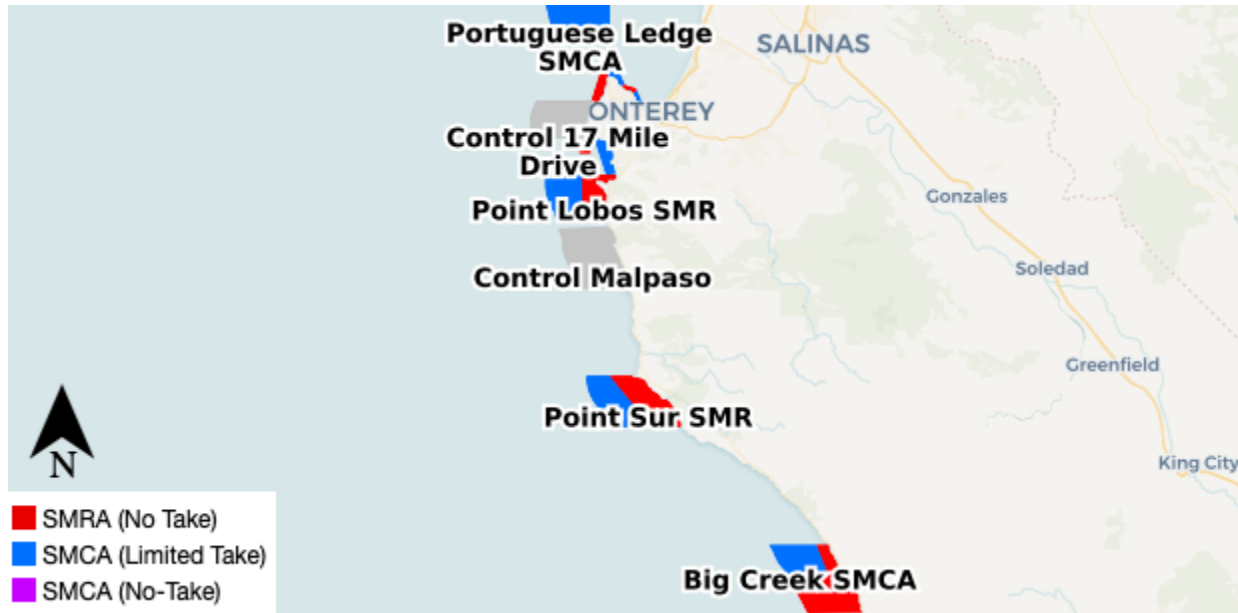




**Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch
Regional Report
Monterey County
January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021**



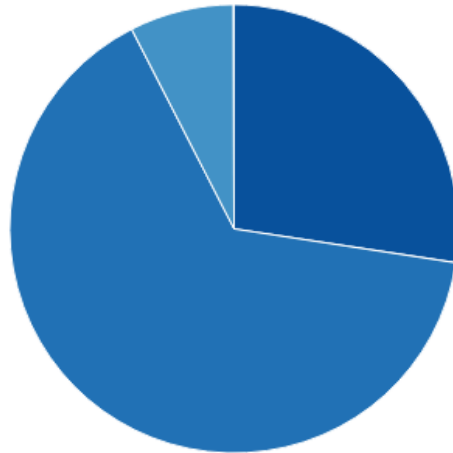
MPA Watch is a statewide collaborative effort to collect critical human use data to enhance the management and conservation of marine protected areas (MPAs). MPA Watch data informs the management, enforcement, and science of California's MPAs and allows us insight on how human uses are changing as a result of MPA implementation. By involving local communities in this important work, MPA Watch programs inspire and empower stewardship, and educate California communities about ocean ecosystems. MPA Watch trains volunteers to observe and collect unbiased data on coastal and marine resource use. MPA Watch in Monterey County is implemented through a joint effort among WILD Coast, The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, and California State Parks.

