



Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch
Yearly Regional Report
LA County Mainland - Boat-Based
January 2021 – December 2021
Los Angeles Waterkeeper's
Community Based Enforcement Liaison
Boat-Based Survey Report
Tongva, Chumash & Tataviam Lands



Los Angeles Waterkeeper (LAW) has conducted boat-based surveys of our Point Dume MPA in Malibu, and our Point Vicente & Abalone Cove MPAs in Palos Verdes regularly since January of 2012 when Southern California MPA regulations went into effect.

LAW documents all consumptive and non-consumptive boating activity, as well as all fishing and other consumptive activities observed taking place on or in the water, as well as all onshore fishing and any other consumptive activity occurring in and around the two mainland LA County MPA's, including control areas.

LAW's boat-based survey transects begin and extend approximately two miles beyond the boundaries of our MPAs as we monitor control sites that run up shore and down shore of the MPA boundaries. Control area data is collected during every survey.

LAW's compliance focused MPA boat-based survey effort complements the land-based MPA multiple human use focused surveys conducted by Heal the Bay.

In response to the tremendous uptick in illegal take during the COVID pandemic, LAW increased the number of boat-based surveys again in 2021 conducting 70 MPA Watch boat-based surveys, focusing again on supporting MPA enforcement agency efforts as Community Based Enforcement Liaison.



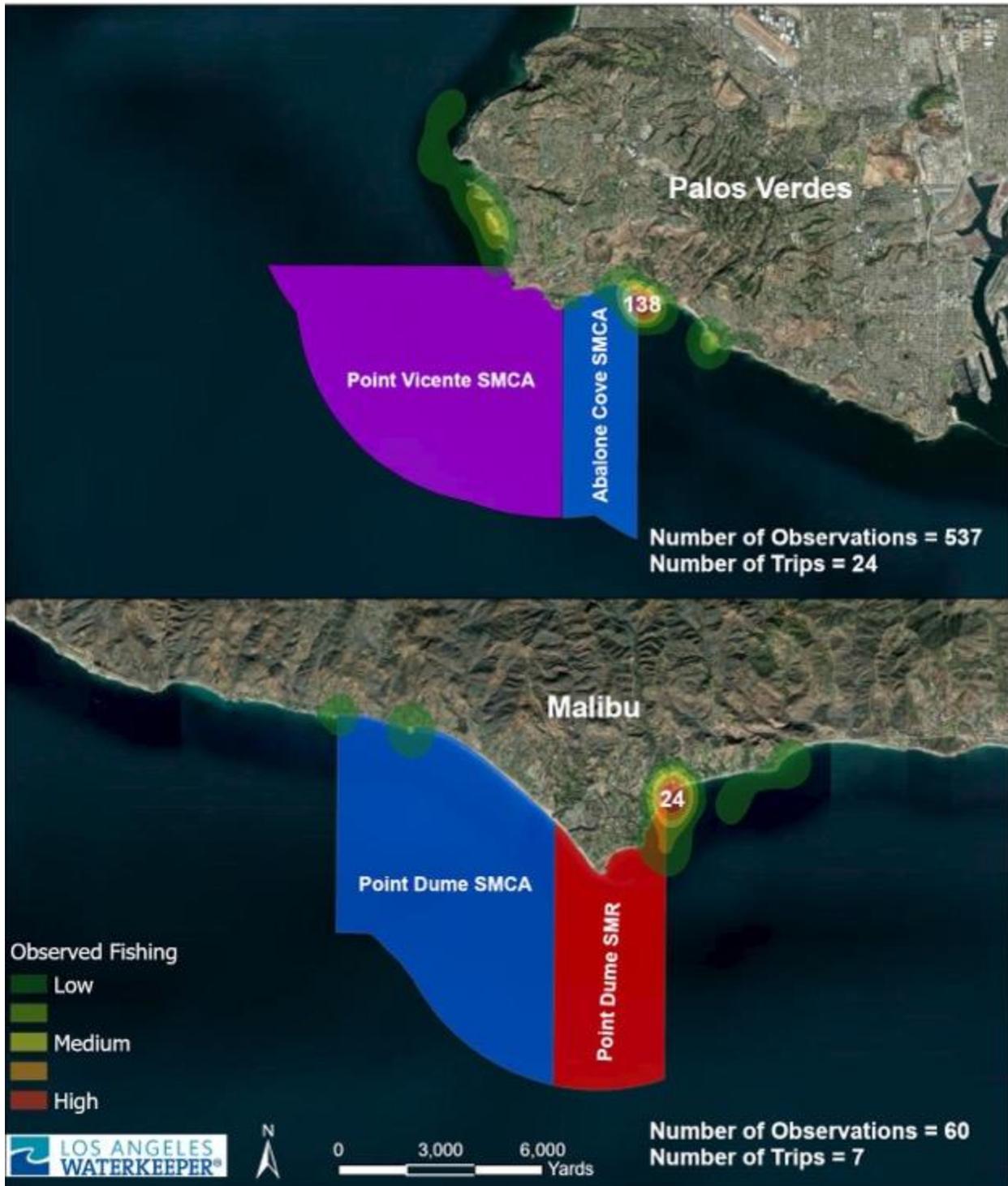
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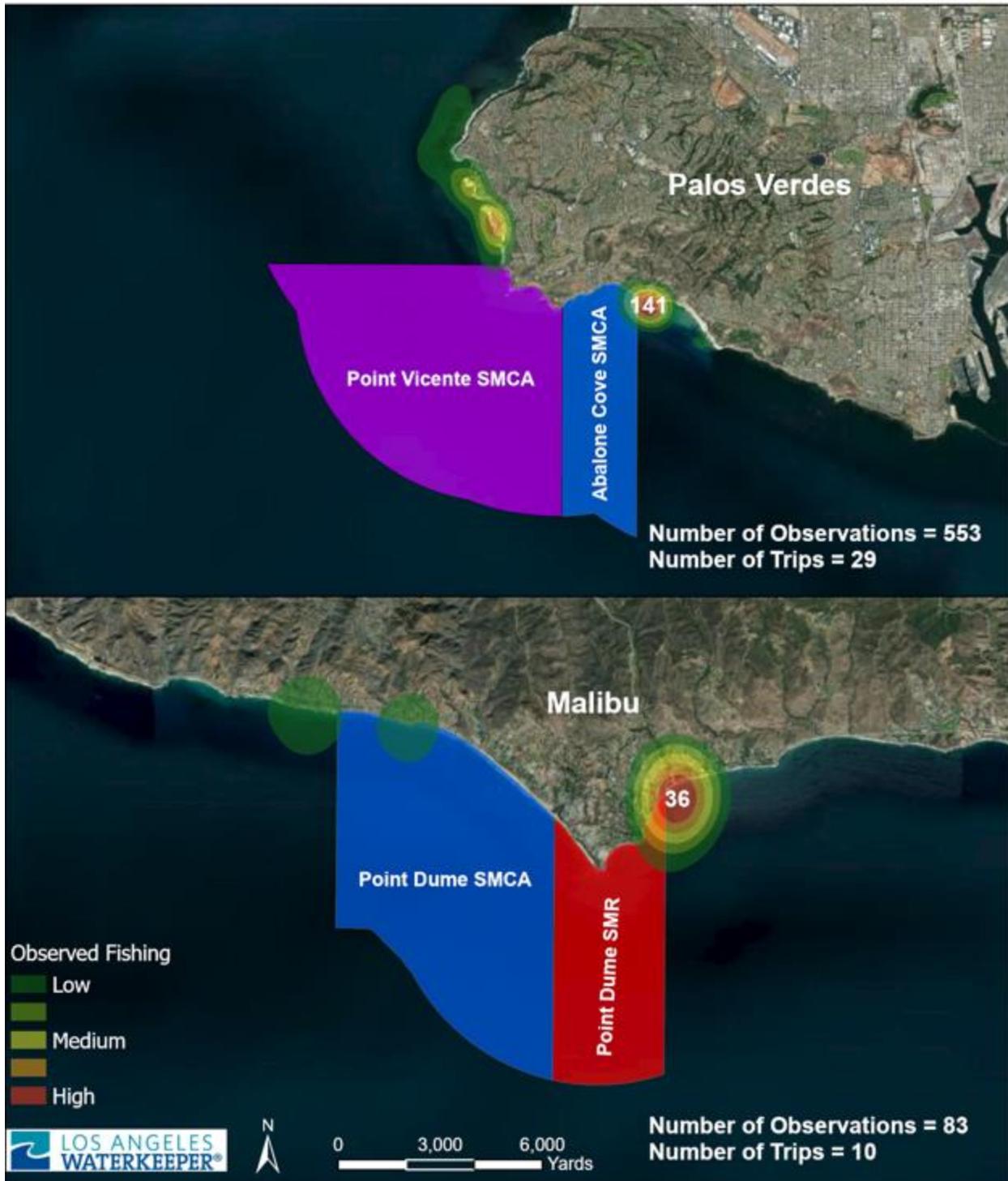
Executive Summary

