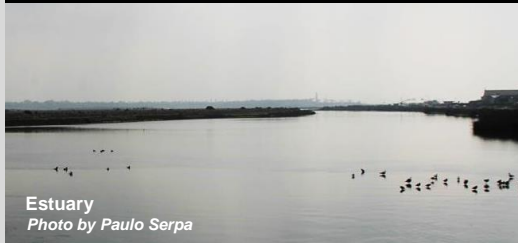


San Dieguito Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area

Southern California Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), *Established January 2012*



Estuary
Photo by Paulo Serpa



Marsh
Photo by Paulo Serpa



Bolsa Bay SMCA, gulls and
Snowy egret (*Egretta thula*)
Photo by Paulo Serpa

Site Overview

Photos are representative of the South Coast Region and may not be within this MPA.

What is an MPA?

MPAs are a type of [marine managed area](#) (MMA) where marine or estuarine waters are set aside primarily to protect or conserve marine life and associated habitats. California has a coastal network of 124 protected areas designed to help increase the coherence and effectiveness of protecting the state's marine life, habitats, and ecosystems. The network includes three types of MPA: [state marine reserve](#) (SMR), [state marine conservation area](#) (SMCA), and [state marine park](#) (SMP); one MMA: [state marine recreational management area](#) (SMRMA); and [special closures](#). There are 119 MPAs, 5 MMAs and 15 special closures, each with unique boundaries and regulations in the network. Non-consumptive activities, restoration, and permitted scientific research are allowed.

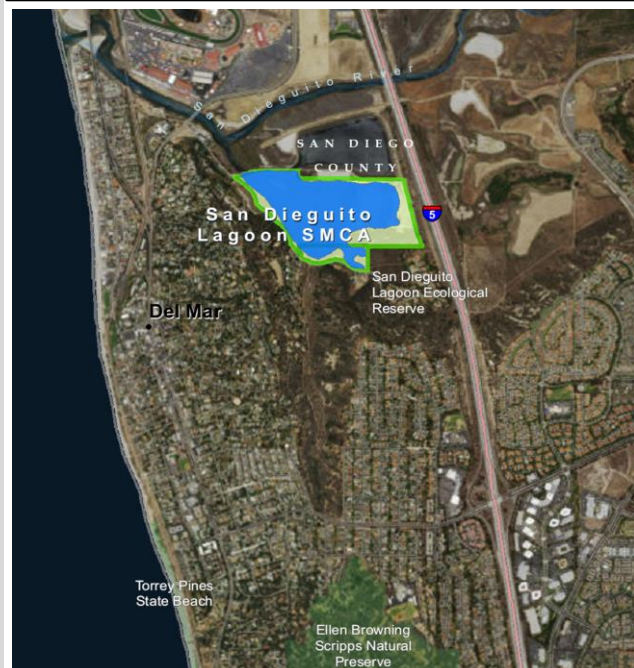
What is an SMCA?

An **SMCA** is a type of MPA that protects resources by allowing for only specific types of recreational and/or commercial take to occur. (Area restrictions are defined in [Title 14, Section 632\(a\)\(1\)\(C\)](#)).

San Dieguito Lagoon SMCA Overview & Key Habitats

- **MPA size:** 0.11 square miles
- **Marsh:** 0.03 square miles
- **Estuary:** 0.11 square miles
- **Unidentified (all depths):** 0.11 square miles

Where is San Dieguito Lagoon SMCA?



Boundaries and Regulations

Boundary: The recreational take by spearfishing of white seabass and [pelagic finfish](#) is allowed.

32° 58.066' N. lat. 117° 15.579' W. long.; and
32° 58.072' N. lat. 117° 15.548' W. long.

Only the following take is allowed in San Dieguito Lagoon SMCA: recreational take of [finfish](#) by hook-and-line from shore.

No person, except state and local law enforcement officers, fire suppression agencies and employees of the department in the performance of their official duties or persons possessing written permission from the department, shall be permitted on the California least tern nesting island. No person, except state and local law enforcement officers, fire suppression agencies and employees of the department in the performance of their official duties or persons possessing written permission from the department, shall enter this conservation area between 8:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. The County of San Diego, after consultation with the department, may carry out management activities for fish and wildlife, flood control and vector control. Authorized operation and maintenance activities shall include, but shall not be limited to, use of chemicals, vegetation control, water control and use of associated equipment. Collections of fish, wildlife, water and soil may be made by the department for the purposes of fish and wildlife management or by San Diego County for the purposes of water quality testing and vector control.

San Dieguito Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area

How and Why San Dieguito Lagoon was Chosen for an SMCA

MPAs were designed through a collaborative, regional public process by a cross-interest regional stakeholder group (RSG). Using scientific criteria, public input and local resource knowledge the RSG developed MPA proposals. RSG proposals included site specific rationale (why the site should be an MPA-*included below*), the classification (type of MPA), boundaries, and regulations. Final MPA proposals were sent to the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) for their adoption process. San Dieguito Lagoon SMCA was adopted by the Commission in 2012.

Rationale for San Dieguito Lagoon SMCA:

Prior to adoption in 2012, this site was an SMP. However, to be consistent with the type of allowed uses the Commission changed the designation of this area from an SMP to an SMCA. No changes to boundaries, take, or use regulations were made.

Species Likely to Benefit from the Establishment of MPAs in California

Species likely to benefit from establishing an MPA are those, whose home range, behavior, reproduction, exploitation rate or population status indicates that they may benefit from spatial management. This includes species that are directly targeted by fisheries, those which are caught incidental to fishing for the target species (bycatch) and which cannot be returned to the water with a high rate of survival, and those which may be indirectly impacted through ecological changes within MPAs.

For a list of species likely to benefit from MPAs statewide: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/species.asp

For a list of species likely to benefit from south coast MPAs: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b2q.pdf

South Coast Regional Resources

California MPA Overview:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Overview

South Coast Regional Goals and Objectives:

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b1n.pdf

California MLPA South Coast Study Region Description of MPAs:

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b1pv.pdf

Methods Used to Evaluate MPAs in the South Coast:

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b2b.pdf

MPA Research and Monitoring Activities:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Research-And-Monitoring

Regional MPA Statistics:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Statistics

Regional Planning History:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Planning-Process

California MPA Network Resources

Detailed MPA guidebooks maps and brochures:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network

California Marine Life Protection Act Marine Protected Areas Master Plan:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Master-Plan

Marine Life Protection Act Summary and Network Goals:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Goals



For more information, visit:

www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs

Email:

AskMPA@wildlife.ca.gov

MPA Mobile:



Report poaching and polluting,
Call CalTIP

1-888-334-2258

The information in this document does not replace the official regulatory language found in the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632 www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network/Title-14-Section-632