

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
South Coast Study Region: Round 2 Evaluation
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in Topaz Draft MPA Proposal
June 9, 2009

Summary of MPAs by Designation for Topaz Draft MPA Proposal

Type of MPA ¹	# of MPAs	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR)	34	302.9	12.9%
State Marine Recreational Managed Area (SMRMA)	1	1.5	0.1%
State Marine Park (SMP)	3	1.5	0.1%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	26	66.3	2.8%
Undesignated	2	36.7	1.6%
All MPAs combined	66	408.8	17.4%

¹ Note: These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT). SMRMA is not an MPA designation, but rather a marine managed area designation. The "Undesignated" are the pending military closures.

Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for Topaz Draft MPA Proposal

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High	34	302.9	12.9%
High ²	9	26.0	1.1%
Moderate-High	4	15.1	0.6%
Moderate	0	0.0	0.0%
Low ³	17	28.1	1.2%
Not applicable ⁴	2	36.7	1.6%
Total	66	408.8	17.4%

² Note: The "High" category includes MPAs with SMCA designation, as well as MPAs with a SMRMA designation.

³ Note: The "Low" category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low and lower level of protection.

⁴ Note: These are the pending military closures. These are not assigned a level of protection.

Individual MPAs in Topaz Draft MPA Proposal

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore Span ⁶ (mi)	Depth Range ⁷ (ft)
Richardson Rock SMR ⁵	40.69	6.3	95 - 558
Judith Rock SMR ⁵	4.55	1.2	0 - 487
Harris Point SMR ⁵	25.35	5.4	0 - 557
South Point SMR ⁵	13.05	3.5	0 - 1071
Carrington Point SMR ⁵	12.76	4.0	0 - 211
Skunk Point SMR ⁵	1.39	2.2	0 - 83
Painted Cave SMCA ⁵	1.78	1.9	0 - 291
Gull Island SMR ⁵	19.91	4.8	0 - 2205
Scorpion SMR ⁵	9.62	2.6	0 - 769
Footprint SMR ⁵	7.05	4.7	171 - 1656
Anacapa Island SMCA ⁵	7.30	2.0	0 - 490
Anacapa Island SMR ⁵	11.54	3.1	0 - 709
Santa Barbara Island SMR ⁵	12.76	1.0	0 - 1655

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MPA Name	Size (mi²)	Along-shore Span⁶ (mi)	Depth Range⁷ (ft)
Point Conception SMR	26.05	6.6	0 - 489
Refugio SMCA	0.85	2.1	0 - 51
Naples SMCA	2.56	1.9	0 - 162
Helo SMR	12.62	3.3	0 - 701
Devereux Lagoon SMR	0.09	N/A	N/A
Goleta Slough SMR	0.25	N/A	N/A
Carpinteria Salt Marsh SMR	0.28	N/A	N/A
Ventura River Mouth SMCA	0.02	N/A	N/A
Santa Clara Rivermouth SMCA	0.17	N/A	N/A
Magu/ Muwu Lagoon SMRMA	1.46	N/A	N/A
Deer Creek SMCA	9.46	2.5	0 - 708
Sequit SMCA	1.30	1.9	0 - 95
Point Dume SMCA	9.02	2.3	0 - 2023
Point Dume SMR	6.50	1.7	0 - 1976
Palos Verdes SMR	13.97	3.8	0 - 2477
Point Fermin SMP	0.12	0.6	0 - 23
Bolsa Chica SMP	0.25	N/A	N/A
Upper Newport Bay SMP	1.10	N/A	N/A
Crystal Cove SMCA	3.04	3.4	0 - 224
Laguna SMR	16.88	5.1	0 - 1635
Three Arch Bay SMCA	0.41	2.2	0 - 49
Dana Point SMCA	1.08	2.5	0 - 63
Doheny Beach SMCA	0.28	0.9	0 - 13
Agua Hedionda Lagoon SMR	0.14	N/A	N/A
Batiquitos Lagoon SMR	0.67	N/A	N/A
Swamis SMCA	2.44	1.8	0 - 102
San Elijo Lagoon SMR	0.44	N/A	N/A
Del Mar SMR	11.08	3.1	0 - 1057
San Dieguito Lagoon SMR	0.52	N/A	N/A
Los Penasquitos Marsh SMCA	0.35	N/A	N/A
La Jolla North SMR	0.90	1.3	0 - 214
La Jolla South SMR	0.80	0.6	0 - 70
La Jolla South SMCA	0.72	0.6	0 - 57
Kendal Frost SMCA	0.19	N/A	N/A
Ocean Beach SMCA	3.06	0.8	0 - 242
Ocean Beach SMR	6.18	1.7	0 - 323
San Diego River/Famosa Slough SMCA	0.45	N/A	N/A
Cabrillo SMR	0.38	1.3	0 - 30
South San Diego Bay SMCA	5.55	N/A	N/A
Imperial Beach SMCA	0.67	2.2	0 - 40
Tijuana Estuary SMR	0.75	N/A	N/A
Emerald Bay SMCA	0.85	2.7	0 - 320
Catalina Isthmus SMCA	5.09	2.3	604 - 2551
Blue Cavern SMR	3.89	2.3	0 - 1416
Cat Harbor SMCA	0.33	0.7	0 - 186