- LAW's MPA Watch effort has evolved into a Community Based Enforcement Liaison program in ongoing collaboration with CDFW and Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) Rangers sharing live observations from our on the water point of view.
- LAW's Marine Programs Director, Dr. Michael Quill, oversaw every LAW boat-based survey and he reported and recorded all probable violations observed occurring onshore and offshore to CalTip and Wardens from the water.
- LAW suspended volunteer crew participation in their boat-based survey program due to COVID-19 restrictions in March of 2020 until restrictions lessened in May of 2021. At that time, a core group of LAW's vaccinated veteran volunteers rejoined LAW's effort with crew sizes limited to 2 volunteers per trip. LAW adapted to the COVID variants and surges in COVID infections, following CDC recommendations through 2021.
- LAW observed overall fishing effort and the number of probable violations reported was higher in the first half of 2021, much as it had been during most of 2020. In May of 2021, restrictions lessened and COVID vaccinations became more available to our community allowing for their participation in other recreational and entertainment options. In addition to life opening a bit for folks, the massive Hyperion sewage spill of July 2021, the oil spill in October 2021, and a final December 2021 sewage spill in LA, may have been factors in the decreased ocean focused activities LAW observed.
- Every probable onshore violation observed inside the Pt. Vicente/ Abalone Cove MPAs were reported to the RPV Rangers via text or phone as well as to CalTip via phone call. All Pt. Dume observed probable violations are reported to CalTip and local wardens as appropriate.
- After completing a survey, LAW staffer Quill offered on-the-water, boat-to-boat MPA outreach and reported any other possible onshore violations to CDFW and the RPV Rangers as appropriate.
- Records of all LAW calls to CalTip and contact with RPV Rangers made during LAW's surveys are submitted in this report to aide enforcement research of CalTip and LAW's ongoing role as Community Based Enforcement Liaison.

