

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. The ban on collecting and fishing in no-take marine conservation areas such as Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area provides very high levels 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 conservation area?

One of the goals for Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area is to protect the sand/mud seafloor habitat at an array of depths, and the rocky sea floor, surfgrass, eelgrass, estuary, and kelp forest habitat near shore. A wide variety of marine species use these habitats, including surfperches and California halibut. [Natural oil seep](#) habitat is also found in this unique MPA. Its sandy beaches are a nesting area for snowy plover and a spawning ground for [California grunion](#).

This marine conservation area shares part of its shoreline border with the land-based [Coal Oil Point Reserve](#). Together, the MPA and natural reserve protect many different habitat types. Placing a no-take state marine conservation area here provides very high levels of protection for marine species and the habitats they use.

Quick Facts: Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area

- **MPA size:** 10.56 square miles
- **Shoreline Span:** 3.1 miles
- **Depth range:** 0 to 748 feet
- **Habitat composition:**
 - Sand/mud: 9.95 square miles
 - Rock: 1.17 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



Report poachers and polluters
Call CalTIP: 1 (888) 334-2258

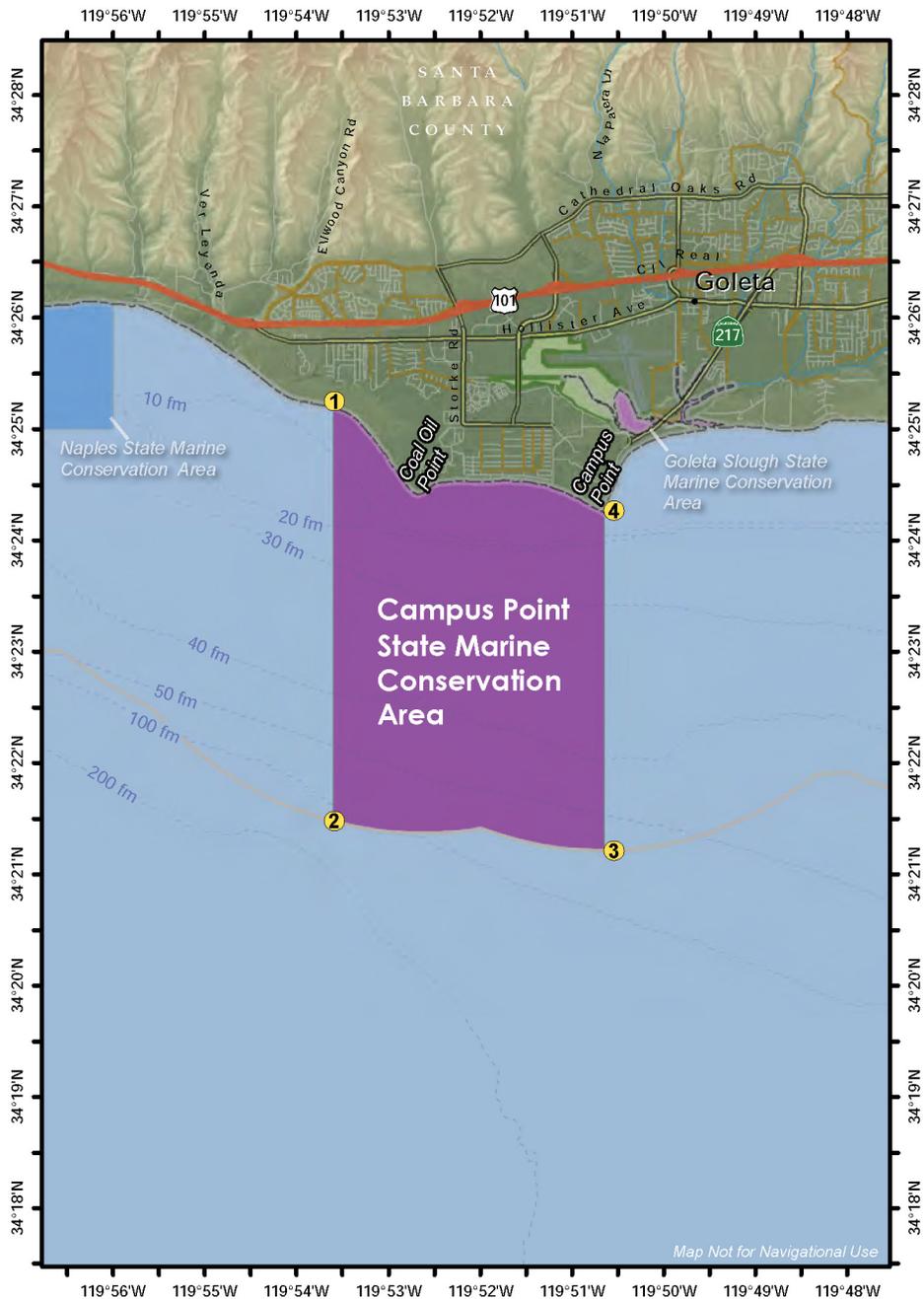
or text 847411 - begin message with "Caltip"
followed by the details.



Photos - Upper: Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area looking towards Isla Vista, photo © G. Beltz CC BY 2.0. Lower right: Camouflaged California halibut in the conservation area, photo © M. Mazza CC BY-NC 2.0. Lower left: Spanish shawl nudibranch in the conservation area, photo © Kristen CC BY-NC 2.0

Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area

Southern California - Santa Clara County



Version 2, September 2022

Campus Point State Marine Conservation Area Boundary and Regulations from California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632

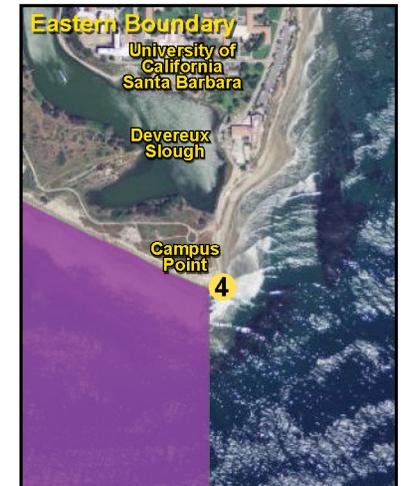
Boundary:

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

- 34° 25.207' N. lat. 119° 53.600' W. long. ①;
- 34° 21.475' N. lat. 119° 53.600' W. long. ②; thence eastward along the three nautical mile offshore boundary to
- 34° 21.212' N. lat. 119° 50.650' W. long. ③; and
- 34° 24.300' N. lat. 119° 50.650' W. long. ④

Permitted/Prohibited Uses:

1. It is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource for commercial and/or recreational purposes, with the following specified exceptions:
 - a. Take pursuant to the operation and maintenance of artificial structures inside the conservation area is allowed pursuant to any required federal, state and local permits, or as otherwise authorized by the Department.



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.