

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
South Coast Study Region: Round 2 Evaluation
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in Revised External MPA Proposal A
June 9, 2009

Summary of MPAs by Designation for Revised External MPA Proposal A

Type of MPA ¹	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	29	291.9	12.4%
State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA)	0	0.0	0.0%
State Marine Park (SMP)	2	0.3	0.0%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	14	50.1	2.1%
Undesignated	2	36.7	1.6%
All MPAs combined	47	378.9	16.1%

¹ Note: These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT). SMRMA is not an MPA designation, but rather a marine managed area designation. The "Undesignated" are the pending military closures.

Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for Revised External MPA Proposal A

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High ²	29	291.9	12.4%
High	3	28.6	1.2%
Moderate-High	2	6.5	0.3%
Moderate	0	0.0	0.0%
Low ³	11	15.2	0.6%
Not applicable ⁴	2	36.7	1.6%
Total	47	378.9	16.1%

² Note: The "Very High" category includes MPAs with SMR designation, as well as MPAs with a SMRMA designation.

³ Note: The "Low" category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low and lower level of protection.

⁴ Note: These are the pending military closures. These are not assigned a level of protection.

Individual MPAs in Revised External MPA Proposal A

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore Span ⁶ (mi)	Depth Range ⁷ (ft)
Richardson Rock SMR ⁵	40.69	6.3	95 - 558
Judith Rock SMR ⁵	4.55	1.2	0 - 487
Harris Point SMR ⁵	25.35	5.4	0 - 557
South Point SMR ⁵	13.05	3.5	0 - 1071
Carrington Point SMR ⁵	12.76	4.0	0 - 211
Skunk Point SMR ⁵	1.39	2.2	0 - 83
Painted Cave SMCA ⁵	1.78	1.9	0 - 291
Gull Island SMR ⁵	19.91	4.8	0 - 2205
Scorpion SMR ⁵	9.62	2.6	0 - 769
Footprint SMR ⁵	7.05	4.7	171 - 1656
Anacapa Island SMCA ⁵	7.30	2.0	0 - 490
Anacapa Island SMR ⁵	11.54	3.1	0 - 709
Santa Barbara Island SMR ⁵	12.76	1.0	0 - 1655

MPA Name	Size (mi²)	Along-shore Span⁶ (mi)	Depth Range⁷ (ft)
Point Conception SMR	22.51	5.3	0 - 489
Campus Point SMR	10.13	2.8	0 - 701
Goleta Slough SMR	0.25	N/A	N/A
Big Sycamore Canyon SMR	13.07	3.6	0 - 1476
Deer Creek SMCA	5.82	1.6	0 - 497
Malibu SMR	10.32	2.8	0 - 372
Point Vicente SMR	10.50	2.8	12 - 2640
Portuguese Bend SMCA	13.81	3.7	0 - 2479
Point Fermin SMP	0.07	0.6	0 - 20
Bolsa Chica SMP	0.25	N/A	N/A
Upper Newport Bay SMCA	1.10	N/A	N/A
Crystal Cove SMCA	0.94	3.4	0 - 76
Laguna SMR	9.91	2.3	0 - 1801
Laguna Coast SMCA	0.52	2.2	0 - 49
Dana Point SMCA	1.05	2.5	0 - 63
Doheny Beach SMCA	0.19	0.9	0 - 13
Batiquitos Lagoon SMR	0.67	N/A	N/A
San Elijo Lagoon SMR	0.44	N/A	N/A
Del Mar SMR	10.75	3.0	0 - 1057
San Dieguito Lagoon SMR	0.52	N/A	N/A
La Jolla SMR	0.77	1.1	0 - 214
Ocean Beach SMCA	6.47	3.2	107 - 323
Sunset Cliffs SMR	2.90	1.8	0 - 127
Cabrillo SMR	0.38	1.3	0 - 30
Oneonta Slough SMR	0.75	N/A	N/A
Bird Rock SMCA	8.97	2.3	75 - 2616
Blue Cavern SMR	1.34	2.3	0 - 691
Cat Harbor SMCA	0.33	0.7	0 - 186
Farnsworth Bank SMCA	1.68	1.2	135 - 403
Casino Point SMR	0.01	0.1	0 - 73
Lover's Cove SMCA	0.06	0.4	0 - 188
Begg Rock SMR	37.96	6.9	219 - 374
San Clemente Island Pending Military Closure 1	17.44	3.9	0 - 1682
San Clemente Island Pending Military Closure 2	19.24	5.4	0 - 3938