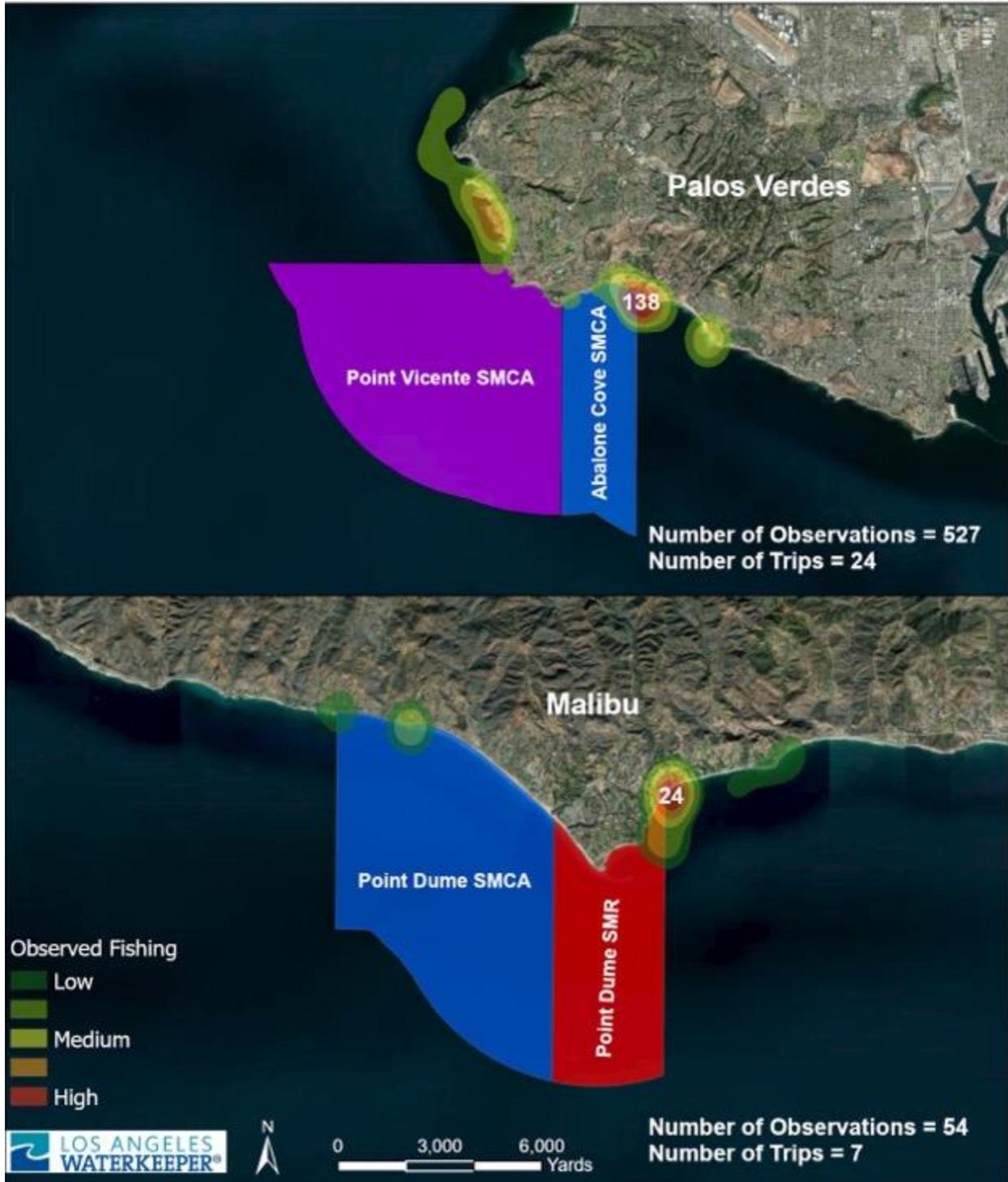
Jan - June 2021 All Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



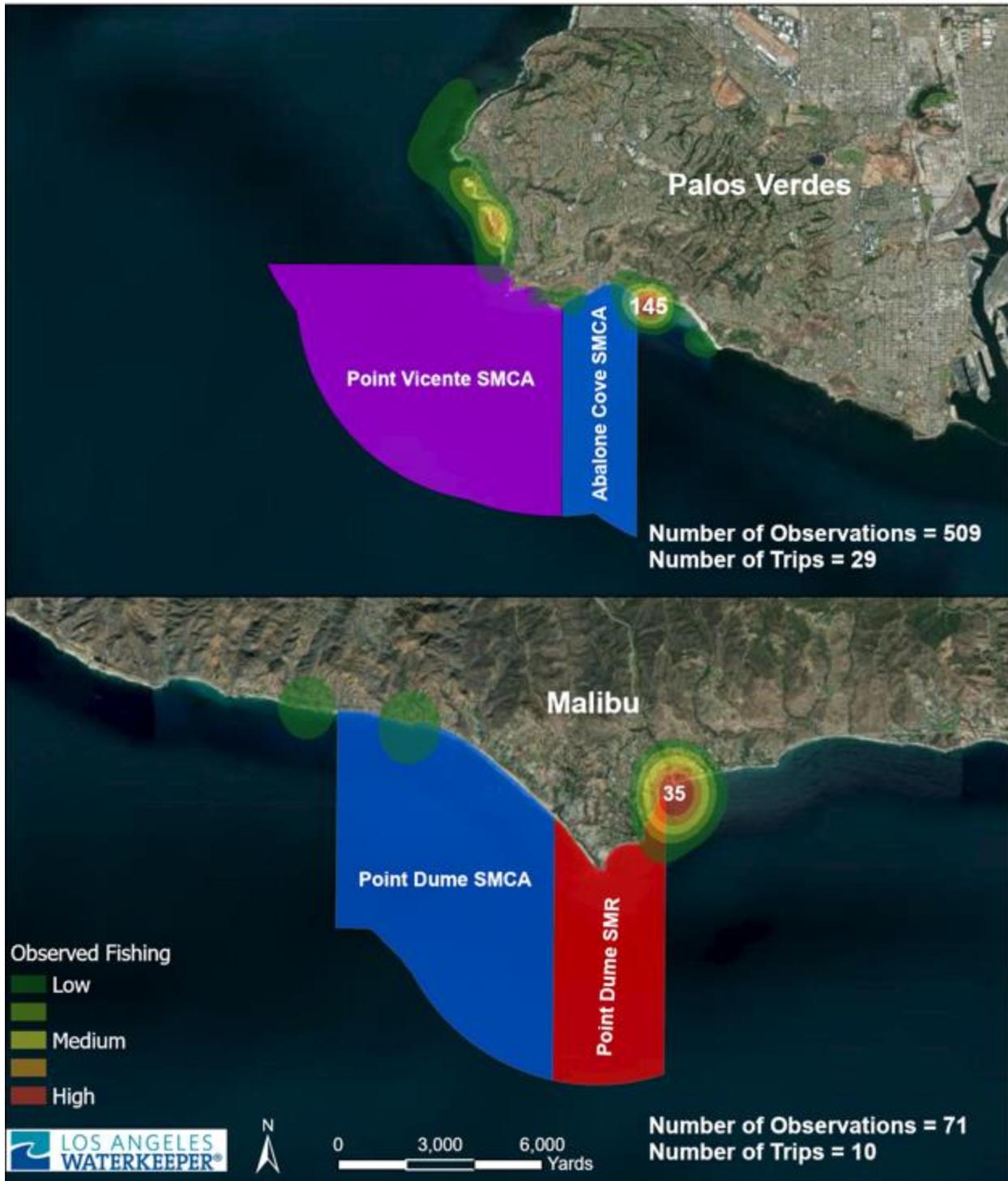
July - Dec 2021 All Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



