

**California MLPA North Coast Study Region**  
**Description of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Array H**  
*Document Updated March 5, 2010*

**Name of Array: North Coast External Proposed MPA Array H (ExH)**  
**Author: California Fisheries Coalition (CFC)**

**Total number of MPAs: 10**  
 Number of SMRs: 6  
 Number of SMCAs: 3  
 Number of SMPs: 0  
 Number of SMRMAs: 1  
 Number proposing tribal uses 10

Bioregions:  
 Northern: Oregon/California border to Mattole River  
 Southern: Mattole River to Alder Creek near Point Arena

MPA Name	MPA ID	Bioregion	MPA Boundaries (Exact or Approximate)	Designation	Level of Protection*	Propose Tribal Uses?	Proposed Take Regulations	Other Proposed Regulations
Pyramid Point SMR	73959	Northern Bioregion	Northern boundary: California - Oregon Border(42 00') Eastern boundary: 124.13 Southern boundary: 41.66 Western boundary: 3-mile state waters limit.	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses shall not be regulated in the MLPA Process. Traditional Tribal subsistence and ceremonial uses shall be allowed.
Reading Rock SMR	73954	Northern Bioregion	MPA boundaries: North: 41 24.000 minutes to state water lboundary (Extension of inland MPA) then following state water boundary. West: Following state water line South: 41 21.300 minutes North East: 124 08.000 minutes (West boundary of Inland MPA)	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses should not be regulated in the MLPA Process.

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Pyramid Point SMR	N/A	The Pyramid Point SMR is proposed by the CFC and based on the following Goals: G1,G2,G3,G4,G5,G6.	Provides vessel access (Port of Brookings, OR) for study or enforcement. Reduces distance from Crescent City to fishing grounds and improves safety of Crescent City fishers. Reduces economic impacts to sport and commercial fisheries in California's highest poverty level area. This SMR is designed to recognize Native American traditional tribal shore uses that have occurred for thousands of years. Traditional Native American uses of this area, including subsistence and ceremonial shore use, have occurred since time immemorial and those uses are considered de minimis.
Reading Rock SMR	N/A	<p>Combined with the Reading Rock SMCA, this reserve protects diverse habitats including beaches, soft and hard bottom habitats.</p> <p>Note that anecdotal accounts indicate more rocky habitat present than is depicted in MarineMap. This will be assessed in the near future.</p> <p>Contributes to goals 1-6 of the MLPA.</p>	Minimizes social and economic impacts while combining with the Reading Rock SMCA to form a 21 square mile MPA cluster which will substantially contribute to the State MPA System.

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Reading Rock SMCA	73953	Northern Bioregion	MPA boundaries: North: 41 24.000 minutes (Approximation of parking lot at end of road) West: 124 08.000 minutes (Approximation of 3nm state water boundary) South: 41 21.400 minutes (Approximation of Lagoon and Creek entrance) East: Mean high tide line	SMCA	Moderate high	Yes	The take of all living marine resources is prohibited except: 1. The recreational take of Dungeness crab by hoop net; Dungeness crab by diving; and Dungeness crab by trap. 2. The commercial take of Dungeness crab by trap.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses should not be regulated in the MLPA Process.  Traditional commercial surf fishing as defined and allowed by H.R. 233 (Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act) should be allowed. The uses defined by this Act should be assigned a high level of protection by the MLPA Initiative.  Staff Note: For Round 1, traditional commercial surf fishing was not taken into consideration when levels of protection were assigned because the LOP for this use conflicted with the stated intentions of array proponents. In future rounds, this proposed activity will be assigned an LOP of moderate in all MPAs where it is allowed.
Humboldt Bay SMRMA	73955	Northern Bioregion	MPA boundaries: These boundaries are all inside Humboldt Bay. North: 40 42.700 minutes West: Mean high tide line South: Mean high tide line East: 124 14.100 minutes (Wilderness area boundary)	SMRMA	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Hunting shall be permitted.  Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses should not be regulated in the MLPA Process.

