

What is a California marine protected area (or “MPA”)?

An MPA is a type of managed area whose main purpose is to protect or conserve marine life and habitats in ocean 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. Most marine conservation areas such as Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area provide some opportunity for commercial and/or recreational take (species and gear exceptions vary by location - see reverse).

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 conservation area?

The recreational take of marine invertebrates such as California spiny lobster has been prohibited at this location since 1980. One of the goals for Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area is to continue this long-time protection of marine invertebrates. Crevices and holes in the rock and boulder reefs here provide shelter for moray eels, lobster, and octopi, while kelp forests provide refuge and hunting grounds for kelp bass, turban snails, and señoritas. California halibut and bat rays inhabit the sandy stretches of seafloor, and eelgrass beds support pipefish and provide a nursery area for many species of young fish and invertebrates. Indian Rock, a small island in Emerald Bay, is a significant resting area for seabirds such as the brown pelican and Brandt's cormorant, and serves as a nesting site for the western grebe.

Placing a state marine conservation area here provides moderately high levels of protection for marine life and the habitats they use by prohibiting the recreational take of all invertebrates.



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followed by the details.



Quick Facts: Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area

- **MPA size:** 0.65 square miles
- **Shoreline Span:** 2.9 miles
- **Depth range:** 0 to 259 feet
- **Habitat composition:**
Sand/mud: 0.55 square miles
Rock: 0.22 square miles



Non-Consumptive
Activities

Fishing
See Regulations
On Back

No Collecting
Invertebrates

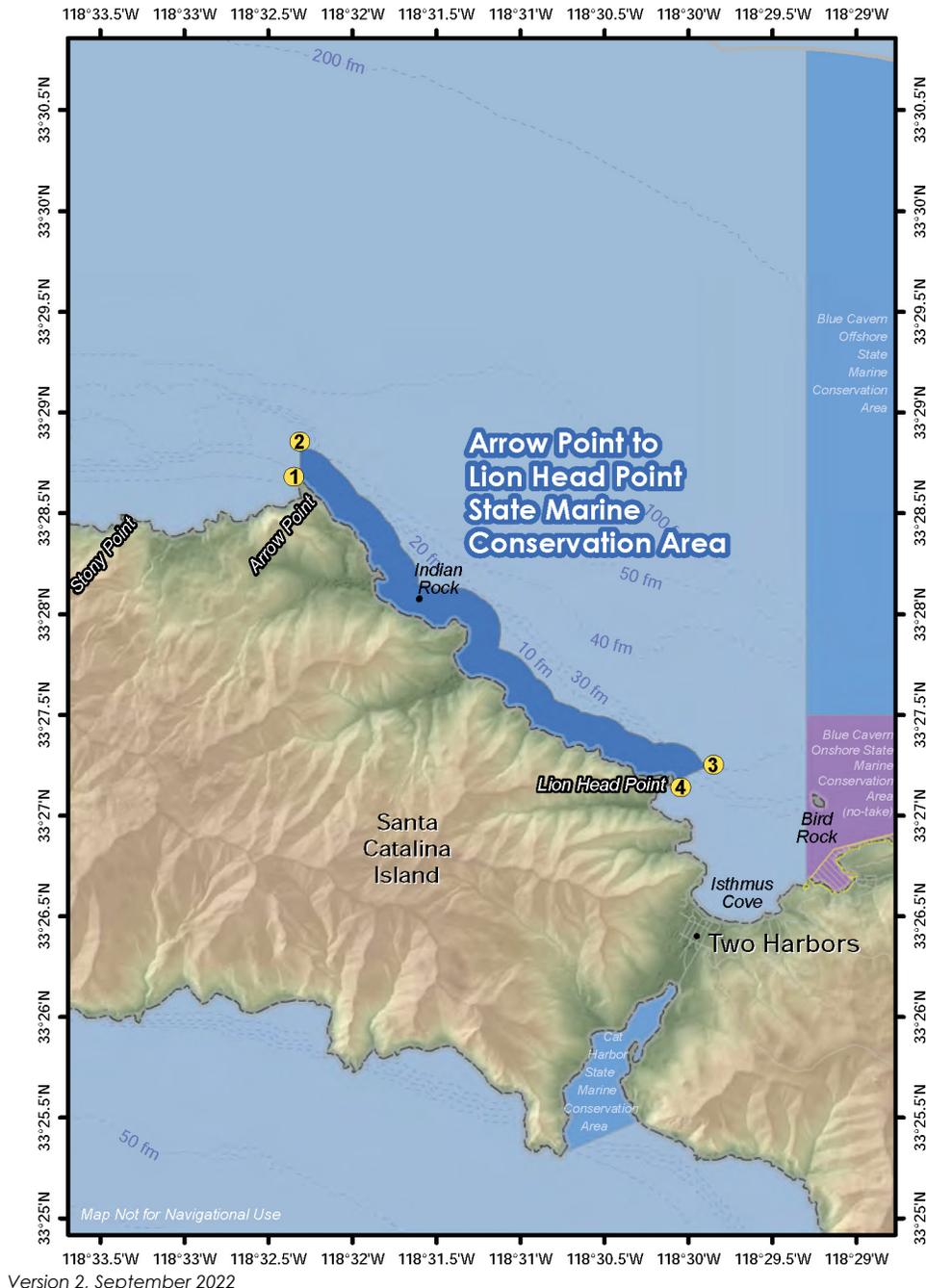
Further Information:

- MPA Website: www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs
- MPA and Sportfishing Interactive Map: www.wildlife.ca.gov/OceanSportfishMap
- Email: AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov

Photos - Upper: Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area. photo © Mike Rose, CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 **Lower right: Moray eel in a rocky reef at the conservation area.** photo © emshaph, CC BY-NC 2.0 **Lower left: California spiny lobster enjoys full protection in the conservation area.** photo © emshaph CC BY-NC 2.0

Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area

Santa Catalina Island



Arrow Point to Lion Head Point State Marine Conservation Area Boundary and Regulations from California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632

Boundary:

This area is bounded by the mean high tide line to a distance of 1,000 feet seaward of the mean lower low tide line of any shoreline southeastward of a line connecting the following two points:

- 33° 28.652' N. lat. 118° 32.310' W. long. ①; and
 - 33° 28.820' N. lat. 118° 32.310' W. long. ②;
- and northwestward of a line connecting the following two points:
- 33° 27.240' N. lat. 118° 29.900' W. long. ③; and
 - 33° 27.174' N. lat. 118° 30.089' W. long. ④

Permitted/Prohibited Uses:

1. It is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource for recreational and/or commercial purposes, with the following specified exceptions:
 - a. All recreational take is allowed in accordance with current regulations, except the recreational take of invertebrates is prohibited.
 - b. All commercial take is allowed in accordance with current regulations.



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/MPAs/Network.