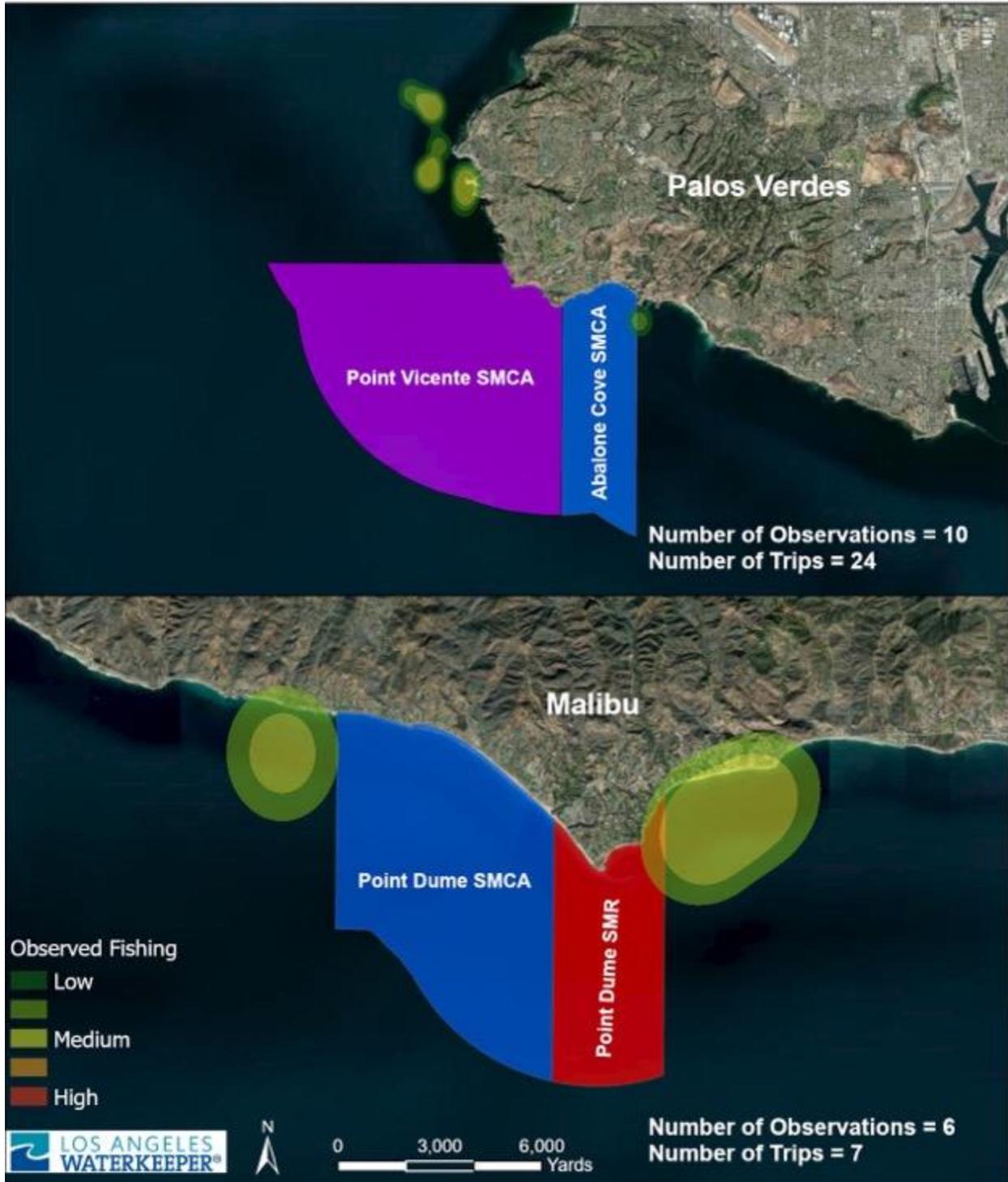
Jan - June 2021 Recreational Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