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Reading Rock SMCA	N/A	Combined with the Reading Rock Reserve, this SMCA protects diverse habitats including beaches, soft and hard bottom habitats. Note that anecdotal accounts indicate more rocky habitat than is depicted in MarineMap. This will be assessed in the near future. Contributes to goals 1-6 of the MLPA.	Minimizes social and economic impacts while combining with the Reading Rock Reserve to form a 21 square mile MPA cluster which will substantially contribute to the State MPA System.
Humboldt Bay SMRMA	N/A	The MPA contains a significant proportion of Humboldt Bay's eelgrass. The Humboldt Bay Harbor District has an ongoing eelgrass monitoring program in Humboldt Bay and would expand that program to include this MPA if adopted. Comparison of this MPA with other areas would allow for a meaningful comparison of areas where clamming is allowed verses restricted.	The MPA is designed to overlap with portions of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

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Eel River SMCA	73956	Northern Bioregion	MPA boundaries: North: 40 39.000 minutes West: State waters boundary South: 40 36.000 minutes East: Mean high tide line to beach not including any part of the Eel River)	SMCA	Moderate high	Yes	The take of all living marine resources is prohibited except: 1. The recreational take of Dungeness crab by hoop net; Dungeness crab by diving; and Dungeness crab by trap. 2. The commercial take of Dungeness crab by trap.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses should not be regulated in the MLPA Process.
Punta Gorda SMR	73957	Northern Bioregion	MPA boundaries: North: 40 20.000 minutes West: State waters boundary South: 40 15.700 minutes (Approximation of visible point and rock in water) East: Mean high tide line to beach not including any part of the Mattole River)	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses should not be regulated in the MLPA Process.

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Eel River SMCA	N/A	This unique location attracts feed for numerous pinnipeds, porpoise, whales, birds, and fish like salmon. The combination of river mouth with a nearby canyon make this a highly diverse and productive area with lots of krill and small fish present for much of the year.	This SMCA is a little south of the river mouth to better avoid recreational salmon fishing which occurs in this area.
Punta Gorda SMR	N/A	<p>This SMR enlarges an already existing SMR at Punta Gorda continuing to protect natural ecosystem structure and function with minimal human-induced changes. It will maintain high benthic species abundance and biodiversity which is characteristic of the north coast region.</p> <p>Protects natural trophic structure &amp; food webs, including pelagic finfish that serve as prey for other fish, marine birds &amp; marine mammals.</p> <p>Provides protection to an area that contains one of most persistent &amp; important upwelling plumes along entire California Coast &amp; provides for significant downstream larval dispersal.</p> <p>Protects larval sources &amp; enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes.</p> <p>Protects benthic habitat and forage base for fish, birds and mammals at islands.</p> <p>Increases supply of large adults &amp; larval fish which can disperse to adjacent areas for fisheries harvest outside MPAs.</p>	None specified

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Ten Mile SMR	73960	Southern Bioregion	Southern Boundary: 39.33.3 Northern boundary: 39.35.2 out to the 3-mile limit	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses shall not be regulated in the MLPA process. It is not the intention of the proponents to prohibit traditional native tribal harvest, or interfere with their sovereignty on their ancestral lands.  Retrieval of recreational and commercial crab traps permitted.  Removal of invasive species permitted.
Ten Mile Beach SMCA	73952	Southern Bioregion	39.33.3 northern boundary (first washrock north of the Ten Mile River mouth 39.32.7 southern boundary	SMCA	Moderate high	Yes	The take of all living marine resources is prohibited except: 1. The recreational take of Dungeness crab by trap. 2. The commercial take of Dungeness crab by trap.	No wave energy projects or oil exploration/leases.  Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses shall not be regulated in the MLPA process. It is not the intention of the proponents to prohibit traditional native tribal harvest, or interfere with their sovereignty on their ancestral lands.

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Ten Mile SMR	N/A	This SMR helps maintain biodiversity in fish, invertebrates, seabirds and marine mammals associated with the protection of the ecosystem. This MPA has great diversity in unique marine habitats including; exposed high energy rocky shoreline, sand and gravel beaches, offshore islets, surf grass, kelp beds, hard and soft substrates, while interfacing with the complex estuarine habitats consisting of eelgrass beds, marshlands and mudflat ecosystems. (G1, G2,G3)	<p>According to the Ecotrust information, this area has a low economic impact on crab and commercial rockfish fisheries. This MPA is adjacent to the mouth of the Ten Mile estuary (proposed SMR).</p> <p>Located at the North end of this MPA is an established marine monitoring site, that along with numerous coastal access points makes it easy for research, recreation and enforcement possible. (G5)</p> <p>This MPA is clustered with an adjacent Ten Mile SMR. (G1,G3, G3)</p>
Ten Mile Beach SMCA	N/A	Adds protection for soft bottom habitat to the adjacent SMR proposed to the north. Connects the estuarine reserve to the offshore SMR while allowing for commercial and recreational crabbing. Serves as an enforcement "buffer" for the "Randy's Rock" Reserve - a kind of "warden's rumble strip" as vessels approach the SMR.	Extremely important crabbing area for the private recreational and commercial passenger fishing vessel fleet out of Fort Bragg. This area must remain open to crabbing.

