

**Individual MPA Objectives**  
**Alternative 1**  
(NCCRSR Proposal 1-3)  
North Central Coast Study Region

**Point Arena SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect diverse species & unique & complex habitats (pinnacles, wash rocks, caverns, clefts, honeycomb formation, undercut & vertical rock walls, cobbles, deep sand, kelp), fueled by persistent upwelling. Restoration potential for declining yelloweye, canary & china rockfish populations. (G2 O1, O2)
- Leave open for fishing the harbor, popular fishing and diving spots north & south of harbor, most of Manchester Beach crab grounds, shore fishing on Manchester, extensive salmon fishing areas & cultural uses near Garcia River mouth & Manchester Beach (G3 O1)
- Improve fish productivity in SMR to benefit local rockfish fishing outside MPA (G3 O2) iconic place. (G3 O3)

**Point Arena SMCA**

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of salmon by trolling and commercial take of salmon with troll fishing gear.

Specific Objectives:

- Extend protection to state boundary to encompass deeper habitat & associated species in regional center of high productivity (see above). G102, G103, G201 and G202
- Protect nearshore reef species and habitats on which they depend while allowing commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through the use of SMCA. (G204, G501)

**Saunders Reef SMCA**

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

1. The recreational take of salmon by trolling, abalone, and finfish<sup>2</sup> by hook and line or by spear from shore only
2. The commercial take of salmon with troll fishing gear, and urchin.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect complex and highly productive rocky reef and kelp habitat including one of the largest stands of bull kelp in the north central coast, and associated

species, while attempting to minimize socioeconomic impacts to the area. (G2 O2, G5 O1)

### **Del Mar Landing SMP**

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreation take of finfish<sup>2</sup> by hook and line or spear.

#### Specific Objectives:

- Protect abalone near a coastal access point, and the existing SMP has community importance, stewardship and support for keeping this SMP as a heritage site. (G3O2)
- Provide a control area for abalone studies near areas of heavy harvest, and enhances consumptive recreation by increasing abalone spawning within the SMP (G203)

### **Rocky Point to Horseshoe Point SMR**

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

#### Specific Objectives:

- Provide highest protection to complex rocky habitat, large kelp area, coves, wash rocks, shelves, walls, cobble & boulders & dependent species within SAT preferred-size range reserve. (G1O1, G1O3, G1O4, G1O5)
- Include area with relatively steep depth gradient and high relief near shore.
- Provide very high level of protection from shoreline to state waters line to ensure connectivity in protection of habitat from shoreline to deep water. (G1O5)
- Protect area offshore Salt Point State Park boundaries to establish natural age structure & populations for non-consumptive users & to enhance fishing experience to south of reserve through larval & adult movement. (G3O2)
- Sustain or increase reproduction by species most likely to benefit from MPAs through retention of large, mature individuals. (G2O2)

### **Gerstle Cove SMR**

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

#### Specific Objectives:

- Protect intertidal habitat in an existing MPA that appears to be working for resident species, including abalone.
- Enhance biodiversity protection from existing MPA via proximity to Rocky Pt - Horseshoe Pt. SMR. G1O1)
- Preserve traditional site for educational and non-consumptive recreation; This SMR is a heritage site. (G3O2)

### **Russian River SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect nursery ground habitat.
- Protect communities associated with areas of diverse estuarine habitats including open channels, mud flats, eel grass beds, etc. Protects estuary, steelhead, Russian River Chinook & Coho salmon, birds, mammals etc.
- Protect salmonid resources subject to fishing impacts when balled up at mouth of estuary when closed.

**Russian River SMCA**

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

1. The recreational take of Dungeness crab by trap, and surf smelt by hand-held dip net or beach net from shore only.
2. The commercial take of Dungeness crab by trap.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect Russian River Chinook and Coho salmon (Evolutionary Significant Units), at localized estuarine collection point.

**Bodega Head SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect multiple rocky reefs of varying depths, high relief rocky habitat at the north end, and high energy headlands. (G1O2, G1O5)
- Protects currently fished areas with restoration potential. (G1O5, G2O2) Include rock and sand habitat types in close proximity to each other.(G1O2)
- Improve fish productivity in the SMR to benefit local rockfish fishing outside the MPA (G3O2) Close proximity to Bodega Marine Lab provides enhanced research opportunities. (G3O3, G3O4)

**Bodega Head SMCA**

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational and commercial take of pelagic finfish<sup>3</sup> by hook and line (recreational salmon take by trolling and commercial salmon take with troll fishing gear only), and Dungeness crab by trap.