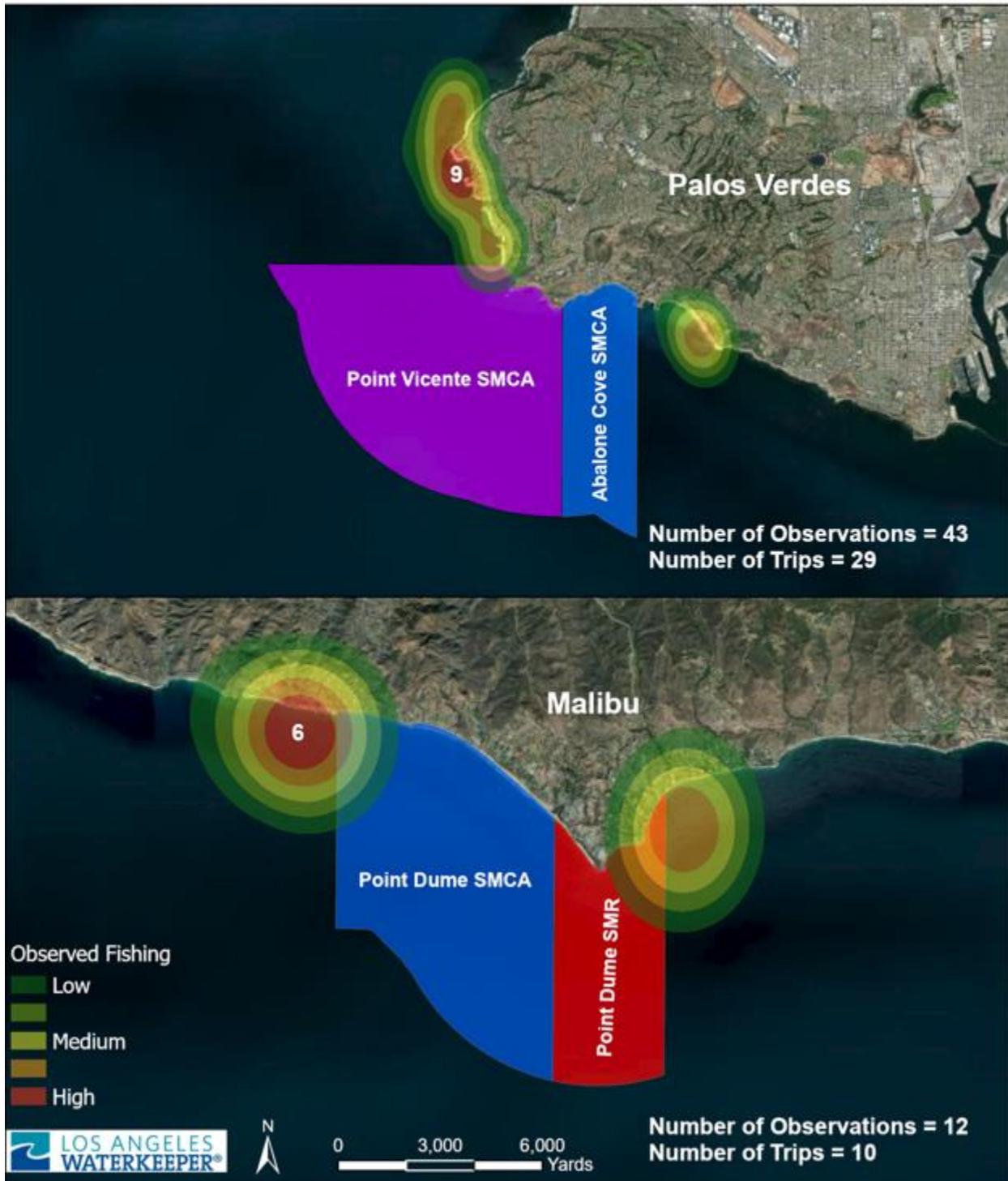
July - Dec 2021 Recreational Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



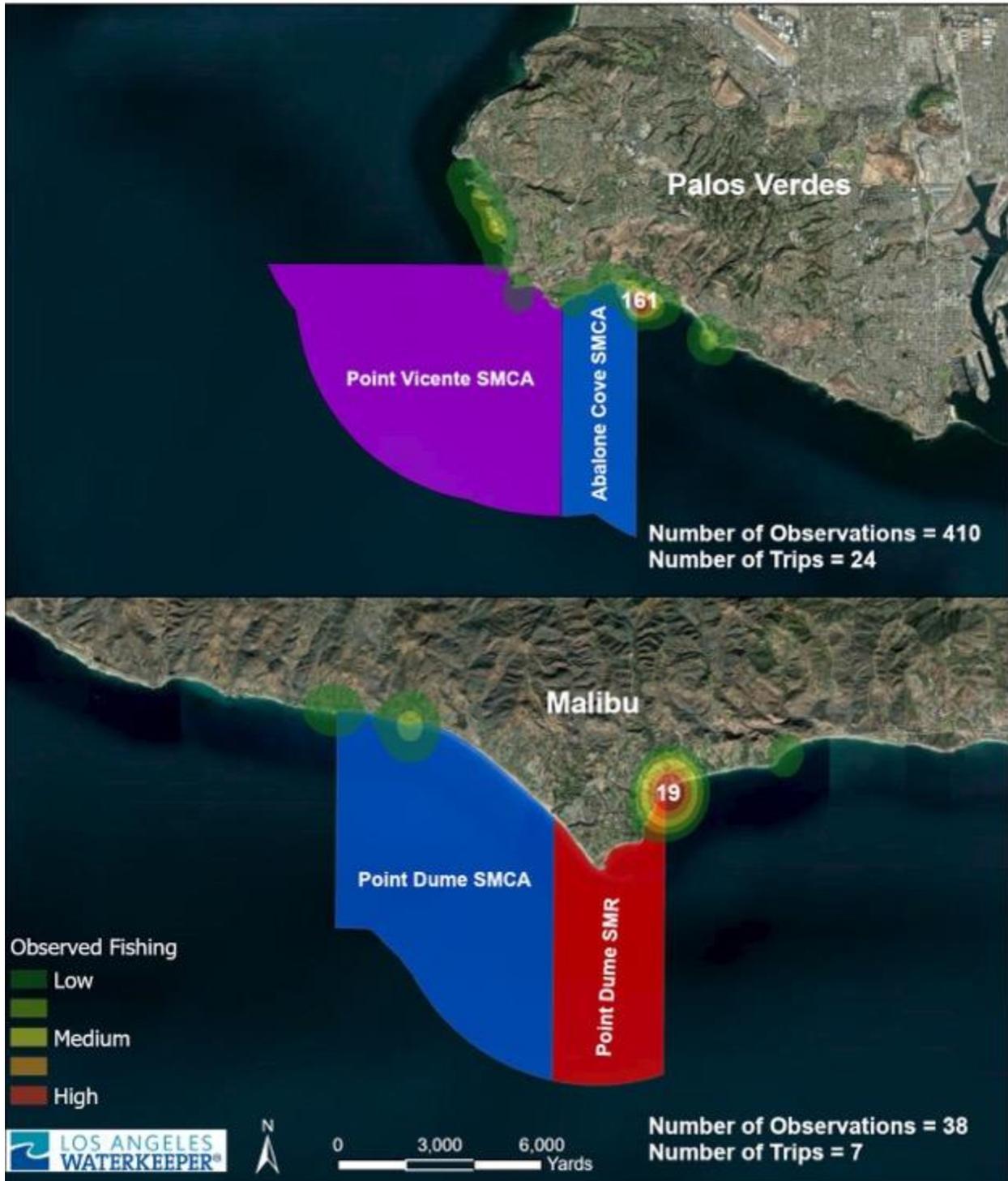
Jan - June 2021 Commercial Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



