

Individual MPA Objectives
Alternative 2
(NCCRSR Proposal 2XA)
North Central Coast Study Region

In the following document, Goals (G) and Objectives (O) refer to “Regional goals, objectives, and design and implementation considerations for the north central coast regional component of a statewide MPA network.”

Point Arena SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes. (G1-O1)
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species. (G1-O5)
- Provide protection to area that contains one of most persistent & important upwelling plumes along entire California Coast & provides for significant downstream larval dispersal. (G1-O5)
- Help restore depleted species, such as nearshore & deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems. (G1-O3)
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & sea birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance. (G1-O3, G2-O3)
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals. (G1-O4)

Point Arena SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by trolling only) and commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by troll fishing gear only), and coastal pelagic species except market squid by round haul net

Specific Objectives:

- Protect an area of high benthic species diversity and abundance characteristic of the North central coast region north of Point Reyes and monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on deeper nearshore species. (G1-O3)

- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources and enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA and fully accessible area within a single reef complex. (G1-O2)

Black Point SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of the north central coast region north of Point Reyes. (G1-O1)
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species. (G1-O5)
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals. (G1-O4)
- Provide protection to area that contains one of most persistent & important upwelling plumes along entire California Coast & provides for significant downstream larval dispersal. (G1-O5)
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & sea birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance. (G1-O4, G1-O5, G2-O3)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA & fully accessible area within single reef complex. (G1-O2)
- Very limited shore-based public access. (G2-O2)
- Protect area of local ecological importance currently designated the Sea Ranch Association Marine Preserve.
- Protect area that has good public access to supplement & enhance non-consumptive diving opportunities. (G3-O1)

Black Point SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by trolling only) and commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook and

line (salmon by troll fishing gear only), and coastal pelagic species except market squid, by round haul net

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes except salmonids.
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA and fully accessible area within a single reef complex. (G1-O2)

Gerstle Cove SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect small existing reserve that has high species diversity & established age structure of populations in nearshore rocky habitat. (G1-O1, G1-O3)
- Protect established trophic structure & associated food webs in nearshore rocky habitat & sustain reproduction by species most likely to benefit by continuing to retain large, mature individuals. (G2-O2)

Russian River Estuary SMRMA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect unique genetic population of salmonids indigenous to Russian River drainage. (G1-O3)
- Protect ecosystem structure function & ecological processes to facilitate recovery of salmonids from disturbances both natural & human induced. (G1-O5)
- Protect unique estuarine ecosystem & associated species in a seasonally closed and/or restricted shoreline at the mouth of Russian River. (G4-O1)

Russian River SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational and commercial take of marine invertebrates and finfish EXCEPT: Chinook salmon

Specific Objectives:

- Protect Russian River Chinook salmon while allowing other recreational and commercial harvest. (G2-O4, G5-O1)

Bodega Head SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes. (G1-O1)
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore & Deeper Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species. (G1-O5)
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals.
- Provide protection to area that contains one of most persistent & important upwelling plumes along entire California Coast & provides for significant down stream larval dispersal. (G1-O5)
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & sea birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance.
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA across range of depths & fully accessible area within single reef complex in close proximity to Bodega Bay Marine Lab.(G1-O2, G3-O1)

Bodega Head SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of pelagic finfish by trolling, Dungeness crab by trap, and commercial take of pelagic finfish by troll fishing gear or round haul net, Dungeness crab by trap, and market squid by round haul net

Specific Objectives:

- Minimize effect of fishing on area of high benthic species diversity characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes while allowing specific recreational and commercial harvest. (G5-O1)
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals.

- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats and associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMCA adjacent to SMR across a range of depths and fully accessible area within single reef complex in close proximity of Bodega Bay Marine Lab. (G1-O2, G3-O1, G3-O3)
- Protect one of rare hard bottom reef complexes in NCCSR that extend from shore seaward to state water boundary.

Estero Americano SMRMA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited; waterfowl hunting is allowed

Specific Objectives:

- Protect species diversity and abundance, trophic structure & food webs, natural age structure & genetic diversity in representative habitats. (G1-O1, G1-O3, G1-O4)
- Sustain or increase reproduction of species by protecting & retaining large individuals & protecting breeding, foraging, rearing & nursery areas. (G2-O2, G2-O3)
- Enhance scientific validity with similar habitat replicated in close proximity. (G3-O3)

Estero de San Antonio SMRMA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited; waterfowl hunting is allowed

Specific Objectives:

- Protect species diversity & abundance, trophic structure and food webs, natural age structure & genetic diversity in representative habitats .(G1-O1, G1-O3, G1-O4)
- Sustain or increase reproduction of species by protecting & retaining large individuals & protecting breeding, foraging, rearing & nursery areas. (G2-O2, G2-O3)
- Enhance scientific validity with similar habitat replicated in close proximity. (G3-O3)

Point Reyes Headlands SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of the north central coast region north of Point Reyes. (G1-O1)
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore and Deeper Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species (G1-O5).
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals (G1-O4).
- Provide protection to area that contains persistent & important retention zone rarely found along entire California Coast (G1-O5).
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & sea birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance. (G1-O5)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA across a range of depths.

