



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: common dolphins (Michele W.)  
below: Long Beach Harbor (Neil Kremer)



**Long Beach Marinas**  
[www.longbeach.gov/park/marine/marinas](http://www.longbeach.gov/park/marine/marinas)  
**Port of Los Angeles**  
[www.portoflosangeles.org](http://www.portoflosangeles.org)  
**King Harbor**  
[www.kingharbor.com](http://www.kingharbor.com)  
**Marina del Rey**  
[www.visitmarinadelrey.com](http://www.visitmarinadelrey.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/MPAs](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs)

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

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

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

**Report oil spills:** 800-852-7550

**Report injured marine mammals:**  
415-289-7325  
[www.MarineMammalCenter.org](http://www.MarineMammalCenter.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 (Ming-yen Hsu)  
middle right (Brian Gratwicke); bottom right (Claire Fackler)

# A Guide to Fishing and Marine Protected Areas Los Angeles Area



Point Dume State Marine Reserve

Point Vicente and Bolsa Chica Basin  
No-Take State Marine Conservation Areas

Point Dume, Abalone Cove, and Bolsa Bay  
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 current and 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 Southern California region of the network consists of 50 MPAs and 2 Special Closures, covering approximately 15% of state waters and leaving over 80% of the coastal waters open for fishing.

Photo credit: top left (Tressa Bronner); top right (NOAA/NOS); middle center (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. Limited fishing of certain species with specified gear is allowed in marine conservation 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 with catch onboard, however, fishing gear may not be deployed when in marine reserves. For additional information, scan the QR code on the right to visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's website or go to: [www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs).

## 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 or visit [www.dfg.ca.gov/m/MPA](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/m/MPA). 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 - Know Before You Go

Recreational & Commercial Fishing  
831-649-2870  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov/fishing](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/fishing)

Recreational Groundfish Hotline  
831-649-2801

Recreational Salmon Hotline  
707-576-3429



kelp bass (Steve Lonhart)



black rockfish (Chad King)



kayaking (Claire Fackler)



copper rockfish (Chad King)



California spiny lobster (Claire Fackler)



California sheephead (Ed Bierman)

MPA	Allowed Uses
Point Dume SMR	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.
Point Vicente and Bolsa Chica Basin No-Take SMCA	Recreational and commercial take of all living marine resources is prohibited. Take incidental to certain permitted activities may be allowed. Other restrictions may apply. See CCR T14 §632(b) for details.

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Abalone Cove <sup>1</sup> SMCA	Recreational take of market squid by hand-held dip net, and white seabass and pelagic finfish by spearfishing. Commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, brail gear and light boat; and swordfish by harpoon.

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Point Dume <sup>1</sup> SMCA	Recreational take of white seabass and pelagic finfish by spearfishing. Commercial take of coastal pelagic species by round haul net, brail gear, and light boat; and swordfish by harpoon.

MPA	Allowed Uses
	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:
Bolsa Bay <sup>1</sup> SMCA	Recreational take of finfish by hook-and-line from shore in designated areas. Entry permitted only on established trails, paths or other designated areas. Closed from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Boating, swimming, wading and diving prohibited.
	<sup>1</sup> Take incidental to certain permitted activities is allowed. See CCR T14 §632(b) for details.



Photo © Sucinimad

## Los Angeles Area Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

1 Harrison Reef 34° 02.05'N 118° 56.55'W	7 Huntington Flats 33° 39.30'N 118° 03.40'W	13 Santa Monica Pier 34° 00.59'N 118° 29.78'W	19 Belmont Pier 33° 45.50'N 118° 08.88'W	25 Star of Scotland Shipwreck 33° 59.52'N 118° 31.27'W	31 Minesweeper Shipwreck 33° 41.60'N 118° 19.45'W	37 Outer Oil Rigs 33° 34.99'N 118° 07.81'W
2 Escondido Beach 31° 01.49'N 118° 46.07'W	8 LA Harbor Area 33° 38.80'N 118° 13.20'W	14 Malibu Pier 34° 02.23'N 118° 40.60'W	20 Seal Beach Pier 33° 44.35'N 118° 06.39'W	26 Marina del Rey Art. Reefs 33° 58.10'N 118° 29.18'W	32 Georgia Straights Shipwreck 33° 41.34'N 118° 12.49'W	38 Paradise Cove 34° 01.22'N 118° 47.1 9'W
3 Rocky Pt Kelp 33° 46.23'N 118° 26.12'W	9 Scattergood Flats 33° 55.20'N 118° 26.50'W	15 Venice Pier 33° 58.73'N 118° 28.03'W	21 Huntington Beach Pier 33° 39.39'N 118° 00.16'W	27 Hermosa Beach Artificial Reef 33° 51.22'N 118° 24.80'W	33 Gambling Ship Shipwreck 33° 41.49'N 118° 08.75'W	39 Leo Carrillo State Beach 34° 02.67'N 118° 56.03'W
4 Portuguese Kelp 33° 43.29'N 118° 21.47'W	10 Santa Monica Bay 34° 01.00'N 118° 32.00'W	16 Manhattan Beach Pier 33° 53.06'N 118° 24.73'W	22 Malibu Artificial Reef 34° 01.49'N 118° 39.03'W	28 Redondo Beach Artificial Reef 33° 50.23'N 118° 24.53'W	34 Bolsa Chica Artificial Reef 33° 39.05'N 118° 00.06'W	40 Portuguese Bend 33° 44.19'N 118° 21.62'W
5 Pt. Fermin Kelp 33° 42.11'N 118° 17.97'W	11 Will Rogers State Beach 34° 02.35'N 118° 33.00'W	17 Redondo Beach Pier 33° 50.38'N 118° 23.55'W	23 Topanga Artificial Reef 34° 01.63'N 118° 31.95'W	29 Palawan Shipwreck 33° 49.42'N 118° 24.88'W	35 Huntington Beach Art. Reefs 33° 37.28'N 117° 59.85'W	41 Sacred Cove 33° 44.34'N 118° 22.22'W
6 Horseshoe Kelp 33° 40.07'N 118° 12.15'W	12 Dockweiler State Beach 33° 56.53'N 118° 26.55'W	18 Cabrillo Pier 33° 42.55'N 118° 16.78'W	24 Santa Monica Bay Art. Reef 34° 00.78'N 118° 32.55'W	30 Avalon Shipwreck 33° 47.28'N 118° 25.62'W	36 The 209 33° 35.00'N 118° 36.00'W	42 Ocean Trails Reserve 33° 43.47'N 118° 20.43'W



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

For Ocean Fishing Laws and 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.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network)

### 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 Regulations Title 14.

- A fishing license is required for any fishing, except for fishing from a public fishing pier in ocean waters. Fishing report cards for Sturgeon and Spiny Lobster are required to take either of these species from a public pier in ocean waters.
- **All existing take regulations still apply in addition to the ones listed above.**
- Unless otherwise stated all non-consumptive recreational activities such as swimming, wading, boating, diving, and surfing are allowed in MPAs.
- "Take" means to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish, mollusks, or crustaceans, or attempting to do so.

### FishAlerts! Application



Scan the QR code to the left to download FishAlerts! This free mobile application includes rules and regulations for all National Marine Sanctuaries and MPAs in both Spanish and English as well as marine weather and tidal information.

### Fishing Spot Information Sources:

[www.socaloceanfishing.com](http://www.socaloceanfishing.com); [www.fishingnetwork.net](http://www.fishingnetwork.net);  
[www.pierfishing.com](http://www.pierfishing.com); [www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov); [www.sbck.org](http://www.sbck.org)