Human Use of MPAs January - June 2021

Overview

Top 7 MPAs by All Activity

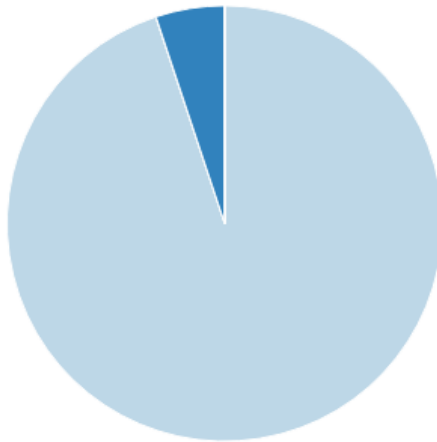
January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021
372 total activity events



- Año Nuevo SMCA
0 (< 1%)
- Natural Bridges SMR
0 (< 1%)
- Lovers Point SMR
102 (27%)
- Asilomar SMR
242 (65%)
- Point Lobos SMR
28 (8%)
- Cambria SMCA
0 (< 1%)
- Point Buchon SMR
0 (< 1%)

All MPAs Combined

January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021
372 activity events



- On-Shore Nonconsumptive
353 (95%)
- On-Shore Consumptive
0 (< 1%)
- Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
19 (5%)
- Off-Shore Consumptive
0 (< 1%)

Activity Classifications

On-Shore - Activities that take place on a sandy or rocky beach. Excludes bluffs, trails, sea walls, parking lots, or other man-made structures. Includes recreation, tidepooling, shore-based fishing, etc.

Off-Shore - Activities that take place offshore, typically in knee-deep water or deeper. Includes surfing, SCUBA diving, kayaking, boat fishing, etc.

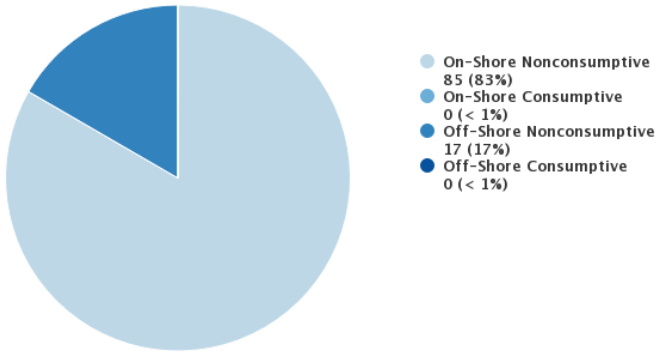
Consumptive - An activity in which a natural resource (i.e. fish, kelp, shells) is being collected.

Non-Consumptive - An activity in which a natural resource is not collected.

Activity by MPA

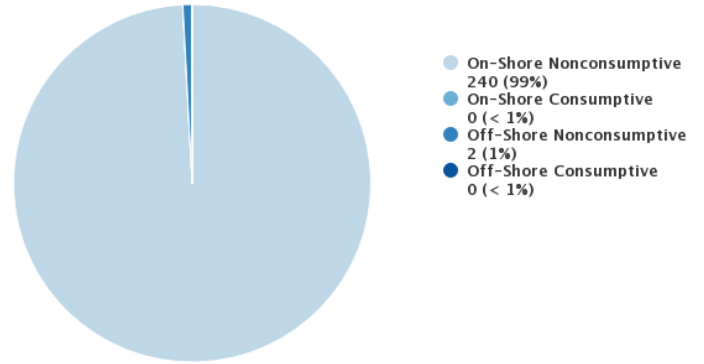
Lovers Point SMR

January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021
102 activity events



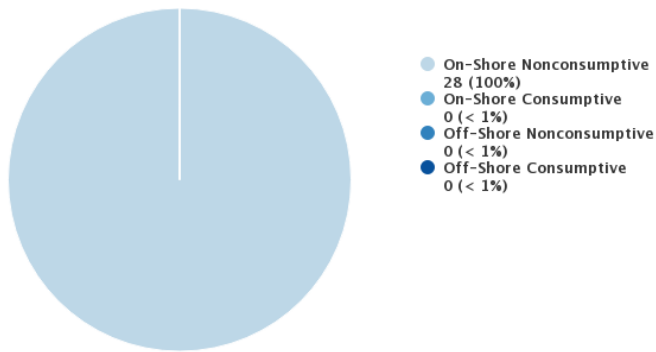
Asilomar SMR

January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021
242 activity events



