

# Vandenberg State Marine Reserve

## Size of MPA:

32.84 mi<sup>2</sup>

## Depth range of MPA:

Shore to 127 feet

## Key habitats protected:

Rocky cliffs, offshore reef and sandy bottom habitats.



**The Vandenberg area contains representative reef and sandy habitat as well as rocky cliffs that provide critical nesting habitat for guillemots, cormorants, and oystercatchers as well as hundreds of endangered brown pelicans, and other seabirds.**

- Forage studies in this area have documented a wide range of fish and invertebrate species associated with reef and sandy bottom habitats as well as the interactions between these prey species and seabirds and marine mammals using this area.
- The Vandenberg State Marine Reserve was designed to maintain fishing access to the more popular and more accessible reefs closer to port such as those found off Point Sal and Purisima Point. Proximity to the Vandenberg Air Force Base assists with management and enforcement at this remote site. In addition, the Vandenberg State Marine Reserve leverages existing security restrictions imposed by the military in this area.