

# Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve

## Size of MPA:

.58 mi<sup>2</sup>

## Depth range of MPA(s):

Shore to 21 feet

## Key habitats protected:

Sandy beach, rocky intertidal, surfgrass



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**Located at the northern edge of the City of Santa Cruz, Natural Bridges is an accessible and popular area where visitors and scientists alike can explore extensive and biologically rich tide pools and sandy beaches.**

- Dramatic wave-cut platforms, exposed rocky cliffs, salt marsh, and sandy and rocky shores provide habitat for a wide range of species that inhabit the edge between land and sea.
- Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve is adjacent to Natural Bridges State Beach and Wilder Ranch State Park with excellent volunteer programs, outreach and interpretive facilities, parking and on-site ranger presence to assist with management and enforcement.
- Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve is also adjacent to the University of California at Santa Cruz's marine lab and its interpretive public aquarium – the Seymour Discovery Center - providing excellent opportunities for enhanced research and education.