

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
North Central Coast Project
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in the Integrated Preferred Alternative
(IPA) MPA Proposal
Revised April 30, 2008

Overall Summary for the Integrated Preferred Alternative (IPA) (April 23, 2008 version)

Type of MPA ^{1,2}	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
State Marine Reserve (SMR) ³	13	85.8	11.2%
State Marine Park (SMP)	2	3.8	0.5%
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	9	63.8	8.4%
All MPAs combined	24	153.3	20.1%

¹ Note: These are proposed marine protected area (MPA) designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT).

² Note: SMCA = state marine conservation area, SMP = state marine park, SMR = state marine reserve and SMRMA = state marine recreational management area.

³ Note: The SMR category groups together SMRs and SMRMAs.

Summary of MPAs by Level of Protection for IPA (April 23, 2008 version)

Level of Protection (LOP)	# Proposed	Area (mi ²)	% of Study Region
Very High	13	85.8	11.2%
High	2	19.7	2.6%
Moderate-High	3	31.1	4.1%
Moderate	2	1.5	0.2%
Low ⁴	4	15.2	2.0%
Total	24	153.3	20.1%

⁴ Note: The Low category groups together MPAs that are assigned a moderate-low or low LOP.

Individual MPAs in IPA (April 23, 2008 version)

MPA Name	Size (mi ²)	Along-shore span ⁵ (mi)	Depth range (ft)
Point Arena SMR	4.38	3.0	0-173
Point Arena SMCA	6.73	3.0	153-324
Sea Lion Cove SMCA	0.22	0.7	0-39
Saunders Reef SMCA	9.35	3.0	0-276
Del Mar Landing SMR	0.22	0.6	0-87
Stewarts Point SMR	25.22	7.0	0-294
Salt Point SMP	3.12	2.4	0-241
Gerstle Cove SMR	0.01	0.2	0-10
Russian River SMR	0.35	1.8	0-10
Russian River SMCA	0.86	1.0	0-57
Bodega Head SMR	9.30	2.5	0-266
Bodega Head SMCA	12.34	3.8	0-267
Estero Americano SMRMA	0.15	1.2	0-10
Estero de San Antonio SMRMA	0.09	1.0	0-10
Point Reyes SMR	9.38	7.5	0-132
Point Reyes SMCA	12.11	4.2	51-217
Estero de Limantour SMR	1.49	5.3	0-10
Drakes Estero SMCA	2.55	5.6	0-10

*California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative, North Central Coast Project
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Duxbury SMP	0.66	3.0	0-10
Montara SMR	11.76	3.1	0-168
Pillar Point SMCA	6.66	1.9	0-174
North Farallon Islands SMR	18.09	NA	0-275
Southeast Farallon Island SMR	5.34	NA	0-238
Southeast Farallon Island SMCA	12.95	NA	130-382

⁵ Note: Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other.

Habitat Representation in IPA (April 23, 2008 version)

