

Update

Marine Protected Area Management Program e-news

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SPECIAL SERIES: MPA Collaborative Network

San Diego County MPA Collaborative

Created in 2012, the [San Diego County Marine Protected Area \(MPA\) Collaborative](#) has supported local MPAs with talent and dedication. Members have led efforts to install local interpretive and regulatory [MPA signs](#) as well as distributing recreational brochures and fishing guides that also integrate Kumeyaay tribal practices and history into the resources.

Recently, the San Diego County MPA Collaborative joined with WildCoast to help the California Wildlife Officers Foundation host a “[Wags & Waves](#)” event to honor and highlight enforcement efforts of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) wildlife officers. They also designed and released a brand new [wildlife and recreation guide](#) providing an overview of local MPAs accompanied by beautiful illustrations of marine species commonly found off the San Diego coast.

Currently co-chaired by [Zach Plopper](#) of WildCoast and Isabelle Kay of UC San Diego Natural Reserve System, the San Diego County MPA Collaborative is comprised of members from over 40 organizations including city, state, and federal government agencies, non-profits, citizen scientists, tribes, commercial and recreational fishermen, and universities. “It’s an honor to work with such a diverse and experienced group of individuals,” commented Plopper. “It really shows that MPAs are a priority for this region.”

To learn more about the background of the MPA Collaborative Network please read CDFW’s overview [newsletter](#). If you would like to get involved with the San Diego County MPA Collaborative, or any of the other 13 Collaboratives, please visit [mpacollaborative.org](#) to find out when a meeting or event is happening near you.

Story by CDFW Environmental Scientist, Amanda Van Diggelen



Members of the San Diego County MPA Collaborative. Photo: MPA Collaborative Network

Current Projects

- MPA Outreach Toolkits – toolkits include lesson plans and activities that will help educators teach about the science of MPAs.
- MPA Ambassador Program – provides recreational outfitters (e.g., kayak shops) with training to increase visitor awareness of local MPAs and compliance with corresponding regulations. Upon completion, these businesses are labeled as MPA Ambassadors.

Resources

- [San Diego County MPA Wildlife and Recreation Guide](#)
- [San Diego MPA Collaborative County Fishing Guide](#)
- [San Diego MPA Collaborative Recreational Brochure](#)
- [YouTube Video: San Diego County MPAs](#)
- [San Diego County Educational Materials](#)

[Sign up](#) to receive these [MPA Management Program](#) newsletter updates. California’s MPA network is managed collaboratively through the MPA Management Program, which includes four focal areas: outreach and education, enforcement and compliance, research and monitoring, and policy and permitting.

QUESTIONS?

Please send all inquiries to ASKMPA@wildlife.ca.gov



LEARN!

Watch this [video](#) to learn how MPAs work to protect our resources.