

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
North Central Coast Project
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in MPA Proposal 1-3
Revised April 10, 2008

Overall Summary for Proposal 1-3 (March 19, 2008 version)

Type of MPA ^{1,2}	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR) ³	12	87.2	11.4%
State Marine Park (SMP)	1	0.1	<0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	10	77.3	10.1%
All MPAs combined	23	164.6	21.6%

¹ Note: These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA 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 1-3 (March 19, 2008 version)

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High	12	87.2	11.4%
High	2	19.7	2.6%
Moderate-High	2	18.9	2.5%
Moderate	4	25.6	3.4%
Low ⁴	3	13.2	1.7%
Total	23	164.6	21.6%

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

Individual MPAs in Proposal 1-3 (March 19, 2008 version)

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore span ⁵ (mi)	Depth range (ft)
Point Arena SMR	4.38	3.0	0-173
Point Arena SMCA	6.73	3.0	153-324
Saunders Reef SMCA	10.52	3.0	0-276
Del Mar Landing SMP	0.10	0.3	0-55
Rocky Pt to Horseshoe Pt SMR	20.50	5.4	0-294
Gerstle Cove SMR	0.01	0.2	0-10
Russian River SMR	0.35	1.8	0-10
Russian River SMCA	0.86	1.0	0-57
Bodega Head SMR	13.23	3.5	0-266
Bodega Head SMCA	6.82	2.1	0-267
Estero Americano SMR	0.14	1.2	0-10
Estero de San Antonio SMR	0.08	0.7	0-10
Point Reyes SMR	9.38	7.5	0-132
Point Reyes SMCA	12.11	4.2	51-217
Drakes & Limantour Estero SMR	1.49	5.3	0-10
Drakes Estero SMCA	2.55	5.6	0-10
Double Point SMCA	16.25	3.9	0-150
Duxbury Reef SMCA	0.08	1.8	0-10

Individual MPAs in Proposal 1-3 (continued)

Fitzgerald SMR	14.25	2.3	0-170
Montara SMCA	8.42	3.8	0-134
North Farallon Islands SMR	18.09	NA	0-275
Southeast Farallon Islands SMR	5.34	NA	0-238
Southeast Farallon Islands SMCA	12.95	NA	130-382

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

Habitat Representation in Proposal 1-3 (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 *	13.65 (11%)	0.00 (0%)	4.33 (4%)	17.98 (15%)
Rocky intertidal & cliff *	32.80 (20%)	0.45 (0%)	18.31 (11%)	51.56 (31%)
Coastal marsh	0.23 (15%)	0.00 (0%)	0.21 (14%)	0.45 (29%)
Tidal flats*	4.74 (26%)	0.00 (0%)	1.44 (8%)	6.19 (34%)
Seagrass beds				
Surfgrass*	13.19 (19%)	0.00 (0%)	9.51 (14%)	22.70 (33%)
Eelgrass	1.43 (24%)	0.00 (0%)	2.35 (39%)	3.78 (63%)
Estuary				
Estuary	1.87 (10%)	0.00 (0%)	2.52 (13%)	4.38 (23%)
Soft bottom				
0-30 meters*	5.32 (5%)	0.00 (0%)	6.11 (6%)	11.44 (11%)
30-100 meters	55.77 (13%)	0.00 (0%)	49.38 (12%)	105.15 (25%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hard bottom				
0-30 meters*	20.25 (25%)	0.00 (0%)	5.07 (6%)	25.32 (31%)
30-100 meters	9.35 (18%)	0.00 (0%)	6.24 (12%)	15.60 (30%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Substrate < 50 m deep				
Hard substrate	11.06(18%)	0.01 (0%)	6.27 (10%)	17.34 (28%)
Soft substrate	17.83 (7%)	0.00 (0%)	23.76 (9%)	41.59 (15%)
Kelp forest				
Kelp 1989	0.40 (12%)	0.00 (0%)	0.54 (17%)	0.94 (29%)
Kelp 1999	0.16 (9%)	0.00 (0%)	0.14 (8%)	0.30 (17%)
Kelp 2002	0.33 (18%)	0.00 (0%)	0.06 (3%)	0.39 (21%)
Kelp 2003	0.10 (8%)	0.00 (0%)	0.19 (16%)	0.29 (24%)
Kelp 2004	0.12 (9%)	0.00 (0%)	0.17 (12%)	0.30 (21%)
Kelp 2005	0.03 (4%)	0.00 (0%)	0.22 (25%)	0.26 (29%)
Average Kelp*	6.91 (20%)	0.00 (0%)	2.14 (6%)	9.06 (26%)

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 1-3 (March 19, 2008 version)

Geography	Boundary	Area (mi²)	Seasonality	Species Intended to Protect
Point Reyes	1000 ft.	0.65	Year round	Intended to protect the largest and most diverse seabird colony on the mainland in the entire study region (e.g. Common Murre, Pelagic Cormorant, Western Gull, Brandt's cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Rhinoceros Auklet, Ashy storm-petrel, Brown Pelican).
Point Resistance	500 ft.	0.03	Year round	Intended to protect 4 nesting seabird species, including: Common Murre, Brown Pelican, Pelagic Cormorant, and Pigeon Guillemot.
Stormy Stack	300 ft.	0.02	Year round	Intended to protect 2nd largest seabird breeding colony in the southern subregion (e.g. murre, Brandt's cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Ashy storm-petrel and Brown Pelicans). Harbor seals haul-out and breed along beach; California sea lions haul out on islets.
Egg Rock	1000 ft.	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 US Fish & Wildlife Service. Roosting Brown Pelicans on rock and mainland.
Bean Hollow	300 ft.	0.04	Seasonal (Feb-Aug)	Intended to protect harbor seal rookery and haul out.
North Farallon Islands	1000 ft 300 ft (around North Island and Isle of St. James)	0.21	Year round	Intended to protect Steller sea lion haul out and > 72,000 nesting seabirds (e.g. Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Pelagic Cormorant, Brandt's cormorant, Western Gull, Cassin's Auklet).
Southeast Farallon Islands	300 ft (except Fisherman's Bay and East Landing)	0.19	Year round	Intended to protect Steller (haul out and rookery) and California sea lions (haul out), Northern fur (breeding) and Northern elephant seals (breeding), and more than 180,000 seabirds.