Habitat	Area ⁶ (mi ²) and percentage of mapped habitat in proposed MPA designations in the study region ⁷			
	SMR ⁸	SMP	SMCA	Total MPAs
Intertidal				
Sandy or gravel beach *	12.08 (10%)	0.85 (1%)	1.90 (2%)	14.83 (12%)
Rocky intertidal & cliff *	36.02 (22%)	6.90 (4%)	12.67 (8%)	55.60 (33%)
Coastal marsh	0.26 (17%)	0.00 (0%)	0.21 (14%)	0.48 (31%)
Tidal flats*	4.78 (26%)	0.00 (0%)	1.44 (8%)	6.23 (34%)
Seagrass beds				
Surfgrass*	12.77 (19%)	3.39 (5%)	0.66 (1%)	16.83 (24%)
Eelgrass	1.43 (24%)	0.00 (0%)	2.35 (39%)	3.79 (63%)
Estuary				
Estuary	1.90 (10%)	0.00 (0%)	2.52 (13%)	4.42 (23%)
Soft bottom				
0-30 meters*	4.49 (4%)	0.48 (< 1%)	1.24 (1%)	6.20 (6%)
30-100 meters	56.32 (14%)	1.32 (< 1%)	43.98 (11%)	101.63 (25%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hard bottom				
0-30 meters*	21.35 (27%)	3.22 (4%)	4.80 (6%)	29.37 (36%)
30-100 meters	8.96 (17%)	0.68 (1%)	7.72 (15%)	17.37 (33%)
100-200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
>200 meters ⁹	NA	NA	NA	NA
Substrate < 50 m deep				
Hard substrate	10.29 (17%)	0.94 (2%)	6.13 (10%)	17.35 (28%)
Soft substrate	15.98 (6%)	0.15 (< 1%)	8.38 (3%)	24.71 (9%)
Kelp forest				
Kelp 1989	0.52 (16%)	0.23 (7%)	0.54 (17%)	1.29 (40%)
Kelp 1999	0.22 (12%)	0.07 (4%)	0.13 (7%)	0.41 (23%)
Kelp 2002	0.44 (24%)	0.32 (18%)	0.00 (0%)	0.76 (42%)
Kelp 2003	0.15 (12%)	0.06 (5%)	0.19 (16%)	0.40 (33%)
Kelp 2004	0.17 (12%)	0.14 (10%)	0.16 (11%)	0.47 (34%)
Kelp 2005	0.06 (7%)	0.01 (1%)	0.22 (24%)	0.29 (32%)
Average Kelp*	8.61 (25%)	3.84 (11%)	1.36 (4%)	13.82 (39%)

⁶ Note: Habitats measured as an area (mi²) except for those with a * notation. Habitats with a * notation are expressed in linear units (mi).

⁷ Note: These are proposed MPA designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the SAT

⁸ Note: The SMR category groups together SMRs and SMRMAs.

⁹ Note: The "NA" notation is due to the fact that these habitats are not found or are only found in small areas in this study region.

Special Closures in IPA (April 23, 2008 version)

Geography	Boundary	Area (mi²)	Seasonality	Species Intended to Protect
Point Reyes Headlands	1000 ft	0.67	Year round	Intended to protect the largest and most diverse seabird colony on the mainland in the entire study region (e.g. Common Murre, Pelagic Cormorant, Western Gull, Brandt's cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Rhinoceros Auklet, Ashy storm-petrel, Brown Pelican).
Point Resistance	300 ft	0.01	Year round	Intended to protect breeding Common Murre and roosting Brown Pelican.
Stormy Stack	300 ft	0.02	Year round	Intended to protect 2nd largest seabird breeding colony in the southern subregion (e.g. murre, Brandt's cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Ashy storm-petrel and Brown Pelicans). Harbor seals haul-out and breed along beach; California sea lions haul out on islets.
Devil's Slide (Egg Rock)	300 -1000ft (Conical shape that includes 300 feet around egg rock, and also includes the area between Egg Rock and the mainland as defined by two points. No transit allowed between Egg Rock and mainland)	0.05	Year round	Intended to protect Common Murre and Brandt's cormorant colony on Egg Rock. Site of a significant seabird recovery project by US Fish & Wildlife Service. Roosting Brown Pelicans on rock and mainland.
North Farallon Islands	1000ft closure around N. Island. 300ft closure around Isle of St. James.	0.21	Year round	Intended to protect Steller sea lion haul out and > 72,000 nesting seabirds (e.g. Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Pelagic Cormorant, Brandt's cormorant, Western Gull, Cassin's Auklet).
Southeast Farallon Island	300 ft around Southeast Farallon, excluding Fishermen Bay and East Landing.	0.19	Year round, except a seasonal closure (12/1- 9/14) between Fishermen Bay and East Landing, and from east landing to southwest side of Saddle Rock.	Intended to protect Steller (haul out and rookery) and California sea lions (haul out), Northern fur (breeding) and Northern elephant seals (breeding), and more than 180,000 seabirds.