

### 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 Long Point 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.

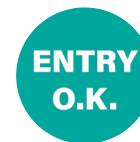
### Why was this location chosen for a state marine reserve?

One of the goals for Long Point State Marine Reserve is to protect the diverse sandy seafloor, kelp forest, surfgrass, and rocky reef habitat found there. The relatively calm waters of this wave-sheltered MPA provide easy access for scientists to study various habitats and the animals that reside there, including sand-dwelling fish and invertebrates, deepwater elk kelp, and one of the best-known giant sea bass spawning sites in California. Long Point extends seaward in a large ridge of rocky reef that reaches over 90 feet in depth. In deeper waters, elk kelp shelters rockfish, barracuda, and schools of mackerel, while the deep sandy sea floor is used by bottom-dwelling California halibut, flounder, and soles.

Placing a state marine reserve here provides very high levels of protection for local marine species and the habitats they use.

### Quick Facts: Long Point State Marine Reserve

- **MPA size:** 1.67 square miles
- **Shoreline span:** 2.3 miles
- **Depth range:** 0 to 749 feet
- **Habitat composition:**  
Rock: 0.03 square miles  
Sand/mud: 1.65 square miles



Non-Consumptive Activities

No Fishing

No Collecting

### Further Information:

- MPA Website: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs)
- MPA and Sportfishing Interactive Map: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/OceanSportfishMap](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OceanSportfishMap)
- Email: [AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:AskMarine@wildlife.ca.gov)

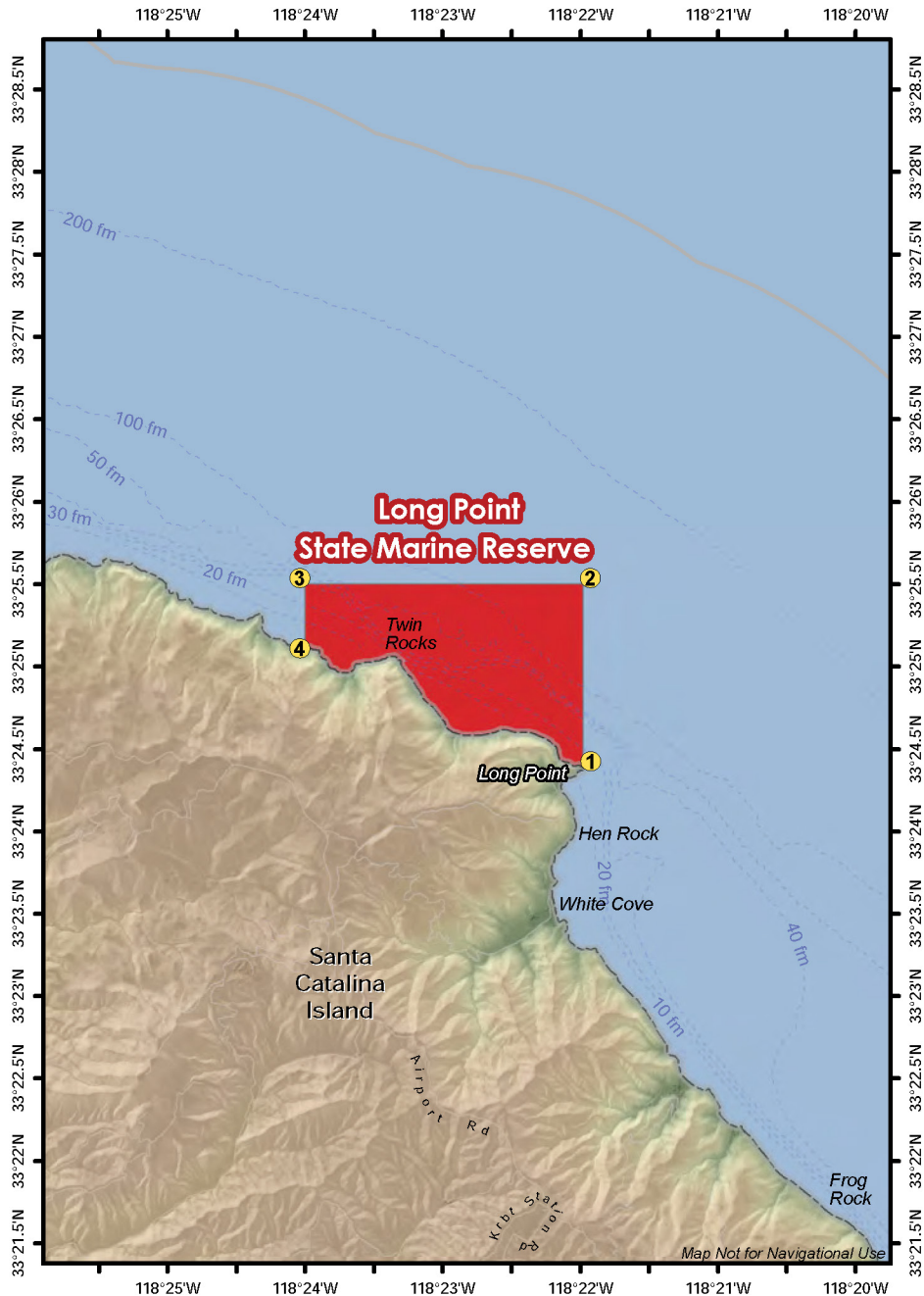
Photos - Upper: Long Point State Marine Reserve, near Long Point, photo by T. Mason  
Lower right: Garibaldi in the kelp forest at Long Point State Marine Reserve, NOAA photo  
Lower left: Fragile rainbow star at Long Point State Marine Reserve, photo © Stefanie, CC BY-NC 2.0



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

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





Version 2, September 2022

## Long Point 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:

- 33° 24.380' N. lat. 118° 21.980' W. long. ①;
- 33° 25.500' N. lat. 118° 21.980' W. long. ②;
- 33° 25.500' N. lat. 118° 24.000' W. long. ③; and
- 33° 25.102' N. lat. 118° 24.000' 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/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network).