

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 Ten Mile 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 Ten Mile State Marine Reserve is to protect a large swath of sandy seafloor, along with the rocky reef and gravel habitat found there. The sandy plain is ideal habitat for Dungeness crab and other inhabitants including sand dollars, sea whips, worms, and various species of flatfish, which bury themselves in the sediments. A rocky reef cuts through the reserve's sandy seafloor, providing refuge for white-plumed anemones, giant red sea cucumbers, and fan-like gorgonians, several species of crab and octopus, and many types of groundfish, such as rockfish, lingcod, and cabezon. Rocky marine terraces along the shore provide haul out areas for seals and sea lions, critical nesting and breeding sites for marine birds, and habitat for intertidal limpets, mussels, and various seaweeds.

[Ten Mile State Marine Reserve](#) shares a southern boundary with [Ten Mile Beach State Marine Conservation Area](#). 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: Ten Mile State Marine Reserve

- **MPA size:** 11.95 square miles
- **Shoreline span:** 3.2 miles
- **Depth range:** 0 to 343 feet
- **Habitat composition:**
 - Rock: 3.22 square miles
 - Sand/mud: 10.38 square miles



Non-Consumptive Activities



No Fishing



No Collecting

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: Coastline at Ten Mile State Marine Reserve, photo © John K, CC BY-NC-ND 2.0
Lower right: Rockfish at Ten Mile State Marine Reserve, CDFW/MARE photo.
Lower left: Furry crab at Ten Mile State Marine Reserve, photo © Mike Spencer, CC BY-NC 2.0

Ten Mile State Marine Reserve

Northern California - Mendocino County



Ten Mile State Marine Reserve Boundary and Regulations from California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632

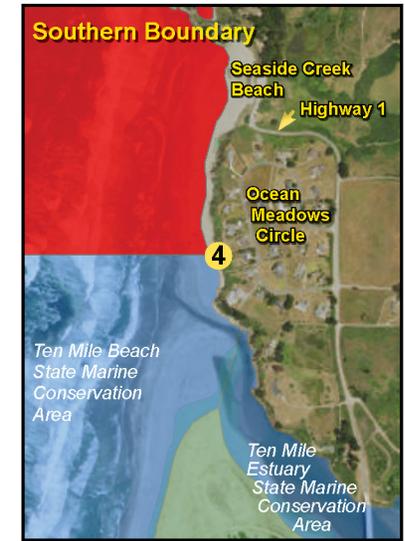
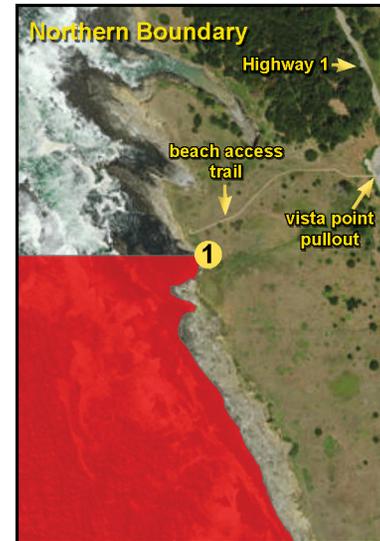
Boundary:

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

- 39° 35.900' N. lat. 123° 47.243' W. long. ①;
- 39° 35.900' N. lat. 123° 51.479' W. long. ②; thence southward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
- 39° 33.300' N. lat. 123° 50.559' W. long. ③; and
- 39° 33.300' N. lat. 123° 46.015' W. long. ④

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/CCR-T14-MPAs.