

ORANGE COUNTY MPA WATCH PROGRAM




ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER'S MISSION

“To protect and preserve the region’s watershed and marine habitats through education, restoration, research, and enforcement.”

“Our ultimate vision is to develop solutions to ensure clean waterways, harbors and coastal waters as well as safe, consistent, and adequate water supply”



HOW WE ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION

- We use a regional, collaborative approach to watershed management
 - Develop water quality solutions to meet the needs of both the environment and community
 - Implement actions and programs that have well-defined, measurable results
 - Increased environmental awareness among citizens, students, policy makers, and business communities
 - Ensure compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act as well as state, local, and federal environmental regulations
 - Conduct research to identify pollution impacts and provide evidence to enforce regulations
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THE MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT (MLPA)

The MLPA was passed in 1999 requiring the reevaluation of all existing marine protected areas (MPAs) and the redesign of new MPAs to fit California's changing needs.

Purpose: Improve the array of MPAs existing in California waters through the adoption of a comprehensive master plan.



Crescent Bay

WHAT IS AN MPA?

- A marine protected area is a discrete geographic marine or estuarine area designed to protect or conserve marine life and habitat.

- Benefits of these areas include:

- an increase in biomass or the mass of plants and animals

- overall increase in population density of plants and animals in a given area

- increased animal body size

- increase in overall species diversity

There are three different types of MPAs in
Orang County:

State Marine Reserves (SMR)

State Marine Park (SMP)

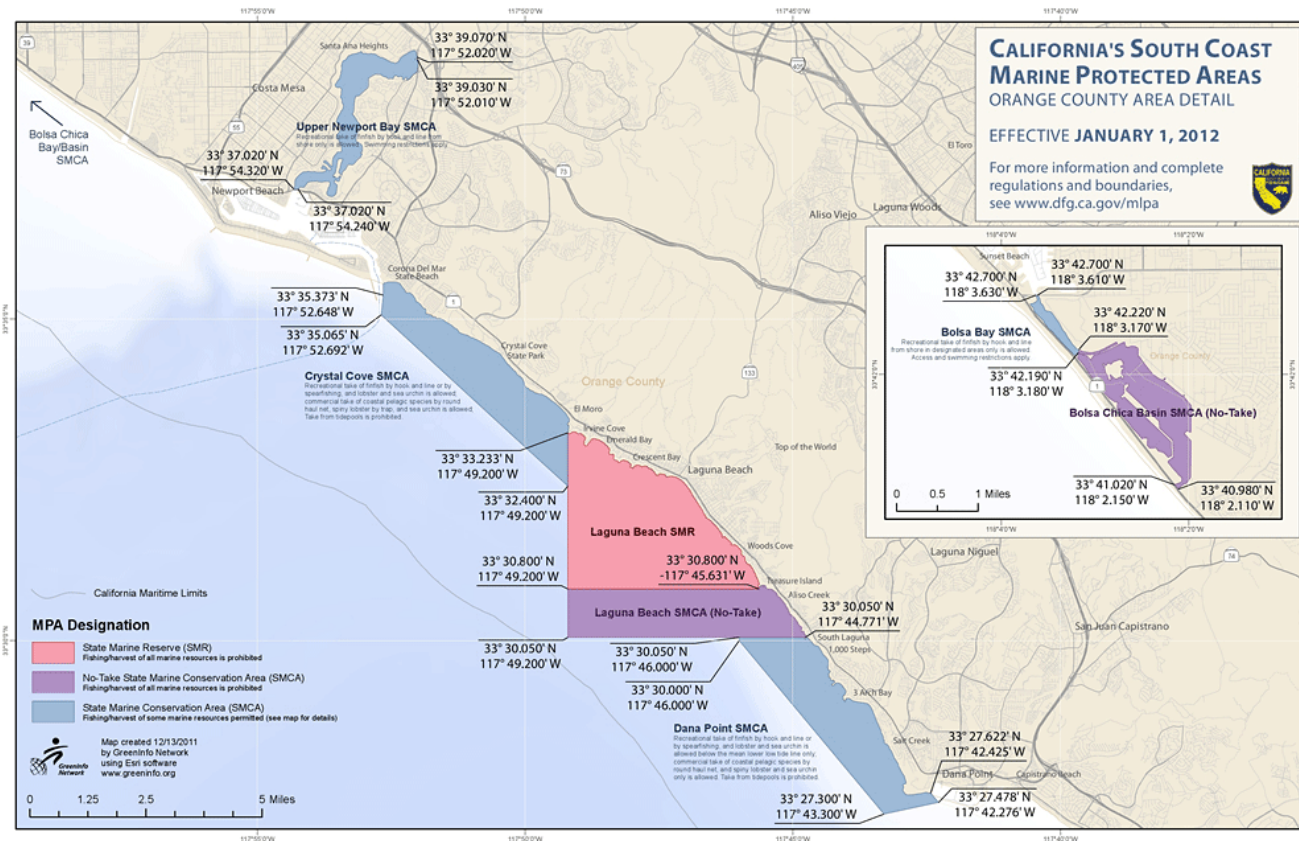
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)



Garibaldi

THERE ARE SEVEN MPAS WITHIN ORANGE COUNTY

1. Bolsa Bay SMCA
2. Bolsa Chica Basin SMCA
3. Crystal Cove SMCA
4. Dana Point SMCA
5. Laguna Beach SMCA
6. Laguna Beach SMR
7. Upper Newport Beach SMCA



There are 35 monitoring sites in the seven MPAs covered by the Orange County MPA Watch program.