Point Reyes Headlands SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:

1. The recreational take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by trolling only), and Dungeness crab by trap
2. The commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon with troll fishing gear only), coastal pelagic species by round haul net, and Dungeness crab by trap

Specific Objectives:

- Minimize effect of fishing on area of high benthic species diversity characteristic of the north central coast region north of Point Reyes while allowing recreational and commercial harvest. (G5-O1)
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species. (G2-O1)
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes. (G2-O2)
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems.
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities. (G5-O1)
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA across a range of depths.

Estero de Limantour SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect dwelling species communities found in estuarine soft bottom habitat, such as, ghost shrimp, blood worms & mud shrimp.(G1-O1)
- Sustain or increase reproduction of species most likely to benefit by protection of mature individuals such as Ghost shrimp, bat rays, Harbor seals & seabirds (G2-O2).
- Sustain or increase reproduction of species most likely to benefit by protecting breeding, foraging, rearing & nursery areas for species such as California halibut, red tail perch, mud shrimp, leopard sharks & ghost shrimp. (G2-O3).
- Protect natural size, age & trophic structure, genetic diversity & food webs in representative habitats (G1-O3, G1-O4).

Drakes Estero SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:

1. The recreational take of clams
2. The commercial aquaculture of shellfish pursuant to a valid State Water Bottom Lease and permit.

Specific Objectives:

- Sustain or increase reproduction of species most likely to benefit by protection of mature individuals such as Ghost shrimp, bat rays, Harbor seals and seabirds (G2-O2).
- Sustain or increase reproduction of species most likely to benefit by protecting breeding, foraging, rearing and nursery areas for species such as Ca Halibut, red tail perch, mud shrimp, leopard sharks and ghost shrimp. (G2-O3).
- Protect natural size, age and trophic structure, genetic diversity and food webs in representative habitats (G1-O3, G1-O4).

Duxbury SMCA¹

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of finfish from shore only, and the recreational take of abalone.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect species while allowing traditional recreational access (G2-O4).
- Protect an area of important marine natural heritage.

Montara SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes (G1-O1).
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore and Deeper Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species (G1-O5).
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including species that serve as prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals (G1-O4).
- Enhance non-consumptive recreational & educational experiences by protecting intertidal ecosystems by reducing congestion & increasing size & abundance of species most likely to benefit from MPAs (G3-O2).
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species (G2-O1).
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes (G2-O2).
- Protect area with diverse habitats and associated species including kelp forest ecosystems (G1-O2).
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities (G5-O1).
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals as well as protect colonies from disturbance (G1-O5).
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA across range of depths.

Pillar Point SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:

1. The recreational take of pelagic finfish by trolling, and Dungeness crab by trap.
2. The recreational take of pelagic finfish with troll fishing gear or net, Dungeness crab by trap and market squid by round haul net.

Specific Objectives:

- Enhance non-consumptive recreational & educational experiences by protecting intertidal ecosystems by reducing congestion & increasing size & abundance of species most likely to benefit from MPAs (G3-O2).
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species (G2-O1).
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes (G2-O2).
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species including kelp forest ecosystems (G1-O2).
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities (G5-O1).
- Provide comparison analysis environment by providing SMR adjacent to SMCA across range of depths.

North Farallon Islands SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes (G1-O1).
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore and Deeper Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species (G1-O5).
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including pelagic finfish that serve as prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals (G1-O4).
- Protect unique habitat at Farallon Islands for intrinsic value while increasing ecosystem structure & function across range of depths (G4-O1).
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species (G2-O1).
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes (G2-O2).
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species (G1-O2).
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities (G5-O1).
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance (G1-O5).
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species (G1-O2).
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities (G5-O1).
- Protect forage base for colonies of marine mammals & birds as well as protect colonies from disturbance (G1-O5).
- Enhance non-consumptive recreational & educational experiences by protecting island ecosystems by reducing human disturbance & increasing size & abundance of species most likely to benefit from MPAs (G3-O2).

Southeast Farallon Island SMR

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect area of high benthic species diversity & maintain species diversity & abundance characteristic of north central coast region north of Point Reyes (G1-O1).
- Monitor appropriate indicator species with focus on Nearshore and Deeper Nearshore Fishery Management Plan species (G1-O5).
- Protect natural trophic structure & food webs, including species that serve as prey for other fish, marine birds & marine mammals (G1-O4).
- Protect unique habitat at Farallon Islands for intrinsic value while increasing ecosystem structure & function across range of depths (G4-O1).

- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore & deeper nearshore species (G2-O1).
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes (G2-O2).

Southeast Farallon Island SMCA

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:

1. The recreational take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon by trolling only) and coastal pelagic species except market squid
2. The commercial take of pelagic finfish by hook and line (salmon with troll fishing gear only) and coastal pelagic species except market squid, by round haul net.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect unique habitat at Farallon Islands for intrinsic value while increasing ecosystem structure & function across range of depths (G4-O1).
- Help restore depleted species, such as near shore and deeper nearshore species (G2-O1).
- Protect larval sources & enhance reproductive capacity of shelf species including rockfishes (G2-O2).
- Protect area with diverse habitats & associated species (G1-O2).
- Protect natural heritage location while minimizing socioeconomic impacts to local communities (G5-O1).

¹ Note: This area will initially be designated as an SMCA, though its regulations allow later change to SMP by the State Park and Recreation Commission.