Specific Objectives:

Protect near shore reef species and the habitats on which they depend while allowing the commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through the use of a state marine conservation area. (G2O4)

- Extend protection to include deeper water and varied habitat including a reef that extends to the state water boundary. (G1O2)

- Improves fish productivity in the SMR to benefit local rockfish fishing outside the MPA (G3 O2)
- Protect near shore reef species and the habitats on which they depend while allowing the commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through the use of a state marine conservation area. (G2O4)

### **Estero Americano SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect nursery ground habitat.
- Protect communities associated with areas of diverse estuarine habitats including open channels, mud flats, eel grass beds, etc. Goals: 1,2,4 Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, and high biodiversity

### **Estero de San Antonio SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect nursery ground habitat.
- Protect communities associated with areas of diverse estuarine habitats including open channels, mud flats, eel grass beds, etc. Goals: 1,2,4 Protect unique estuary habitat with Tidewater goby, migratory birds, rare nudibranch, sea cucumbers, & high biodiversity. One of most natural Mediterranean climate-type estuary remaining in California with salinity from 10-44 ppt. Supports CA freshwater shrimp. Endangered species; Historical robust steelhead fishery;

### **Point Reyes SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect diverse fish, seabird & marine mammals associated with multiple habitats including exposed high energy rocky shoreline, sand & gravel beaches, offshore islets, surf grass, soft & hard substrates set against oceanic features of major headlands at receiving end of coastal upwelling system of global significance.
- Protect natural tropic & natural ecosystem structure & function with minimal human-induced changes. (G1, O4 and O5)
- Protect larval retention zone of regional import for many fish & invertebrate species. (G2, O2)
- Reduce disturbances to major mainland seabird colonies & elephant seal rookeries within study region. (G2, O3)
- Preserve an iconic place. (G3, O1)
- Include areas with diverse habitat types within one MPA cluster. (G1, O2).

- Leverage National seashore for monitoring, enforcement & education. (Design guidelines 6 & 9).

### **Point Reyes SMCA**

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

1. The recreational take of salmon by trolling, and Dungeness crab by trap.
2. The commercial take of salmon with troll fishing gear, and Dungeness crab by trap.

#### Specific Objectives:

- Extend protection offshore to state boundary for diverse fish, seabird & marine mammal species in deeper hard & soft bottom. G102, G301, G503  
Protect near shore reef species & habitats on which they depend while allowing commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through use of SMCA. (G204).
- Help protect diversity of species, including fish & mammals. Covers diversity of bottom habitats & oceanographic/wind conditions.

### **Drakes and Limantour Estero SMR**

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

#### Specific Objectives:

- Expand on long-term protections of Limantour Estero for complex estuarine habitats & dependent species, including eelgrass beds & mudflat ecosystems. (G101, G104, G105, G203, G401)
- While not evaluated as one MPA, SMR is contiguous to Point Reyes SMR, providing connectivity between tributaries & tidal marshes & diverse near-shore habitats. (G105, G203, G401)
- Significant nursery area for Dungeness crab, & numerous rockfish & flatfish species. (G203)
- Essential habitat for Black Brandt geese & a key foraging area for shorebirds, coastal waterfowl & brown pelicans. (G203)
- In designated federal wilderness area (G101, G302)
- Leverage National seashore for monitoring, enforcement & education. (Design guidelines 6 and 9).
- Support current NPS coho salmon & steelhead trout migration habitat restoration projects on multiple tributaries. (G201)
- Protect major harbor seal pupping & haul-out sites. (G203)

### **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:**

- Protect estuarine habitats while allowing existing aquaculture activities as well as recreational clamming to continue.
- The proposal recognizes the unique ecosystem of the estuary and recommends that this MPA be given full SMR protection when the leases/reservations of use expires in 2012. When turned into an SMR, it will fulfill the objectives outlined for the Drakes Estero and Limantour SMR

**Double Point SMCA**

**Proposed Regulations:** Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational and commercial take of salmon (recreational salmon take by trolling and commercial salmon take with troll fishing gear), Dungeness crab by trap, halibut by hook and line, and coastal pelagic species<sup>4</sup> except market squid.

**Specific Objectives:**

- Protect diverse habitats from rock & sandy inter-tidal to rocky reef near-shore with mosaic of hard & soft-substrates & kelp beds & their respective species & ecosystems.
- Include portion of one of largest shale reefs in state (G4O2)
- Allow commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile species through use of SMCA. (G2, O4)
- Dispersal of groundfish species associated with reef ecosystem should benefit fishing opportunities on balance of reef area in vicinity, as well as provide additional research opportunities for size & population studies. (G2O4,G3O2)
- Protect contiguous area with diverse benthic, kelp & intertidal habitats (G1, O2)
- Sustain or increase reproductive reproduction by species most likely to benefit from MPAs through retention of large demersal fish.

**Duxbury Reef SMCA**

**Proposed Regulations:** Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of finfish<sup>2</sup> by hook and line from shore only.