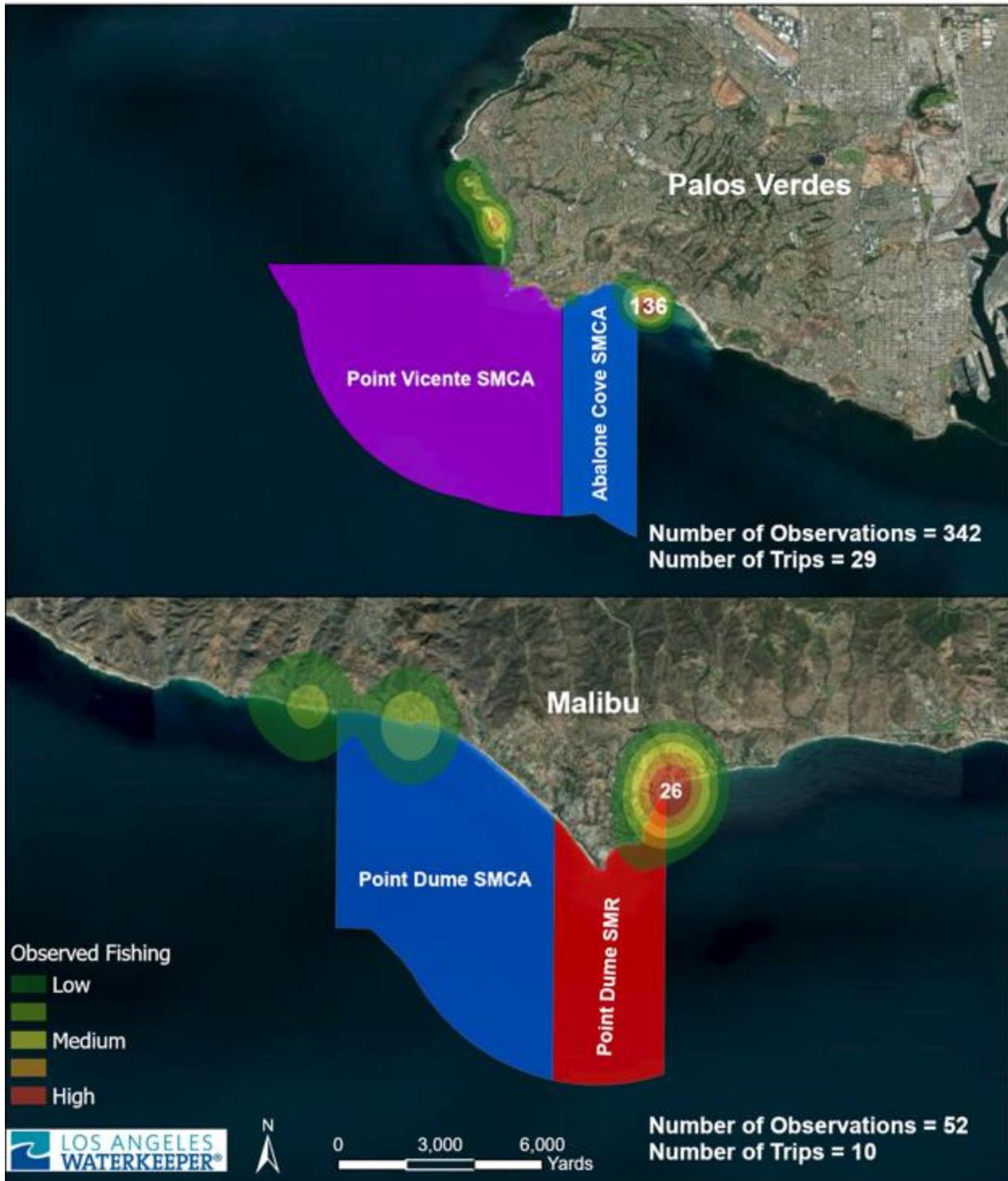
July - Dec 2021 Commercial Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



Jan - June 2021 Onshore Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



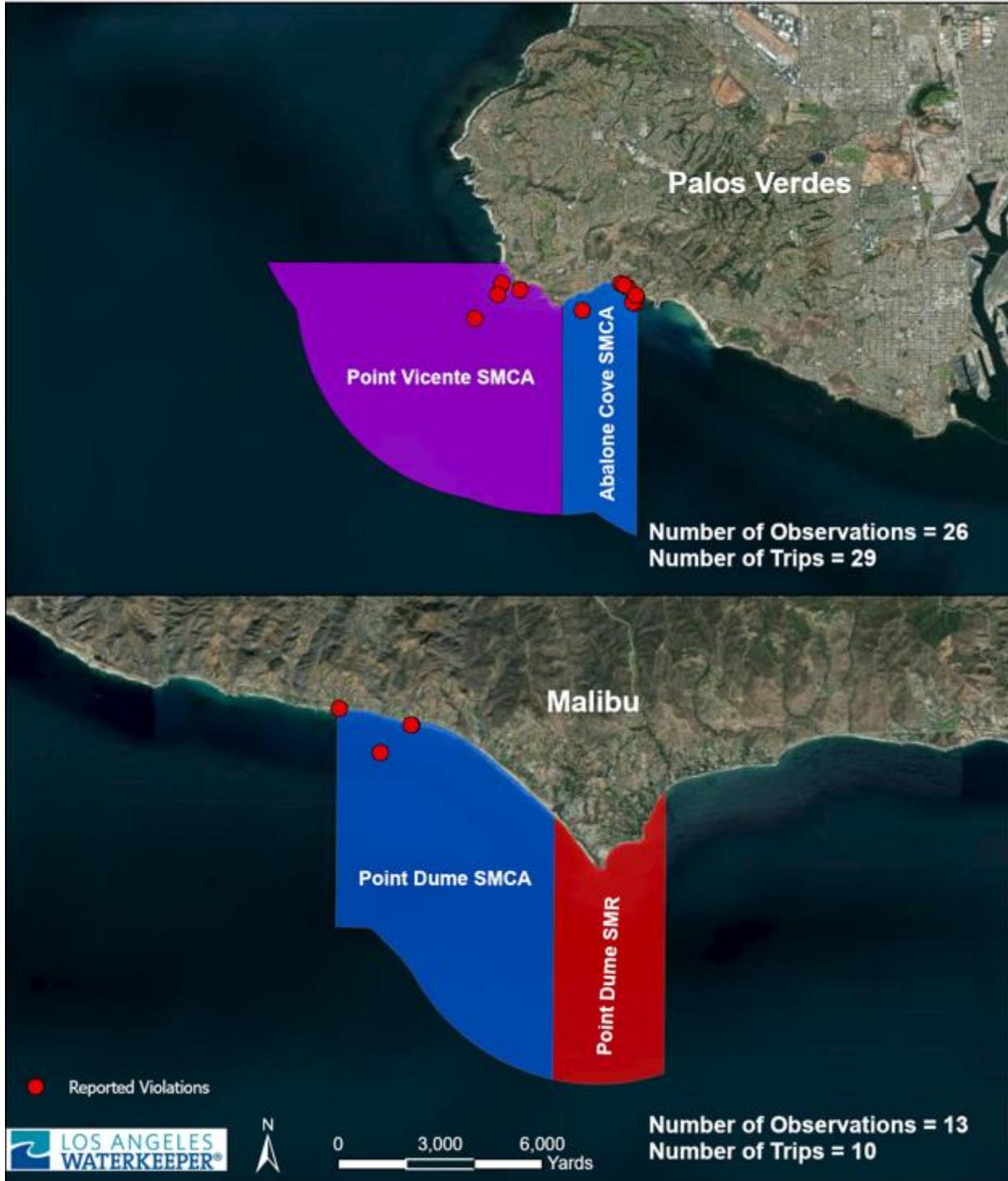
July - Dec 2021 Onshore Fishing Activity Palos Verdes and Malibu



