

### What is a California marine protected area (or "MPA")?

An MPA is a type of managed area primarily set aside to protect or conserve marine life and habitats in marine or estuarine waters. California's MPA Network consists of 124 areas with varying levels of protection, and 14 special closures, all designed to help safeguard the state's marine ecosystems. Fishing and collecting are banned at marine reserves such as Lovers Point-Julia Platt State Marine Reserve, providing this MPA with the highest level of protection.

One goal for California's MPAs was to strategically place them near each other to form an interconnected network that would help to preserve the flow of life between marine ecosystems. Within that network each MPA has unique goals and regulations, and non-consumptive activities, permitted scientific research, monitoring, and educational pursuits may be allowed.

### Why was this location chosen for a state marine reserve?

One of the goals for Lovers Point-Julia Platt State Marine Reserve is to protect the surfgrass, boulder and pinnacle, kelp forest, and sandy seafloor habitat found there. The cold, nutrient rich water that rises from the depths of the Monterey Submarine Canyon helps to support a remarkable array of life within these habitats. The rocky reefs are covered with colorful anemones and attract large schools of blue rockfish, while cabezon, kelp rockfish, and octopus forage and hide from predators in the reef's cracks, crevices, and surge channels. Skates and rays hunt for food in the surfgrass beds, while flatfish such as California halibut lie camouflaged on the sandy seafloor waiting for their next meal to swim by.

This area was first protected in 1931 with establishment of the [Hopkins Marine Life Refuge](#). The reserve shares a western boundary with [Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area](#), and an eastern boundary with [Edward F. Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area](#). The reserve also overlaps a small portion of [Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary](#). Placing a state marine reserve here provides very high levels of protection for local marine species and the habitats they use.



Report poachers and polluters  
Call CalTIP: 1 (888) 334-2258

or text 847411 - begin message with "Caltip"  
followed by the details.



### Quick Facts: Lovers Point-Julia Platt State Marine Reserve

- **MPA size:** 0.30 square miles
- **Shoreline span:** 0.9 miles
- **Depth range:** 0 to 88 feet
- **Habitat composition:**  
Rock: 0.38 square miles  
Sand/mud: 0.14 square miles



Non-Consumptive Activities

No Fishing

No Collecting

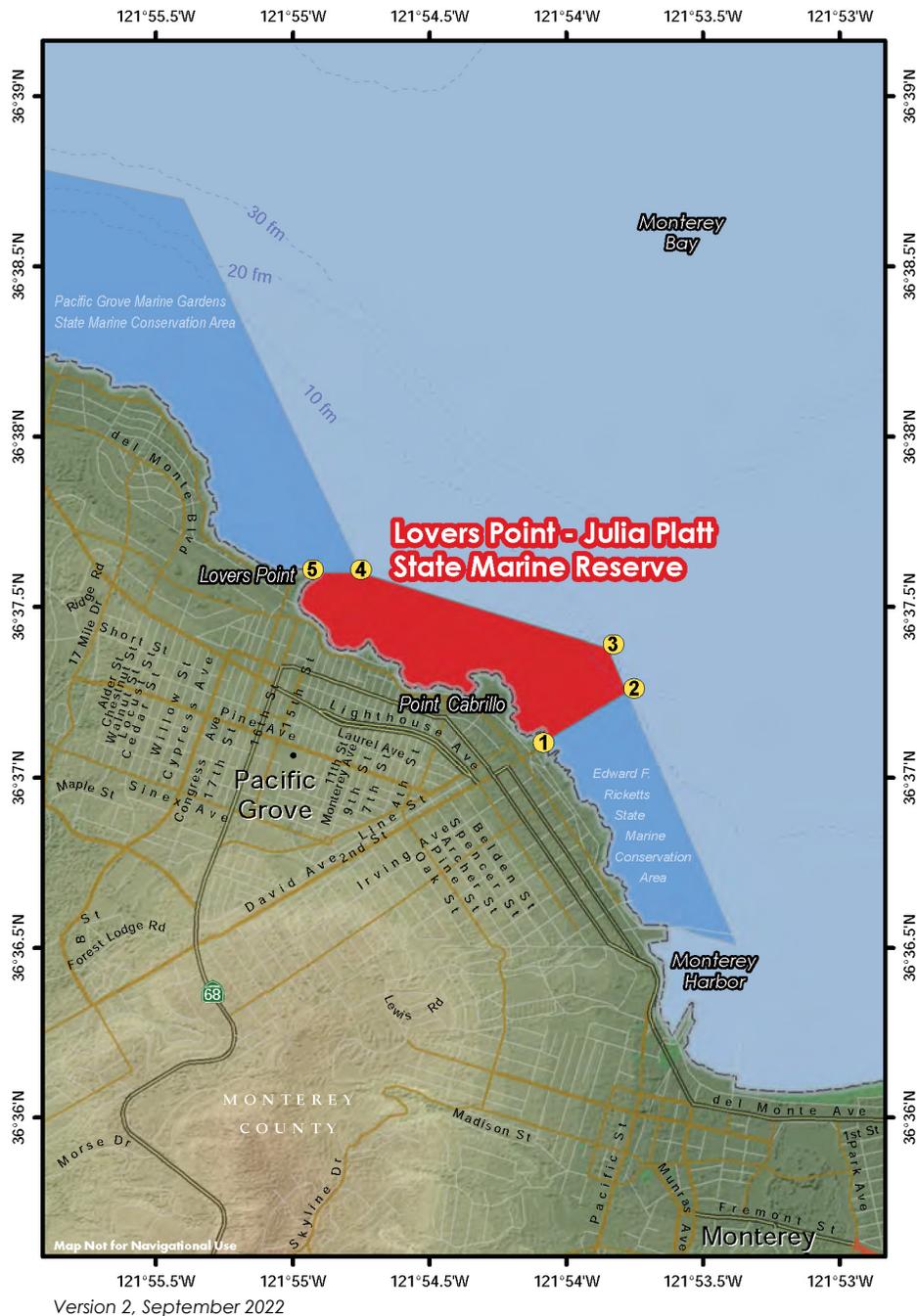
### Further Information:

- MPA Website: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs)
- MPA and Sportfishing Interactive Map: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/OceanSportfishMap](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OceanSportfishMap)
- Email: [AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov)

Photos - Upper: Lovers Point, at the western end of the marine reserve, photo © Ken Lund, CC BY-SA 2.0  
Lower right: Kelp rockfish and purple sea urchin at the reserve, photo © Francis Joyce, CC BY-NC 2.0  
Lower left: East Pacific red octopus in a tidepool at the reserve, photo © Hannah Sarver, CC BY-NC 2.0.

# Lovers Point - Julia Platt State Marine Reserve

Central California - Monterey County



## Lovers Point - Julia Platt State Marine Reserve Boundary and Regulations from California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632

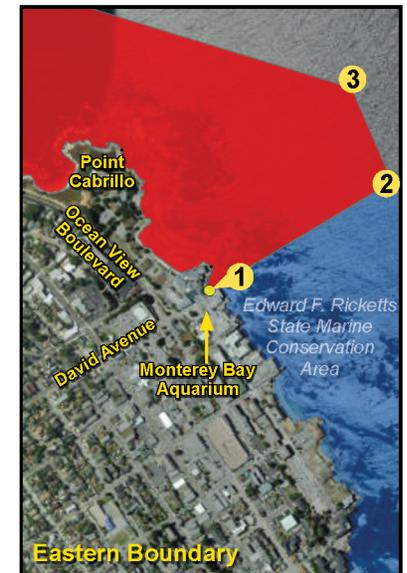
### Boundary:

This area is bounded by the mean high tide line and straight lines connecting the following points in the order listed:

- 36° 37.100' N. lat. 121° 54.093' W. long. ①;
- 36° 37.250' N. lat. 121° 53.780' W. long. ②;
- 36° 37.380' N. lat. 121° 53.850' W. long. ③;
- 36° 37.600' N. lat. 121° 54.750' W. long. ④; and
- 36° 37.600' N. lat. 121° 54.919' W. long. ⑤

### Permitted/Prohibited Uses:

It is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource.



Take may be authorized for research, restoration, and monitoring purposes under a scientific collecting permit. See California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632(a).

The information in this document does not replace the official regulatory language found in the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632. View these regulations online at [www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MFAs/Network](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MFAs/Network).