⁵ Note: State MPAs around the Northern Channel Islands are to be part of all proposals, as directed by the California Fish and Game Commission and are notated by the footnote. MPAs listed below the broken line are those being proposed.

⁶ Note: Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other. Estuarine MPAs are not given an alongshore span.

⁷ Note: Comprehensive bathymetric data for all estuaries is not available. Though bathymetric data do exist in portions of some estuaries, depth ranges are not provided for estuarine MPAs for consistency in evaluations.

Habitat Representation in Revised External MPA Proposal A

Habitat ⁸	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal												
Sandy or gravel beach*	27.08	7%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	12.49	3%	6.04	2%	45.61	12%
Rocky shores*	42.86	15%	0.00	0%	0.54	<1%	13.94	5%	1.82	1%	59.15	21%
Hardened shores*	3.12	1%	0.00	0%	0.92	<1%	1.46	<1%	0.11	<1%	5.62	2%
Coastal marsh*	17.26	29%	0.00	0%	2.49	4%	7.24	12%	0.00	0%	26.99	45%
Coastal marsh	1.19	20%	0.00	0%	0.08	1%	0.74	12%	0.00	0%	2.01	33%
Tidal flats*	2.57	9%	0.00	0%	0.99	3%	2.64	9%	0.00	0%	6.21	22%
Seagrass beds												
Surfgrass*	24.51	34%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	4.55	6%	3.09	4%	32.15	44%
Eelgrass	0.20	4%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.20	4%
Estuarine												
Estuary	2.63	6%	0.00	0%	0.25	1%	1.10	3%	0.00	0%	3.97	9%
Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	29.29	7%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	4.26	1%	0.01	<1%	33.56	8%
0-30 meters proxy*. ⁹	37.49	10%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	13.28	4%	1.30	<1%	52.07	14%
30-100 meters	107.84	16%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	17.46	3%	0.96	<1%	126.26	19%
100-200 meters	36.13	23%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	3.37	2%	0.00	0%	39.50	25%
>200 meters	19.23	8%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	14.28	6%	0.00	0%	33.51	14%
Hard bottom												
0-30 meters	8.72	8%	0.00	0%	0.07	<1%	1.44	1%	1.79	2%	12.02	11%
0-30 meters proxy*. ⁹	19.89	10%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	4.61	2%	7.02	4%	31.51	16%
30-100 meters	8.75	18%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.69	1%	1.07	2%	10.51	22%
100-200 meters	0.83	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	0.83	21%
>200 meters	0.04	2%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.21	10%	0.00	0%	0.26	12%
Unknown												
0-30 meters	5.98	4%	0.00	0%	0.25	<1%	2.77	2%	0.46	<1%	9.46	6%
30-100 meters	28.60	13%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	4.49	2%	5.89	3%	38.98	18%
100-200 meters	21.48	19%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.59	1%	6.42	6%	28.49	25%
>200 meters	24.96	12%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.49	<1%	20.08	10%	45.52	23%

Habitat ⁸	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Kelp forest												
Maximum kelp*	33.36	10%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	6.63	2%	8.43	3%	48.42	14%
Kelp persistence*	16.65	9%	0.00	0%	0.11	<1%	2.27	1%	7.02	4%	26.04	14%

⁸ Note: Habitats measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

⁹ Note: There is limited fine scale data for nearshore habitat, shallower than 10-20 meters depth, in the south coast study region. A proxy for this area was created using a line parallel to the coast and classifying the substrate as either hard or soft substrate depending on the dominant habitat type in that area based on available data.