Jan - June 2021 Reported Violations Palos Verdes and Malibu



July - Dec 2021 Reported Violations Palos Verdes and Malibu





**Marine Protected Area Watch
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PROBABLE VIOLATIONS REPORTED

MPA	Date	Ob. Time	Latitude	Longitude	Vessel Type	Vessel	Activity	Qty	Notes
Pt Dume SMCA	2/6/21	12:45	34.03164	-118.86156	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	CalTip Called - Warden Garcia Called Back
Pt Vicente SMCA	2/26/21	14:40	33.73615399	-118.4091358	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	1	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	2/26/21	14:43	33.73862	-118.37706	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	2/26/21	14:46	33.73838	-118.37765	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	4	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	2/28/21	16:17	33.73905	-118.37736	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	8	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	3/7/21	12:07	33.73837	-118.37804	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	Called CalTip & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	4/3/21	13:24	33.73747154	-118.3911537	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Call & LAW Made Contact - Maps
Abalone Cove SMCA	4/11/21	14:41	33.73929392	-118.3782766	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	4/11/21	15:03	33.73842644	-118.3777927	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	1	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	4/11/21	15:05	33.7386007	-118.3776538	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	1	CalTip Call & RPV Rangers
Pt Vicente SMCA	4/18/21	11:16	33.73472605	-118.4006339	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called, LAW Made Contact - Provided MPA Guides & Info
Pt Vicente SMCA	4/18/21	11:31	33.73685064	-118.4059843	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called – LAW Made Contact
Pt Vicente SMCA	4/18/21	11:40	33.73821861	-118.4158552	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called, LAW Made Contact - Provided MPA Guides & Info
Abalone Cove SMCA	4/25/21	15:50	33.73867844	-118.3788088	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	Call RPV Rangers - Evan Called Back - Made Contact
Pt Vicente SMCA	5/15/21	12:20	33.73727292	-118.4190229	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called – LAW Made Contact - Maps
Abalone Cove SMCA	5/15/21	12:41	33.73873024	-118.3873726	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called _ LAW Made Contact - Maps
Pt Vicente SMCA	5/15/21	14:02	33.74215483	-118.4146399	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	DFW Warden on Site & Made Contact
Pt Vicente SMCA	5/23/21	12:40	33.73802695	-118.4091294	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	1	CalTip Called
Pt Vicente SMCA	5/23/21	12:46	33.73381966	-118.3975455	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called, LAW Made Contact - Provided MPA Guides & Info
Abalone Cove SMCA	5/23/21	13:03	33.73847962	-118.3772179	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	8	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	5/31/21	11:28	33.73965191	-118.3840584	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	6/5/21	13:22	33.73849412	-118.3773125	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	12	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	6/5/21	13:36	33.7393023	-118.37914	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	6/6/21	13:02	33.73957304	-118.3791613	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	CalTip called & RPV Rangers

