

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative South Coast Project
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in
MLPA South Coast Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA) MPA Proposal
Document updated November 25, 2009

Table 1. Summary of MPAs by Designation for IPA

Type of MPA ^a	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	28	274.07	11.7%
State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA)	0	0.00	0.0%
State Marine Park (SMP)	1	1.97	0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	19	74.58	3.2%
Undesignated	2	36.68	1.6%
All MPAs combined	50	387.30	16.5%

^a 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.

Table 2. Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for IPA

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High ^b	28	274.07	11.7%
High	8	52.37	2.2%
Moderate-High	1	0.06	0.0%
Moderate	0	0.00	0.0%
Low ^c	11	24.12	1.0%
Not applicable ^d	2	36.68	1.6%
Total	50	387.30	16.5%

^b The “Very High” category includes MPAs with SMR designation, as well as MPAs with a SMRMA designation.

^c The “Low” category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low and lower level of protection.

^d These are the pending military closures. These are not assigned a level of protection.

Table 3. Individual MPAs in IPA

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore Span ^e (mi)	Depth Range ^f (ft)
Richardson Rock SMR ^g	40.69	6.3	95 - 558
Judith Rock SMR ^g	4.55	1.2	0 - 487
Harris Point SMR ^g	25.35	5.4	0 - 557
South Point SMR ^g	13.05	3.5	0 - 1071
Carrington Point SMR ^g	12.76	4.0	0 - 211
Skunk Point SMR ^g	1.39	2.2	0 - 83
Painted Cave SMCA ^g	1.78	1.9	0 - 291
Gull Island SMR ^g	19.91	4.8	0 - 2205
Scorpion SMR ^g	9.62	2.6	0 - 769
Footprint SMR ^g	7.05	4.7	171 - 1656
Anacapa Island SMCA ^g	7.30	2.0	0 - 490
Anacapa Island SMR ^g	11.54	3.1	0 - 709
Santa Barbara Island SMR ^g	12.76	1.0	0 - 1655
Point Conception SMR	22.51	5.3	0 - 489
Kashtayit SMP	1.97	1.9	0 - 165
Naples SMCA	2.58	1.9	0 - 162
Campus Point SMR	10.42	2.9	0 - 748
Goleta Slough SMR	0.25	N/A	Depth data not available
Point Dume SMCA	15.85	4.2	0 - 2023
Point Dume SMR	7.43	1.9	0 - 1987
Point Vicente SMR	15.12	3.7	0 - 2640
Abalone Cove SMCA	4.75	1.2	0 - 2181
Bolsa Chica SMCA	0.07	N/A	Depth data not available
Bolsa Chica SMR	0.65	N/A	Depth data not available
Upper Newport Bay SMCA	1.28	N/A	Depth data not available
Crystal Cove SMCA	3.39	4.3	0 - 239
Laguna SMR	9.69	2.9	0 - 1408
Dana Point SMCA	3.39	3.9	0 - 152
Batiquitos Lagoon SMR	0.48	N/A	Depth data not available
Swami's SMCA	9.67	2.7	0 - 979
San Elijo Lagoon SMR	0.44	N/A	Depth data not available
San Diego-Scripps Coastal SMCA	1.41	1.1	0 - 366
Matlahuayl SMR	1.10	1.2	0 - 331
South La Jolla SMCA	2.27	1.7	147 - 274
South La Jolla SMR	4.63	1.7	0 - 176
Famosa Slough SMR	0.03	N/A	Depth data not available
Cabrillo SMR	0.38	1.3	0 - 30
Tijuana River Mouth SMCA	2.90	2.3	0 - 55

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore Span ^e (mi)	Depth Range ^f (ft)
Arrow Point to Lion Head Point SMCA	0.67	2.9	0 - 259
Bird Rock SMCA	7.70	2.3	267 - 2616
Blue Cavern SMR	2.62	2.3	0 - 892
Cat Harbor SMCA	0.25	0.5	0 - 186
Long Point SMR	1.67	2.0	0 - 749
Farnsworth Offshore SMCA	6.67	2.6	135 - 1909
Farnsworth Onshore SMCA	2.57	2.6	0 - 291
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 Pending Military Closure 1	17.44	3.9	0 - 1682
San Clemente Pending Military Closure 2	19.24	5.4	0 - 3938

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

^f 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.

^g 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. Table 4. Habitat Representation in IPA

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Habitat ^h	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal												
Sandy or gravel beach*	26.73	7%	0.00	0%	0.46	<1%	20.97	6%	6.04	2%	54.20	14%
Rocky shores*	47.28	17%	0.00	0%	1.43	1%	19.11	7%	1.82	1%	69.63	25%
Hardened shores*	0.19	<1%	0.00	0%	0.02	<1%	3.15	1%	0.11	<1%	3.48	1%
Coastal marsh*	8.54	14%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	9.05	15%	0.00	0%	17.59	30%
Coastal marsh	1.01	17%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.77	13%	0.00	0%	1.77	29%
Tidal flats*	0.56	2%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	5.04	18%	0.00	0%	5.60	19%
Seagrass beds												
Surfgrass*	29.41	13%	0.00	0%	1.26	1%	15.59	7%	2.74	1%	49.00	22%
Eelgrass	0.19	5%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.19	5%
Estuarine												
Estuary	1.84	4%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.36	3%	0.00	0%	3.20	7%
Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	21.81	5%	0.00	0%	1.33	0%	12.51	3%	0.01	<1%	35.67	8%
0-30 meters proxy*, ⁱ	35.77	10%	0.00	0%	1.89	1%	21.88	6%	1.30	<1%	60.85	17%
30-100 meters	97.44	14%	0.00	0%	0.16	<1%	26.90	4%	0.96	<1%	125.45	19%
100-200 meters	33.82	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	6.63	4%	0.00	0%	40.45	26%

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Habitat ^h	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
>200 meters	19.91	8%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	17.92	8%	0.00	0%	37.82	16%
Hard bottom												
0-30 meters	10.57	9%	0.00	0%	0.09	<1%	3.36	3%	1.79	2%	15.82	14%
0-30 meters proxy ^{*,i}	21.90	11%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	10.29	5%	7.02	4%	39.20	20%
30-100 meters	8.89	19%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.14	2%	1.07	2%	11.10	23%
100-200 meters	0.69	18%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.03	1%	0.00	0%	0.72	18%
>200 meters	0.87	41%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.02	1%	0.00	0%	0.90	42%
Unknown												
0-30 meters	3.49	2%	0.00	0%	0.38	<1%	2.34	2%	0.46	<1%	6.66	4%
30-100 meters	28.37	13%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.31	1%	5.89	3%	35.57	17%
100-200 meters	21.21	19%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.52	<1%	6.42	6%	28.15	25%
>200 meters	24.85	12%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.49	<1%	20.05	10%	45.39	22%
Kelp forest												
Maximum kelp [*]	38.27	11%	0.00	0%	1.15	<1%	13.71	4%	8.43	3%	61.56	18%
Kelp persistence [*]	17.01	9%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	6.79	4%	7.02	4%	30.82	17%

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

ⁱ 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.