

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
North Central Coast Project
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in MPA Proposal 4
Revised April 29, 2008**

Overall Summary for Proposal 4 (March 19, 2008 version)

Type of MPA ^{1,2}	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR) ³	15	105.0	13.8%
State Marine Park (SMP)	1	2.9	0.4%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	12	97.1	12.7%
All MPAs combined	28	204.9	26.9%

¹ Note: These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT).

² Note: SMCA = state marine conservation area, SMP = state marine park, SMR = state marine reserve and SMRMA = state marine recreational management area.

³ Note: The SMR category groups together SMRs and SMRMAs.

Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for Proposal 4 (March 19, 2008 version)

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High	15	105.0	13.8%
High	3	30.9	4.0%
Moderate-High	3	36.3	4.8%
Moderate	3	16.6	2.2%
Low ⁴	4	16.1	2.1%
Total	28	204.9	26.9%

⁴ Note: The Low category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low or low LOP.

Individual MPAs in Proposal 4 (March 19, 2008 version)

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore span ⁵ (mi)	Depth range (ft)
Point Arena SMR	5.05	3.4	0-175
Point Arena SMCA	7.42	3.4	153-324
Sea Lion Cove SMCA	0.22	0.7	0-39
Saunders Reef SMCA	10.50	3.0	0-276
Del Mar Landing SMR	0.22	0.6	0-87
Stewarts Point SMR	28.52	7.6	0-298
Salt Point SMP	2.86	2.3	0-241
Gerstle Cove SMR	0.01	0.2	0-10
Russian River Estuary SMR	0.35	1.8	0-10
Russian River SMCA	0.86	1.0	0-57
Bodega SMR	9.99	5.8	0-222
Bodega SMCA	10.49	5.8	141-267
Estero de Americano SMR	0.15	1.2	0-10
Estero de San Antonio SMR	0.09	1.0	0-10
Tomales Bay SMR	0.66	1.2	0-10
Point Reyes SMR	9.44	7.5	0-132
Point Reyes SMCA	12.14	4.2	51-217
Drakes Estero SMR	1.49	5.3	0-10
Drakes Estero SMCA	2.55	5.6	0-10
Double Point SMCA	12.29	4.9	0-139

Individual MPAs in Proposal 4 (continued)

Duxbury SMCA	15.50	3.6	0-150
Agate Beach Intertidal SMCA	0.26	1.1	0-10
Devil's Slide SMCA	11.89	3.2	0-143
Fitzgerald SMR	13.01	3.4	0-170
San Gregorio SMR	12.53	3.5	0-140
North Farallon SMR	18.13	NA	0-275
Southeast Farallon SMR	5.31	NA	0-238
Southeast Farallon SMCA	12.94	NA	130-382

⁵ Note: Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other.

Habitat Representation in Proposal 4 (March 19, 2008 version)

Habitat	Area ⁶ (mi ²) and percentage of mapped habitat in proposed MPA designations in the study region ⁷			
	SMR ⁸	SMP	SMCA	Total MPAs
Intertidal				
Sandy or gravel beach *	17.61 (15%)	0.45 (0%)	10.25 (9%)	28.31 (24%)
Rocky intertidal & cliff *	38.49 (23%)	4.35 (3%)	21.75 (13%)	64.59 (39%)
Coastal marsh	0.70 (45%)	0.00 (0%)	0.21 (14%)	0.92 (59%)
Tidal flats*	4.93 (27%)	0.00 (0%)	1.44 (8%)	6.38 (35%)
Seagrass beds				
Surfgrass*	14.38 (21%)	0.00 (0%)	15.46 (22%)	29.84 (43%)
Eelgrass	1.43 (24%)	0.00 (0%)	2.35 (39%)	3.79 (63%)
Estuary				
Estuary	2.54 (13%)	0.00 (0%)	2.52 (13%)	5.06 (26%)
Soft bottom				
0-30 meters*	8.86 (9%)	0.30 (0%)	11.50 (11%)	20.67 (20%)
30-100 meters	56.92 (14%)	1.31 (0%)	63.57 (15%)	121.80 (29%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hard bottom				
0-30 meters*	23.98 (30%)	2.94 (4%)	4.97 (6%)	31.88 (40%)
30-100 meters	13.91 (27%)	0.67 (1%)	4.15 (8%)	18.74 (36%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Substrate < 50 m deep				
Hard substrate	15.27 (25%)	0.77 (1%)	5.81 (9%)	21.85 (35%)
Soft substrate	24.73 (9%)	0.11 (0%)	35.23 (13%)	60.07 (22%)
Kelp forest				
Kelp 1989	0.59 (18%)	0.17 (5%)	0.56 (17%)	1.32 (41%)
Kelp 1999	0.25 (14%)	0.05 (3%)	0.15 (8%)	0.45 (25%)
Kelp 2002	0.52 (28%)	0.24 (13%)	0.08 (4%)	0.84 (46%)
Kelp 2003	0.17 (14%)	0.03 (3%)	0.20 (17%)	0.41 (34%)
Kelp 2004	0.21 (15%)	0.10 (7%)	0.19 (13%)	0.50 (35%)
Kelp 2005	0.07 (8%)	0.00 (0%)	0.23 (25%)	0.30 (33%)
Average Kelp*	9.43 (27%)	3.20 (9%)	2.73 (8%)	15.37 (44%)

⁶ Note: Habitats measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

⁷ Note: These are proposed MPA designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the SAT

⁸ Note: The SMR category groups together SMRs and SMRMAs.

⁹ Note: The "NA" notation is due to the fact that these habitats are not found or are only found in small areas in this study region.

Special Closures in Proposal 4 (March 19, 2008 version)

Geography	Boundary	Area (mi²)	Seasonality	Species Intended to Protect
Arched Rock	300 ft.	0.02	Year round	Intended to protect four breeding species of seabirds (e.g. Brandt's cormorant, Western Gull, Pelagic Cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot).
Gull Rock	300 ft.	0.02	Year round	Intended to protect 6 breeding species of seabirds (e.g. Brandt's cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Pelagic Cormorant, Western Gull, Black Oystercatcher, Double-crested Cormorant). Also protects a large harbor seal haul out and rookery.
Pt. Reyes Headlands	1000 ft	0.65	Year round	Intended to protect the third largest seabird colony in the north central coast, including nine nesting seabird species (e.g. Pelagic Cormorant, Common Murre, Western Gull, Brandt's cormorant, Brown Pelican Pigeon Guillemot, Rhinoceros Auklet) Also protects elephant seal rookery.
Stormy Stack	300 ft.	0.02	Year round	Intended to protect 2nd largest seabird breeding colony in the southern subregion (e.g. Common Murre, Brandt's cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Ashy storm-petrel and roosting Brown Pelican). Harbor seals haul-out and breed along beach; California sea lions haul out on islets.
Egg Rock	1000 ft. (from big rock in the middle)	0.12	Year round	Intended to protect Common Murre and Brandt's cormorant colony on Egg Rock. Site of a significant seabird recovery project by USFWS. Roosting Brown Pelicans on rock and mainland.
North Farallons	1000ft (around North Island) 300ft (around North Island & Isle of St. James.	0.21	Year round	Intended to protect Steller sea lions haul out. More than 72,000 nesting seabirds that include: Common Murre, Pelagic Cormorant, Brandt's cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Western Gull, Cassin's Auklet
South Farallons	300 ft (except Fisherman's Bay and East Landing)	0.19	Year round	Intended to protect Steller sea lions haul out and rookery, as well as more than 180,000 seabirds.