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Abalone Cove SMCA	6/6/21	13:12	33.73871452	-118.3775159	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Pt Vicente SMCA	6/12/21	12:58	33.74328329	-118.4156223	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	Called CalTip - LAW Made Contact -- Maps
Pt Dume SMCA	6/13/21	11:49	34.01147221	-118.7886752	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	Called CalTip
Pt Dume SMCA	6/13/21	12:49	34.03333322	-118.8668449	Recreational	On Shore - Sandy	Fishing	1	CalTip Call - Warden
Pt Vicente SMCA	6/18/21	11:27	33.73889704	-118.412692	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip Called - Wardens Made Contact - Provided MPA Guides & Info
Abalone Cove SMCA	6/18/21	11:38	33.73964776	-118.3787127	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	12	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	7/4/21	12:11	33.74099041	-118.3778161	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	4	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	7/4/21	12:27	33.73703046	-118.3757009	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	3	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	7/16/21	11:53	33.73842985	-118.375164	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	4	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Pt Dume SMCA	7/18/21	13:16	34.03224869	-118.8621005	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	5	CalTip Call - Warden Johnson Called
Pt Dume SMCA	7/18/21	14:45	34.02797807	-118.8707641	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip called – LAW Made Contact - Maps
Pt Vicente SMCA	7/31/21	11:07	33.74166459	-118.4143031	Recreational	Power Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip called – Made Contact - Maps
Pt Dume SMR	8/22/21	11:35	33.99186566	-118.8058823	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	DFW Warden on Site
Pt Vicente SMCA	8/22/21	14:01	33.73907748	-118.4153254	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	Called CalTip - Wardens Made Contact
Abalone Cove SMCA	8/22/21	14:22	33.74283275	-118.3785839	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	2	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	8/28/21	12:48	33.73719226	-118.3763476	Recreational	SUP	Fishing	2	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Abalone Cove SMCA	9/6/21	12:01	33.7353118	-118.3909246	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip called & RPV Rangers
Pt Vicente SMCA	9/19/21	13:26	33.7332804	-118.4220501	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip called – LAW Made Contact
Pt Vicente SMCA	9/25/21	12:41	34.03323228	-118.8624148	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	6	CalTip Call - Warden texted LAW that enforcement action was taken on tip
Pt Vicente SMCA	10/3/21	13:55	33.74071132	-118.4183963	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip called – LAW Made Contact
Abalone Cove SMCA	10/3/21	14:55	33.7379323	-118.3751953	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	12	CalTip Called, RPV texted - hand take
Pt Vicente SMCA	10/17/21	12:24	33.7402812	-118.4089568	Recreational	Sport Fishing Boat	Fishing	1	CalTip- called - 4 divers exit water to boat with game bags
Abalone Cove SMCA	10/31/21	11:06	33.74138028	-118.3788293	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	4	CalTip -RPV- RPV contacted - 4 were taking - take returned
Pt Dume SMCA	11/27/21	13:08	34.03842662	-118.8828651	Recreational	On Shore - Sandy	Fishing	1	Rod & Reel - CalTip - Warden called back
Abalone Cove SMCA	11/29/21	13:29	33.73841411	-118.3763527	Recreational	On Shore - Rocky	Fishing	2	CalTip & RPV - Rangers unavailable - Warden called - LAW photos sent
Total:								157	Probable Violations Reported

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January – December 2021

LAW'S MPA WATCH BOAT-BASED SURVEYS



MPA Watch Boat-Based Surveys conducted from onboard the LA Waterkeeper (LAW) vessel focus on boating and fishing activity in and around the Point Dume and Point Vicente/Abalone Cove Los Angeles County Mainland MPAs. GIS mappings are produced. Collected data and mappings inform CADFw and future scientific studies of our MPA human activity and especially hotspots of MPA violations.

MPA Watch Boat Crew Positions - Volunteer Spots Are Available Each Trip

1. Boat Operator – Dr. Quill, LAW Staff
2. Spotter – Binoculars – Distance Finder Operator
3. Photographer
4. Data Scribe
5. IPAD with GPS Operator

Transect Start and End Points

Surveys begin and end two miles past either side of the MPA boundaries.

Boat speed during transect

Transects are run at a speed of approximately 10 knots and roughly a half-mile from shore, topping to observe activity on the water or onshore as needed



Data Collection

All boating activity and all onshore fishing observed, inside or outside the MPAs, while traveling a transect are documented.

Waterkeeper stays at a safe, unobtrusive distance from the observed vessels, moving to position the observed on a heading of directly North, South, East, or West from the Waterkeeper.

For Each Vessel or Onshore Fishers:

1. The time of sighting is documented.
2. Waterkeeper's GPS position is documented.
3. The compass heading from the Waterkeeper is documented.
4. The distance from the Waterkeeper is documented
5. Vessel type or onshore fishing method is documented.
6. Quantity of observed vessels or fishers onshore is documented.
7. Two Photos are taken of the vessel or fishers.
8. Any additional notes and comments are documented.

If fishers are violating MPA Regulations from a vessel or onshore, CDFW is called, and a report is filed. That action is also documented.

On The Water Outreach and Education

LA Waterkeeper views fishers fishing from vessels positioned on MPA boundary lines and within MPA boundaries as potential on the water outreach opportunities. After collecting data from a safe distance, LAW reports the probable violation to CalTip or other enforcement agencies. If enforcement officers are unavailable, Waterkeeper may approach violating fishers in vessels slowly and safely, and on a case-by-case basis,

As part of our good neighbor outreach and education approach, LAW staff informs probable violators of the MPA regulations, and provides information on where fishing is permitted. After making contact and getting permission from the boaters/fishers, Waterkeeper will safely approach, inform boaters, fishermen, and other fellow watermen about MPA boundaries and MPA regulations. LAW offers CDFW MPA Guides and the LA's Guide to MPAs and Fishing which are distributed if desired and if that can be done so safely.

If boaters are open to conversation and possess a VHF radio that may be used to communicate if boater to boater conversing is hampered.

Join Us on the Waterkeeper Boat for a MPA Watch Trip!



What is a MPA?

A Marine Protected Area (MPA) is an area of the ocean where consumptive human activities such as fishing are limited or restricted in order to protect or conserve marine life or habitats.

On land, we have National Parks, National Forests, Reserves, etc. Marine Protected Areas provide similar protection to small areas in the ocean.

The main purpose of MPA Watch is to conduct outreach to local fisherman, boaters, and watersports enthusiasts about the new boundaries and restrictions and to gather data on the trends of boating and fishing in and around the Los Angeles County Marine Protected Areas.

Waterkeeper's MPA Watch Trips run about 4-5 hours. We travel from Marina Del Rey to the Point Vicente and Abalone Cove MPAs in Palos Verdes or to the Point Dume MPAs in Malibu.

MPA Watch Boat Trips are scheduled on our Calendar at www.LAWaterkeeper.org/mpa-watch.



Contact Michael Quill: mquill@lawaterkeeper.org (310) 394-6162, ext. 113 – If you'd like to join our MPA Watch Crew.



LAW Will Be Opening Up Registration for New MPA Watch Crew Members Soon!!



Tide Pool Take Observed and Reported to Onshore Enforcement at Abalone Cove



Thank you, veteran MPA volunteers for coming out as we ebb and flow in our 2021 COVID surges!!



Rancho Palos Verdes Rangers Onboard the Waterkeeper



**DFW Wardens on the water answering our call again!!
Thank you!!!**



LAW Provides MPA Materials to Fuel Docks, Bait and Tackle Shops and Fishers On The Water and Off

To Join Our Crew Contact:
Dr. Michael Quill, LAW Marine Programs Director
mquill@lawaterkeeper.org

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.

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.