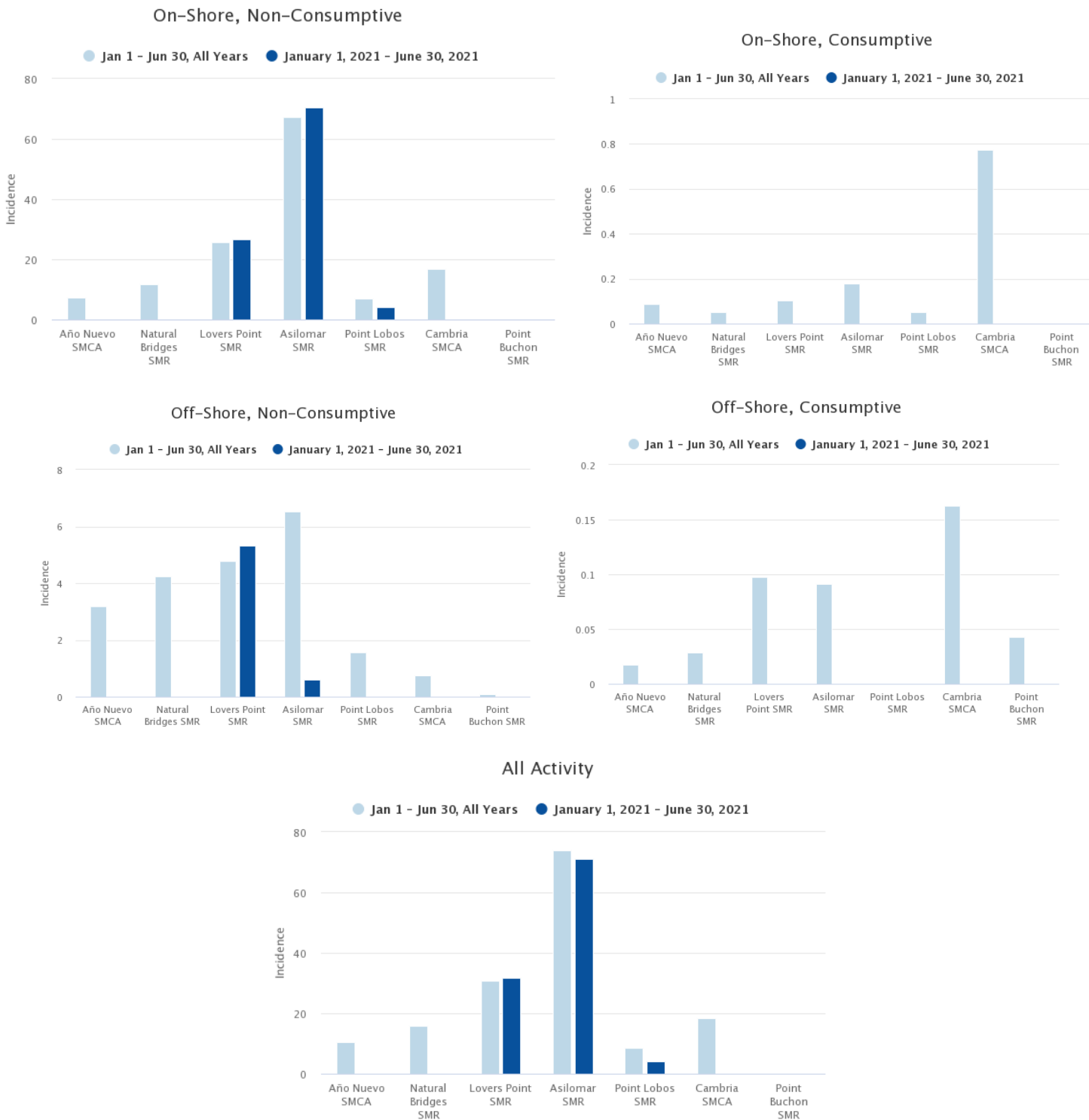
Point Lobos SMR

January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021
28 activity events



*Charts for Año Nuevo SMCA, Natural Bridges SMR, Cambria SMCA, and Point Buchon SMR have been excluded due to lack of surveys conducted at those locations.

Activity Incidence by MPA



The above charts show incidence values for each MPA monitored by MPA Watch in San Diego County. Incidence is calculated as number of activities recorded divided by total survey-miles.