MPA Name	Size (mi²)	Along-shore Span⁶ (mi)	Depth Range⁷ (ft)
Long Point SMR	3.54	3.0	0 - 988
Farnsworth SMCA	9.24	2.7	0 - 1909
Casino Point SMR	0.01	0.1	0 - 73
Lover's Cove SMCA	0.06	0.4	0 - 188
Silver Canyon SMR	0.28	1.3	0 - 62
Begg Rock SMR	37.96	6.9	219 - 374
San Clemente Pending Military Closure 1	17.44	3.9	0 - 1682
San Clemente Pending Military Closure 2	19.24	5.4	0 - 3938

⁵ Note: State MPAs around the Northern Channel Islands are to be part of all proposals, as directed by the California Fish and Game Commission and are notated by the footnote. MPAs listed below the broken line are those being proposed.

⁶ Note: Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other. Estuarine MPAs are not given an alongshore span.

⁷ Note: Comprehensive bathymetric data for all estuaries is not available. Though bathymetric data do exist in portions of some estuaries, depth ranges are not provided for estuarine MPAs for consistency in evaluations.

Habitat Representation in Topaz Draft MPA Proposal

Habitat ⁸	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Intertidal												
Sandy or gravel beach*	28.09	7%	1.00	<1%	0.09	<1%	29.28	8%	6.04	2%	64.51	17%
Rocky shores*	36.35	13%	0.00	0%	0.61	<1%	13.03	5%	1.82	1%	51.81	18%
Hardened shores*	1.06	<1%	0.05	<1%	0.96	<1%	13.10	4%	0.11	<1%	15.28	5%
Coastal marsh*	18.01	30%	9.36	16%	9.73	16%	5.58	9%	0.00	0%	42.68	72%
Coastal marsh	1.50	25%	0.72	12%	0.81	13%	0.86	14%	0.00	0%	3.89	64%
Tidal flats*	2.50	9%	0.90	3%	3.14	11%	5.26	18%	0.00	0%	11.80	41%
Seagrass beds												
Surfgrass*	22.96	32%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	10.15	14%	3.09	4%	36.20	50%
Eelgrass	0.20	4%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	1.77	38%	0.00	0%	1.97	42%
Estuarine												
Estuary	3.14	7%	1.46	3%	1.35	3%	6.73	16%	0.00	0%	12.68	29%
Soft bottom												
0-30 meters	22.32	5%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	11.99	3%	0.01	<1%	34.32	8%
0-30 meters proxy*. ⁹	30.01	8%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	17.84	5%	1.30	<1%	49.15	14%
30-100 meters	89.89	13%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	15.87	2%	0.96	<1%	106.72	16%
100-200 meters	33.72	21%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	4.17	3%	0.00	0%	37.88	24%
>200 meters	21.45	9%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	10.29	4%	0.00	0%	31.74	14%
Hard bottom												
0-30 meters	9.92	9%	0.00	0%	0.10	<1%	4.15	4%	1.79	2%	15.96	14%
0-30 meters proxy*. ⁹	21.21	11%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	11.13	6%	7.02	4%	39.36	21%
30-100 meters	8.13	17%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.71	1%	1.07	2%	9.91	21%
100-200 meters	0.72	19%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.01	<1%	0.00	0%	0.74	19%
>200 meters	0.85	39%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.02	1%	0.00	0%	0.87	40%
Unknown												
0-30 meters	6.27	4%	1.46	1%	1.36	1%	8.69	6%	0.46	<1%	18.23	12%
30-100 meters	30.42	14%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.76	<1%	5.89	3%	37.07	17%
100-200 meters	15.00	13%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.07	<1%	6.42	6%	21.50	19%
>200 meters	1.87	1%	0.00	0%	0.00	0%	0.48	<1%	20.08	10%	22.42	11%

Habitat ⁸	SMR		SMRMA		SMP		SMCA		Undesignated		Total MPAs	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
Kelp forest												
Maximum kelp*	33.93	10%	0.00	0%	0.23	<1%	15.56	5%	8.43	3%	58.14	17%
Kelp persistence*	15.48	8%	0.00	0%	0.58	<1%	9.24	5%	7.02	4%	32.32	18%

⁸ Note: Habitats measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

⁹ Note: There is limited fine scale data for nearshore habitat, shallower than 10-20 meters depth, in the south coast study region. A proxy for this area was created using a line parallel to the coast and classifying the substrate as either hard or soft substrate depending on the dominant habitat type in that area based on available data.