ORANGE COUNTY MPA REGULATIONS (SIMPLIFIED)

Bolsa Bay SMCA

Recreational take of finfish by hook and line only from designated areas.

Bolsa Basin SMCA

No Take

Upper Newport Bay SMCA

fishing from shore using hook and line only in designated areas

Crystal Cove and Dana Point SMCA

No take from tidepools

Laguna Beach Reserve and SMCA

No take



ORANGE COUNTY MPA WATCH SURVEYS

Crystal Cove

- Big Corona
- Little Corona*
- Morning Canyon
- Pelican
- Los Trancos
- Reef Point

Upper Newport Bay

- North Star Beach
- Castaways*
- Rocky Point
- Jamboree Bridge

Laguna Beach

- Crescent*
- Shaws*
- Fisherman's Cove
- Heisler
- Main
- Cress
- Bluebird
- Woods
- Moss Point*
- Victoria
- Montage

- Aliso Beach*

- West Beach

- Table Rock*

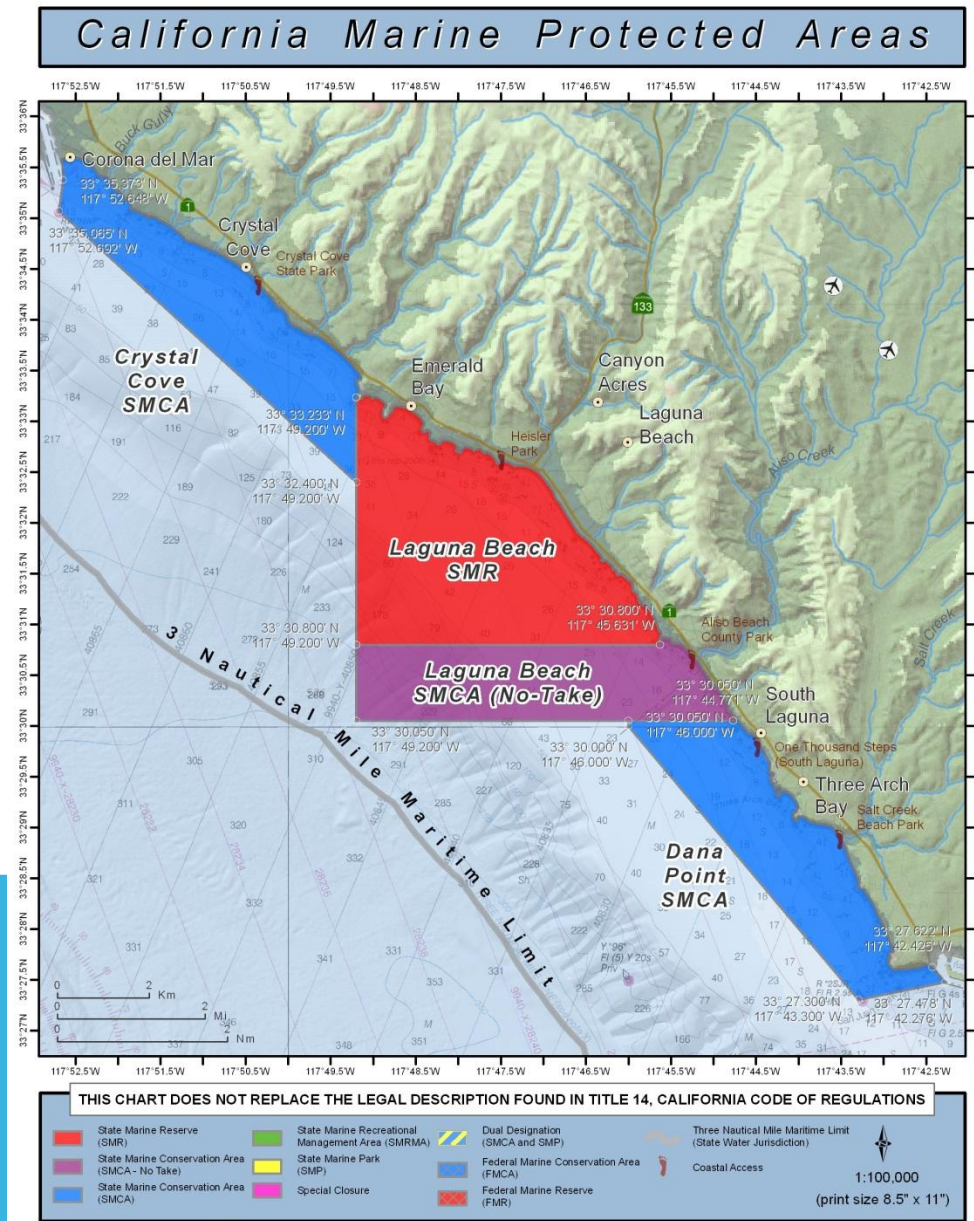
Dana Point

- Totuava
- Thousand Steps
- Three Arch Bay
- Salt Creek
- Dana Point
- Strands

* Priority Monitoring Site

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

- **Orange County Coastkeeper**
- **City of Dana Point**
- **City of Laguna Beach**
- **City of Newport Beach**
- **Eco-Adventure Center at the Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Nigel**



THE MPA WATCH PROGRAM

- Volunteer based program that enlists volunteers, community groups, and local government to monitor human uses in and around the MPAs
- Groups or volunteers are assigned to specific monitoring locations to record observed activities in hopes of addressing the following:

What human uses occur in and around MPAs?

Are regulations being followed?

Have consumptive and non-consumptive uses changed since the MPAs were implemented?

What resources are needed to support the MPAs?



DATA SHEET & OBSERVABLE ACTIVITIES

Consumptive

- Rod/Reel Fishing
- Hand Collection
- Kelp Harvesting
- Private Vessel with Rod/Reel
- Charter Fishing Boat
- Lobster Fishing Boat
- Trap Fishing
- Spear Fishing

Non-Consumptive

- Beach Recreation
- Tidepooling (not collecting)
- Dogs on/off Leash
- Swimming/Wading
- paddleboarding
- Whale Watching Boat
- Boating
- Surfing
- Wildlife Watching

MPA WATCH PROGRAM



- Survey segments are coves or segments of sandy beach. Surveys take from several minutes to a half-hour to complete
- Surveys are done by walking a beach or observing from a vantage point, recording both on and off shore activities.
- Surveys occur at least twice a month and data reports are produced quarterly.

