



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: Salt Point coastline (Jeremy Bishop)  
below: cabezon (Brian Gratwicke)



### Ocean Cove Boat Ramp

[www.oceancove.org](http://www.oceancove.org)

### Timber Cove Boat Landing

[www.timbercoveboatlanding.com](http://www.timbercoveboatlanding.com)

### 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 (Sam Cartelli); middle right (Ed Bierman); bottom right (Chad King)

# A Guide to Fishing and Marine Protected Areas Ocean Cove and Timber Cove



Del Mar Landing State Marine Reserve  
Stewarts Point State Marine Reserve  
Stewarts Point State Marine Conservation Area  
Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area  
Gerstle Cove State Marine Reserve  
Russian River State Marine Conservation Area  
Russian River State Marine Recreational Management Area

# 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)



crab pots (Bart Selby)



dungeness crab (Bart Selby)

## 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
Del Mar Landing, Stewarts Point, and Gerstle Cove SMRs	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Stewarts Point SMCA	Recreational take of plants (no sea palm), invertebrates, finfish by hook-and-line, surf smelt by beach net, and species listed in CCR T14 §28.80 by hand-held dip net.

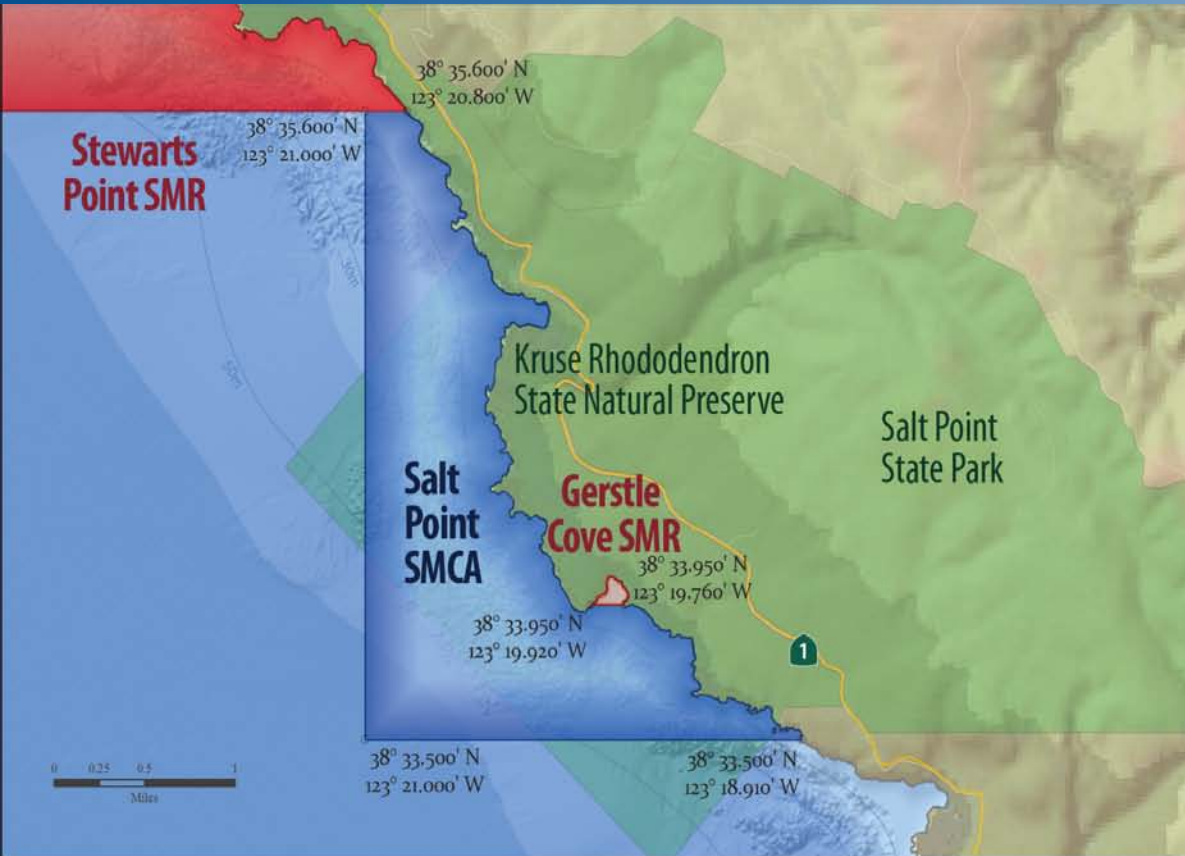
MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Salt Point SMCA	Recreational take of abalone and finfish.
Russian River SMCA	Recreational and commercial take of Dungeness crab by trap. Recreational take of surf smelt by hand-help dip net or beach net.

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Russian River SMRMA	Take of waterfowl in accordance with general waterfowl regulations.



Lingcod ©Chad King NOAA/MBNMS

## Ocean Cove and Timber Cove Area Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)



### 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

