

To protect, maintain, enhance  
and restore California's  
marine ecosystems for  
their ecological values and  
their use and enjoyment by  
the public through good  
science and effective  
communication.

California Department of  
Fish and Wildlife,  
Marine Region

Image above: Avalon Harbor (Mark Fisher)  
below: Garibaldi (Claire Fackler, NOAA)

## Catalina Island Harbors

Two Harbors Harbor Patrol (310) 510-4253  
Avalon Harbor Patrol (310) 510-0535

### California Department of Fish and Wildlife

For more information:  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

For boundaries and regulations, go to:  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov/marine/MPA](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/marine/MPA)

Help stop poaching & polluting, call:  
1-888-334-CALTIP (1-888-334-2258)

Report lost fishing gear:  
1-888-491-GEAR (4237)  
or  
[www.lostfishinggear.org](http://www.lostfishinggear.org)

Learn more about clean boating at:  
[www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com](http://www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com)  
415-904-6905

Help protect Seabirds!  
For tips and info on special closures, visit:  
[www.SeabirdProtectionNetwork.org](http://www.SeabirdProtectionNetwork.org)

This publication is available in  
alternate formats by contacting  
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation  
831-647-4209  
or [CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org](mailto:CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org)



Cover: left (Bart Selby); top right (Markel Connors);  
middle right (Claire Fackler); bottom right (Robert Schwemmer)

# A Guide to Fishing and Marine Protected Areas

## Catalina Island



Long Point State Marine Reserve

Casino Point and Blue Cavern Onshore No-Take State Marine  
Conservation Areas

Lover's Cove, Blue Cavern Offshore, Arrow Point  
to Lion Head Point, Cat Harbor, Farnsworth Onshore,  
and Farnsworth Offshore State Marine Conservation Areas

# Fishing and California's Marine Protected Areas

## What are Marine Protected Areas?

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are special designated underwater areas, similar to the nation's parks, forests and wilderness areas on land, that prohibit or limit the take of marine resources.

## Why does California need MPAs?

MPAs are recognized tools for protecting, enhancing and restoring marine life. MPAs foster healthy habitats and natural diversity, safeguarding the ocean's bounty for the economic and recreational opportunities of future generations.

## How many MPAs are in California?

California was the first state in the nation to establish a statewide network of MPAs. There are now 124 MPAs from the border of Oregon down to the border of Mexico. The MPA network protects a variety of key habitats by linking MPAs along the coast.

Photo credit: top left (Tressa Bronner); top right (NOAA/NOS); middle center (Bart Selby)



kelp bass (Steve Lonhart)



black rockfish (Chad King)



kayaking (Claire Fackler)



copper rockfish (Chad King)



California spiny lobster  
(Claire Fackler)



California sheephead  
(Ed Bierman)

## Is Fishing Allowed in MPAs?

Fishing and the take of marine life such as shellfish or seaweed is not allowed in marine reserves and no-take marine conservation areas, which make up about half of California's marine protected areas. An inset map of local MPAs with their regulations is provided in this brochure.



## Is Anchoring and Transit Allowed in MPAs?

Boats are allowed to anchor and transit through an MPA, however, fishing gear may not be deployed when in marine reserves or other MPAs that prohibit fishing for the species you have onboard. For additional information, scan the QR code on the right to visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's website.

## MPAs & Fishing Regulations



Scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone or other internet enabled device to visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's MPA mobile website.

The website allows you to search for information about MPA boundaries and regulations. You can also use your GPS location to locate the closest MPA(s) and determine whether or not you are currently in an MPA.

## Go Fishing

Recreational & Commercial Fishing Information:  
phone: 831-649-2870  
website: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishing](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishing)

Recreational Groundfish "hotline"  
831-649-2801  
Recreational Salmon "hotline"  
707-576-3429