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Ten Mile Estuary SMR	73951	Southern Bioregion	Estuary extends from the mouth of Ten Mile River to an area upstream of approximately 1.7 miles.	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	<p>No waterfowl hunting.</p> <p>No wave energy projects or oil exploration/leases.</p> <p>Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses shall not be regulated in the MLPA Process. It is not the intention of the array proponents to prohibit traditional native tribal access, harvest, or uses, or to interfere with their sovereignty on their ancestral lands.</p> <p>Retrieval of recreational and commercial crab traps permitted.</p> <p>Removal of invasive species permitted.</p>
Ten Mile Estuary SMR (continued)								

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Ten Mile Estuary SMR	N/A	<p>Estuary protection (Goals 1-5) Estuaries not only support local fish and shellfish populations that are harvested commercially and recreationally, but these waters also serve as spawning and nursery grounds for populations that are harvested offshore. Estuaries rank along with tropical rainforests and coral reefs as the world's most productive ecosystems, more productive than both the rivers and the ocean that influence them from either side.</p> <p>Supports current DFG coho and steelhead salmon habitat conservation projects while protecting essential habitat for federal and state listed threatened anadromous fish including coho, Chinook and steelhead salmon. Habitat for osmoregulation and acclimation for critical life phases of anadromous fish; important transportation corridor for adult salmon spawners; rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids, rockfish, flatfish, and tidewater gobies and habitat for smoltification of juvenile salmonids; migratory corridor for spawning lampreys.(G2)</p>	None specified
Ten Mile Estuary SMR (continued)		<p>All species protected. Prime shorebird and waterfowl habitat; feeding area for pinnipeds; critical habitat and transportation corridor for river otters.</p> <p>This SMR protects larval source and enhance reproductive capacity of numerous invertebrate species such as dungeness crabs, clams, ghost shrimp, eel grass etc. (G1, G2, G4); and expands on long-term protections for complex estuarine habitats, including eelgrass beds, marshlands and mudflat ecosystems.(G1, G2)</p> <p>Almost the entire stretch of this array is close to population centers, with numerous coastal access points making it easy for research, long- term monitoring, recreation and enforcement. (G3, G5)</p>	

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Point Cabrillo SMR	73958	Southern Bioregion	None specified	SMR	Very high	Yes	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.	Traditional Tribal subsistence, gathering and ceremonial uses shall not be regulated in the MLPA Process. It is not the intention of the proponents to prohibit traditional native tribal harvest, or interfere with their sovereignty on their ancestral lands.

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Point Cabrillo SMR	N/A	<p>This proposed SMR contains high-quality invertebrate habitat and has been closed to commercial and recreational take of invertebrates since 1975, and the area was also closed to recreational take of finfish while allowing commercial take of finfish. This SMR would replace the existing Pt. Cabrillo SMCA and make the boundaries more feasible. Local biologists say this area is large enough to conduct studies on sea urchins and abalone. Along with the adjacent SMCA to the north, this cluster will provide side by side study opportunity of a no-take zone and an area of sustainable harvests of abalone and urchins.</p>	<p>Increases feasibility using easily distinguishable landmarks. Adjacent to a state park for recreational non-extractive activities such as scuba diving. Very accessible for research. Maintains a long time series of data from previous studies. We have proposed to local tribal councils that they adopt these regulations for their members, but pending government-to-government consultations, any regulations affecting tribal members must be passed by both the California Fish &amp; Game Commission and the tribal councils concurrently, similar to the creation of a State Marine Park. This is a perfect area for study that could allow for the development of adaptive management, and collaborative research with the local fishing community, biologists and the tribes.</p>

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