

# Point Buchon State Marine Reserve and Marine Conservation Area

Factsheet

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## Size of MPA:

18.21 mi<sup>2</sup>

## Depth range of MPA:

Shore to 377 feet

## Key habitats protected:

Offshore rock formations, hydrocorals, kelp forest, rocky reef.



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**Point Buchon is an area with documented high diversity and abundance of fish and seabirds, remarkably clear water, underwater pinnacles, and some of the shallowest coldwater corals in the Central Coast.**

- The exceptionally high quality habitats found at Point Buchon support diverse assemblages of nearshore and deep rocky reef fish species, as well as intertidal invertebrates, seabird colonies and marine mammals. Over 800 taxa have been documented in this area. Protection of Point Buchon is expected to have spillover benefits to adjacent fished areas.
- The Point Buchon MPAs were designed to allow continued access to popular fishing grounds to both the north (near Morro Bay) and south (near Port San Luis) and to allow continued salmon and albacore fishing in the State Marine Conservation Area's deeper waters offshore.