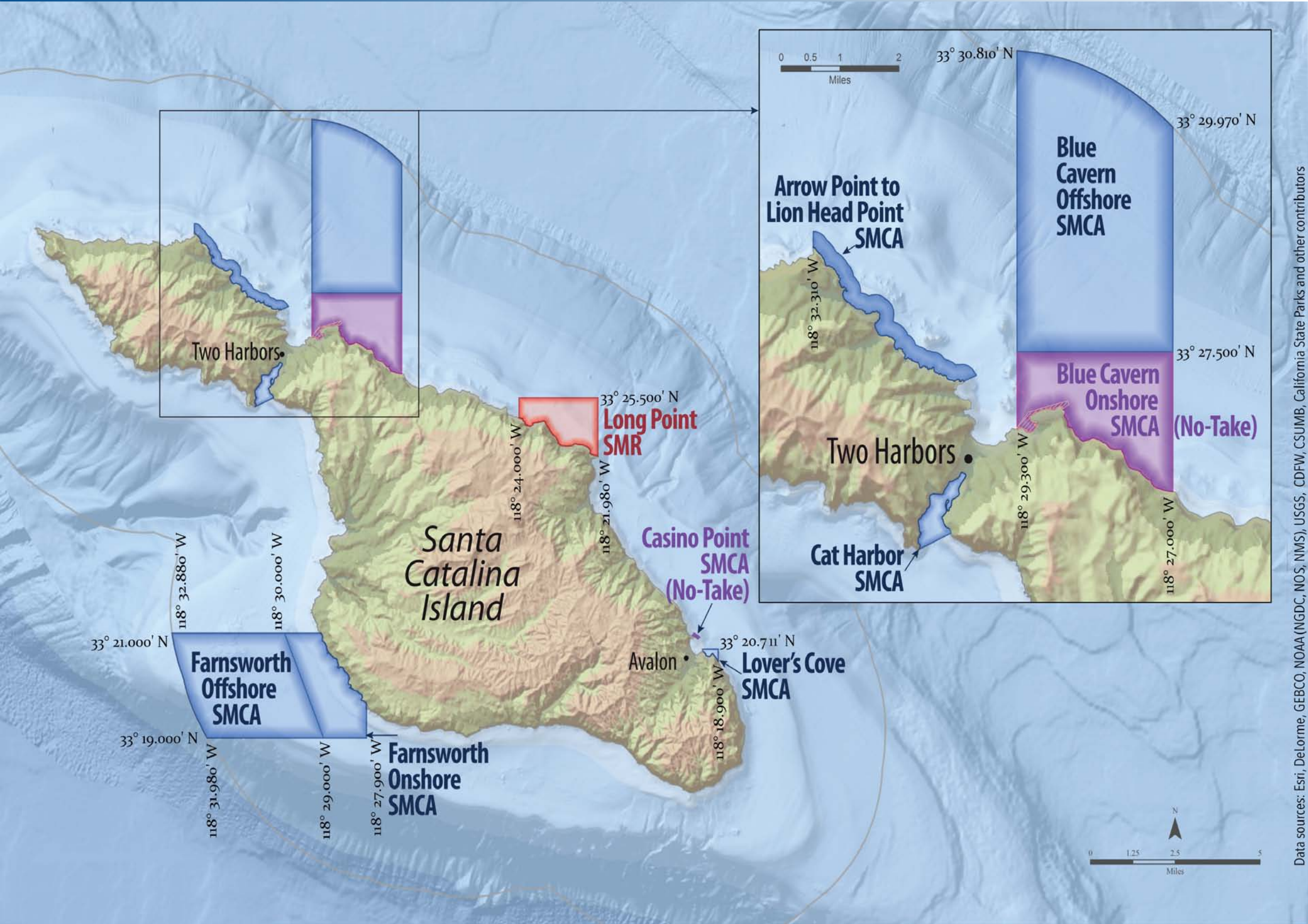
MPA	Allowed Uses
Long Point SMR	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.
Casino Point <sup>1</sup> No-Take SMCA	Recreational and commercial take of all living marine resources is prohibited. Feeding of fish for marine life viewing is permitted. See CCR T14 §632(b) for details.
Blue Cavern Onshore <sup>1,2</sup> No-Take SMCA	Recreational and commercial take of all living marine resources is prohibited. Also, no anchoring or mooring within the former Catalina Marine Science Center Marine Life Refuge. See CCR T14 §632(b) for details.

MPA	Allowed Uses
Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:	
Lover's Cove <sup>1</sup> SMCA	Recreational take by hook-and-line from Cabrillo Mole only. Feeding of fish for marine life viewing is allowed.
Arrow Pt to Lion Head Pt SMCA	Recreational take of marine plants and finfish. Take of invertebrates is prohibited.

MPA	Allowed Uses
Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:	
Blue Cavern Offshore <sup>2</sup> SMCA	Recreational take of market squid by hand-held dip net, pelagic finfish by hook-and-line or by spearfishing, and white seabass by spearfishing. Commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook-and-line, and swordfish by harpoon.

MPA	Allowed Uses
Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:	
Cat Harbor <sup>1</sup> SMCA	Recreational take of lobster and sea urchin, squid by hook-and-line, and finfish by hook-and-line or spearfishing. Commercial take of lobster and sea urchin, and sea cucumber by diving only.
Farnsworth Onshore SMCA	Recreational take of market squid by hand-held dip net; white seabass and pelagic finfish by spearfishing; and marlin, tuna and dorado by trolling. Commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, brail gear, and light boat; swordfish by harpoon.
Farnsworth Offshore SMCA	Recreational take of market squid by hand-held dip net; white seabass by spearfishing; pelagic finfish by hook-and-line or spearfishing, and marlin, tuna and dorado by trolling. Commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, brail gear, and light boat; and swordfish by harpoon.
<sup>1</sup> Take incidental to certain permitted activities is allowed. See CCR T14 §632(b) for details.	
<sup>2</sup> Name change effective Oct. 1, 2014	

Catalina Island Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)



Data sources: Esri, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA (NGDC, NOS, NMS), USGS, CDFW, CSUMB, California State Parks and other contributors

MPAs - Good for the Ocean; Good for You!  
Know the Rules Before You Head Out.

For Ocean Fishing Laws & Regulations, go to:  
[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/regulations.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/regulations.asp)

For MPA boundaries, maps, coordinates, and allowed uses, go to: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/MPA/MPA\\_summary.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/MPA/MPA_summary.asp)

Regulations

This document is provided as a courtesy, and does not replace the official laws and regulations found in the California Fish and Game Code or the California Code of Regulation Title 14.

- A fishing license is required for any fishing.
- All existing take regulations still apply in addition to the ones listed above.
- Unless otherwise stated, all non-consumptive recreational activities are allowed.
- "Take" means to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish, mollusks, or crustaceans or attempting to do so.

MPA Mobile Website