Activity Incidence by MPA

MPA	On-Shore				MPA	Off-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive			Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	Jan 1 Jun 30 All Years	Jan 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2021	Jan 1 Jun 30 All Years	Jan 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2021		Jan 1 Jun 30 All Years	Jan 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2021	Jan 1 Jun 30 All Years	Jan 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2021
Año Nuevo SMCA	7.3	nan	0.1	nan	Año Nuevo SMCA	3.2	nan	0.0	nan
Natural Bridges SMR	11.6	nan	0.1	nan	Natural Bridges SMR	4.2	nan	0.0	nan
Lovers Point SMR	25.9	26.6	0.1	0.0	Lovers Point SMR	4.8	5.3	0.1	0.0
Asilomar SMR	67.3	70.6	0.2	0.0	Asilomar SMR	6.5	0.6	0.1	0.0
Point Lobos SMR	7.0	4.1	0.1	0.0	Point Lobos SMR	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cambria SMCA	16.7	nan	0.8	nan	Cambria SMCA	0.8	nan	0.2	nan
Point Buchon SMR	0.0	nan	0.0	nan	Point Buchon SMR	0.1	nan	0.0	nan
All MPAs Combined	21.6	26.1	0.2	0.0	All MPAs Combined	3.0	1.4	0.1	0.0

Total Combined		
MPA	Jan 1 Jun 30 All Years	Jan 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2021
Año Nuevo SMCA	10.6	nan
Natural Bridges SMR	15.9	nan
Lovers Point SMR	30.9	31.9
Asilomar SMR	74.1	71.2
Point Lobos SMR	8.6	4.1
Cambria SMCA	18.4	nan
Point Buchon SMR	0.1	nan
All MPAs Combined	24.9	27.6

The above tables show incidence values for each MPA monitored by MPA Watch in Monterey County. Incidence is calculated as number of activities recorded divided by total survey-miles.

Notes on Calculating Incidence

The baseline rate for the reporting period was calculated by summing the total use count for each category during the same period from each previous year and dividing this value by the transect miles surveyed at each site. The miles surveyed were calculated by first identifying the length of each transect for all the MPA's in question and multiplying the length of the transect by the number of surveys that had been taken along that transect during the same time period. For MPA's with multiple transects, the total distance traveled for each transect within the MPA were summed together to get the total miles surveyed within that MPA.

Breakdown by MPA

Lovers Point State Marine Reserve

Between the months of January and June 2021, Monterey MPA Watch data shows a use rate of 31.9 total use count per miles surveyed in the Lovers Point State Marine Reserve (SMR). This is very close to the baseline rate of 30.9 for the same reporting period in previous years indicating that the use of the Lovers Point SMR has returned to normal following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.

Between the months of January and and June 2021, Monterey County MPA Watch data shows that 100% of the activities tracked within MPA boundaries were on and off-shore non-consumptive activities.

Asilomar State Marine Reserve

Between the months of January and June 2021, Monterey MPA Watch data shows a use rate of 71.2 total use count per miles surveyed in the Asilomar SMR. This is a few points below the baseline rate of 74.1, but is all in all consistent with use rates of previous years.

Between the months of January and and June 2021, Monterey County MPA Watch data shows that 100% of the activities tracked within MPA boundaries were on and off-shore non-consumptive activities.

Point Lobos State Marine Reserve

Between the months of January and June 2021, Monterey MPA Watch data shows a use rate of 4.1 total use count per miles surveyed in the Point Lobos SMR. This is less than half of the baseline use rate of 8.6 from the same reporting period of previous years.

Between the months of January and and June 2021, Monterey County MPA Watch data shows that 100% of the activities tracked within MPA boundaries were on-shore non-consumptive activities.

Next Steps

The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History aims to increase the number of volunteers conducting human use data collection in Monterey County's Marine Protected Areas. While much of our volunteering has been on hold due to Covid-19, we are planning a virtual MPA Watch training on Zoom this Spring for our new and current volunteers so that they are able to get involved and collect data without having to meet in person or shadow other volunteers, which is how we have trained volunteers in the past. We

would be able to offer volunteers opportunities while increasing the amount of MPA Watch volunteers at the museum.

Additional Information

For additional information on MPA Watch, including survey sites, participating organizations, protocols and datasheets, media kit, and how to get involved, please visit mpawatch.org. Connect with MPA Watch on social media [@MPAWatchOrg](https://www.instagram.com/MPAWatchOrg).

For additional information regarding MPAs and regulations specific to the various classifications of MPAs please visit wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs. If you see an activity that violates MPA regulations, please call CalTip to report the violation at (888)-334-2258.

For more information regarding the MPA Watch program at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, visit pgmuseum.org or email Julia Madden-Fulk at maddenfulk@pgmuseum.org. Connect with PGMNH on social media [@pgmuseum!](https://www.instagram.com/pgmuseum)