (i.e. doughnut zones)
- Boundary points at areas which are not readily recognizable (such as landmarks or points of easily recognized latitude and longitude)

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## Feasibility Guidelines

### Intertidal and shallow nearshore MPAs:

- MPAs which include only intertidal or nearshore waters that do not extend offshore into the adjacent subtidal waters are not recommended

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## Summary of Feasibility Analysis

None of the existing MPAs in the NCCSR meet all of the feasibility criteria outlined in the DFG Statement of Feasibility

Type of MPA	Boundary Issues*	Complicated Regulations*	Accessibility Issues*	Intertidal MPAs*
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (1)	1 (1)
State Marine Park (SMP)	2 (3)	2 (3)	1 (3)	2 (3)
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	8 (9)	9 (9)	2 (9)	8 (9)
All MPAs Combined	11 (13)	12 (13)	3 (13)	11 (13)

\*Total number of MPAs are in parentheses

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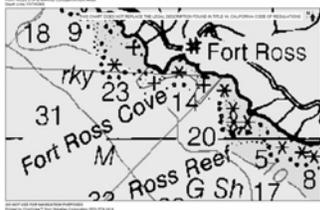


## Example of Existing MPAs

### Fort Ross SCMA

#### Boundaries

- Boundaries defined by irregular shaped lines using points of latitude and longitude and depth contours
- Boundaries do not use easily recognizable landmarks
- Boundaries do not follow N/S or E/W orientation



#### Regulations

- Regulations do not extend into the adjacent subtidal waters and a long list of excepted species to the general regulation makes it difficult to understand and enforce the regulation

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