

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
South Coast Study Region: Round 2 Evaluation
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in Proposal 0 (Existing MPAs)
June 9, 2009

Summary of MPAs by Designation for Proposal 0 (Existing MPAs)

Type of MPA ¹	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	15	161.0	6.9%
State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA)	0	0.0	0.0%
State Marine Park (SMP)	8	2.7	0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	19	17.8	0.8%
Undesignated	0	0.0	0.0%
All MPAs combined	42	181.5	7.7%

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, which are not part of the network of existing state MPAs..

Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for Proposal 0 (Existing MPAs)

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High ²	15	161.0	6.9%
High	1	0.5	0.0%
Moderate-High	0	0.0	0.0%
Moderate	0	0.0	0.0%
Low ³	26	7.5	0.3%
Not applicable ⁴	0	0.0	0.0%
Total	42	181.5	7.7%

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 Proposal 0 (Existing MPAs)⁶

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore Span ⁷ (mi)	Depth Range ⁸ (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

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MPA Name	Size (mi²)	Along-shore Span⁷ (mi)	Depth Range⁸ (ft)
Refugio SMCA	1.03	2.6	0 - 51
Goleta Slough SMP	0.25	N/A	N/A
Big Sycamore Canyon SMR	2.22	2.5	0 - 130
Abalone Cove SMP	0.10	0.8	0 - 10
Point Fermin SMP	0.07	0.6	0 - 20
Bolsa Chica SMP	0.25	N/A	N/A
Upper Newport Bay SMP	1.10	N/A	N/A
Robert E Badham SMCA	0.02	0.6	0 - 10
Crystal Cove SMCA	1.80	3.1	0 - 136
Irvine Coast SMCA	0.35	3.1	0 - 14
Heisler Park SMR	0.04	0.4	0 - 11
Laguna Beach SMCA	0.77	4.4	0 - 41
South Laguna Beach SMCA	0.05	0.4	0 - 22
Niguel SMCA	0.49	2.0	0 - 53
Dana Point SMCA	0.20	0.8	0 - 34
Doheny SMCA	0.14	1.1	0 - 10
Doheny Beach SMCA	0.19	1.2	0 - 14
Agua Hedionda Lagoon SMR	0.04	N/A	N/A
Batiquitos Lagoon SMP	0.28	N/A	N/A
Encinitas SMCA	0.11	0.9	0 - 10
Cardiff-San Elijo SMCA	1.21	2.1	0 - 59
San Elijo Lagoon SMP	0.44	N/A	N/A
San Dieguito Lagoon SMP	0.19	N/A	N/A
San Diego-Scripps SMCA	0.11	0.5	0 - 10
La Jolla SMCA	0.53	1.1	0 - 214
Mia J Tegner SMCA	0.02	0.6	0 - 10
Catalina Marine Science Center SMR	0.06	0.8	0 - 111
Farnsworth Bank SMCA	1.68	1.2	135 - 403
Lover's Cove SMCA	0.02	0.3	0 - 10

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: Buena Vista Lagoon SMP is an additional existing MPA that is located outside of the MLPA South Coast Study Region. Statistics for this MPA are not included in this summary because it is not located within the study region.

⁷ Note: Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other. Estuarine MPAs are not given an alongshore span.

⁸ 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 Proposal 0 (Existing MPAs)

Habitat ⁹	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal												
Sandy or gravel beach*	10.32	3%	0.00	0%	0.86	<1%	16.15	4%	0.00	0%	27.34	7%
Rocky shores*	33.16	12%	0.00	0%	0.94	<1%	16.86	6%	0.00	0%	50.95	18%
Hardened shores*	0.05	<1%	0.00	0%	1.23	<1%	0.55	<1%	0.00	0%	1.82	1%
Coastal marsh*	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	16.91	28%	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	16.92	28%
Coastal marsh	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	1.31	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.32	22%
Tidal flats*	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	3.91	14%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	3.91	14%
Seagrass beds												
Surfgrass*	14.27	20%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.29	2%	0.00	0%	15.56	21%
Eelgrass	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.06	1%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.06	1%
Estuarine												
Estuary	0.04	<1%	0.00	0%	2.51	6%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	2.55	6%
Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	16.57	4%	0.00	0%	0.02	<1%	3.71	1%	0.00	0%	20.30	5%
0-30 meters proxy* ¹⁰	24.06	7%	0.00	0%	0.10	<1%	11.55	3%	0.00	0%	35.71	10%
30-100 meters	44.48	7%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	8.14	1%	0.00	0%	52.62	8%
100-200 meters	12.83	8%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.32	<1%	0.00	0%	13.15	8%
>200 meters	1.49	1%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.49	1%
Hard bottom												
0-30 meters	4.67	4%	0.00	0%	0.12	<1%	1.38	1%	0.00	0%	6.17	6%
0-30 meters proxy* ¹⁰	11.30	6%	0.00	0%	0.10	<1%	3.19	2%	0.00	0%	14.59	8%
30-100 meters	3.95	8%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.49	1%	0.00	0%	4.44	9%
100-200 meters	0.47	12%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	0.48	12%
>200 meters	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
Unknown												
0-30 meters	2.25	1%	0.00	0%	0.03	<1%	1.94	1%	0.00	0%	4.22	3%
30-100 meters	28.34	13%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.30	1%	0.00	0%	29.64	14%
100-200 meters	21.03	19%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.52	<1%	0.00	0%	21.55	19%
>200 meters	24.90	12%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	24.90	12%

Habitat ⁹	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Kelp forest												
Maximum kelp*	21.84	6%	0.00	0%	0.12	0%	4.22	1%	0.00	0%	26.17	8%
Kelp persistence*	11.33	6%	0.00	0%	0.12	0%	1.73	1%	0.00	0%	13.17	7%

⁹ Note: Habitats measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

¹⁰ 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.