**Specific Objectives:**

- Retain a heritage site with strong community and educational interest and support (G3 O1)
- Protect intertidal habitat, algae and intertidal invertebrates, especially mussel beds, in a portion of one of largest shale reefs in state and diverse intertidal habitats fueled by upwelling and near the Sacramento River plume.
- Replicate, to an extent, diverse intertidal and subtidal rock and sand habitats at Fitzgerald reef.
- By allowing shore based hook and line fishing, preserves accessible family fishing location (G3 O2)

- Leverage adjacent land protection and enhance reserve protection and enforcement by establishing a State Marine Reserve adjacent to Agate Beach County Park. (Design guidelines 6 and 9).

### **Fitzgerald SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Protect many representative habitat types found in CA including rocky intertidal, rocky subtidal, shale reefs, granite reefs and boulders, soft sediment (sand and gravel), rocky cobble areas, sea grass beds of ~ 20 acres, bull kelp beds of > 100 acres, giant kelp beds of ~ one acre, rocky pinnacles, coralline algae beds & benthic subtidal drift algae. (G1 O1, G1 O2)
- Protect areas of high species diversity associated with the habitat complexity. (G1 O1)
- Protect integrated ecosystem from shore to state water boundary in order to allow system to function with minimum of human disturbance. (G1 O3, 4, 5)
- Protect larval source & enhance reproductive capacity of intertidal invertebrate species such as abalone, limpets, mussels & other invertebrates. (G2, O2)
- Sustain or increase reproduction by nearshore fishery management species most likely to benefit from MPAs through retention of large, mature individuals. (G2, O2)
- Protect a contiguous area with diverse habitats (G1, O2)
- Protect rare & endemic species - 6 endemics plus listed species. (G2 O1)
- Protect breeding & resting seabirds & marine mammals from disturbance by fishing activities. (G1, O1 and G2, O2)
- Improve scientific research such as LiMPETS student monitoring program & university research (G3 O3)
- Protect & enhance educational & non consumptive recreational uses; MPA already has volunteer programs, some of which have been in place since 1972 (G3 O1, O4)
- Leverage adjacent land protection & enhance reserve protection & enforcement by establishing a SMR adjacent to county park. (Design guidelines 6 and 9).

### **Montara SMCA**

Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT:  
1. The recreational take of salmon by trolling, Dungeness crab by trap, and coastal pelagic species<sup>4</sup> by hook and line.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect diverse area with mix of sand & rock.
- Protect nearshore species & habitats on which they depend while allowing commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through use of a SMCA. (G2, O4)

- Extend protection of reef habitat north of Fitzgerald SMR.
- Sustain or increase reproduction by nearshore fishery management species most likely to benefit from MPAs through retention of large, mature individuals. (G2, O2)
- Protect contiguous area with diverse habitats (G1, O2)
- Protect breeding & resting seabirds & marine mammals from disturbance by fishing activities. (G2, O2)

### **North Farallon Islands SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Include a portion of unique tidal, subtidal, benthic & pelagic habitat of Farallones. Help protect concentrations of prey & foraging predators—fish & breeding colonies of seabirds & marine mammals—at highly productive & unique mix of habitats. Further objectives of reserve to protect natural diversity & structure (G1, O1)
- Function of unique marine ecosystem (G1, O5), help assure continued recovery of ground fish (G2, O1),
- Enhance reproductive success of seabirds & marine mammals using islands (G2, O3), & increase supply of large adults & larval fish which can disperse to adjacent areas for fisheries harvest outside MPA (G3 O2)
- Protect globally significant biological site. G101, G102, G103, G104, G105 G201, G203, G401

### **Southeast Farallon Islands SMR**

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

Specific Objectives:

- Purpose of SMR is to allow natural ecosystem function in key portion of subregion. (G1, O5)
- Include portion of unique tidal, subtidal, benthic & pelagic habitat of Farallones (G4, O1)
- Further objectives of reserve are to protect natural diversity & structure (G1, O1)
- Function of unique marine ecosystem, increase rockfish larval production (G2, O1, O2), help assure continued recovery of ground fish (G2, O1)
- Enhance reproductive success of seabirds & marine mammals using islands (G2, O3)
- Increase supply of large adults & larval fish which can disperse to adjacent areas for fisheries harvest outside MPA (G3 O2)
- Protects globally significant biological site.

### **Southeast Farallon Islands SMCA**



Proposed Regulations: Take of all living marine resources is prohibited EXCEPT: the recreational take of salmon by trolling and commercial take of salmon with troll fishing gear.

Specific Objectives:

- Protect deeper habitats SE of Farallon Islands. Area connects with drop to deep habitat to SW of islands.
- Protect benthic habitat & forage base for fish, birds & mammals at islands, while allowing salmon trolling G102, G203, G204, G302, G401, G501
- Improves fish productivity in SMR to benefit local rockfish fishing outside MPA (G3 O2)
- Protect nearshore reef species & habitats on which they depend while allowing commercial and/or recreational harvest of migratory, highly mobile, or other species where appropriate through use of a SMCA. (G2O4)