NECESSARY PROVIDED EQUIPMENT



Clipboard
And Data Sheet



Maps



Binoculars

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT (NOT PROVIDED)



Camera



Jackets/Outerwear



Sunscreen

Cell Phone



OCCK MPA WATCH DATA SHEET

Name(s):		Date: ____/____/____	Transect ID:
Start Time:	End Time:	Clouds: clear (0%) / partly cloudy (1-50%) / cloudy (>50%cover)	Precipitation: yes / no
Air Temperature: cold / cool / mild / warm / hot		Wind: calm / breezy / windy	Tide Level: low / med / high
Visibility: perfect / limited / shore only		Beach Status: open / posted / closed / unknown	
On-Shore Activities		Rocky	Sandy
Recreation (walking, hiking, running, resting, playing, sitting, camping, art, other, but NOT TIDEPOOLING)			
Wildlife Watching			
Domestic animals on-leash			
Domestic animals off-leash			
Driving on the Beach			
Tide-pooling (not collecting)			
Hand collection of biota			
Shore-based hook and line fishing			
Shore-based trap fishing			
Shore-based net fishing			
Shore-based spear fishing			
Off-Shore Activities (Non-Boating)			
Board Sports (including stand-up paddle-boarding)			
Offshore Recreation (e.g., swimming, bodysurfing)			
Non-Consumptive SCUBA and snorkeling			
Spear Fishing (free diving or SCUBA)			
Other Consumptive Diving (e.g., nets, poles, traps)			

DATA SHEET ONSHORE CONSUMPTION

ROD/REEL FISHING



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TRAP FISHING



DATA SHEET OFFSHORE CONSUMPTIVE USES

STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING
WITH A ROD/REEL



STAND-UP
PADDLEBOARDING WITH A
SPEAR GUN



DATA SHEET ONSHORE CONSUMPTION

CAST NET FISHING



DATA SHEET OFFSHORE CONSUMPTIVE USES

KAYAKING/CANOEING
WITH ROD/REEL



KAYAKING/CANOEING
WITH SPEARGUN



DATA SHEET CONSUMPTIVE ACTIVATES

TYPES OF BOATS

PRIVATE VESSEL
WITH ROD/REEL



HOOP NET



DATA SHEET CONSUMPTIVE ACTIVATES

TYPES OF BOATS

TROLLING FISHING
BOAT



LOBSTER FISHING
BOAT



DATA SHEET CONSUMPTIVE ACTIVATES

TYPES OF BOATS

PURSE-SEINE
FISHING BOAT



URCHIN/CUCUMBER
DIVING FLOATS AND
HOOKA GEAR



DATA SHEET CONSUMPTIVE ACTIVATES

TYPES OF BOATS

PARTY/CHARTER
FISHING BOAT



KELP HARVESTING
VESSEL



DO'S AND DONTs

Do

- Have Fun
- Be accurate
- Submit your data online
- Report potential violations

Don't

- Compromise your safety
- Confront anyone



QUESTIONS?

