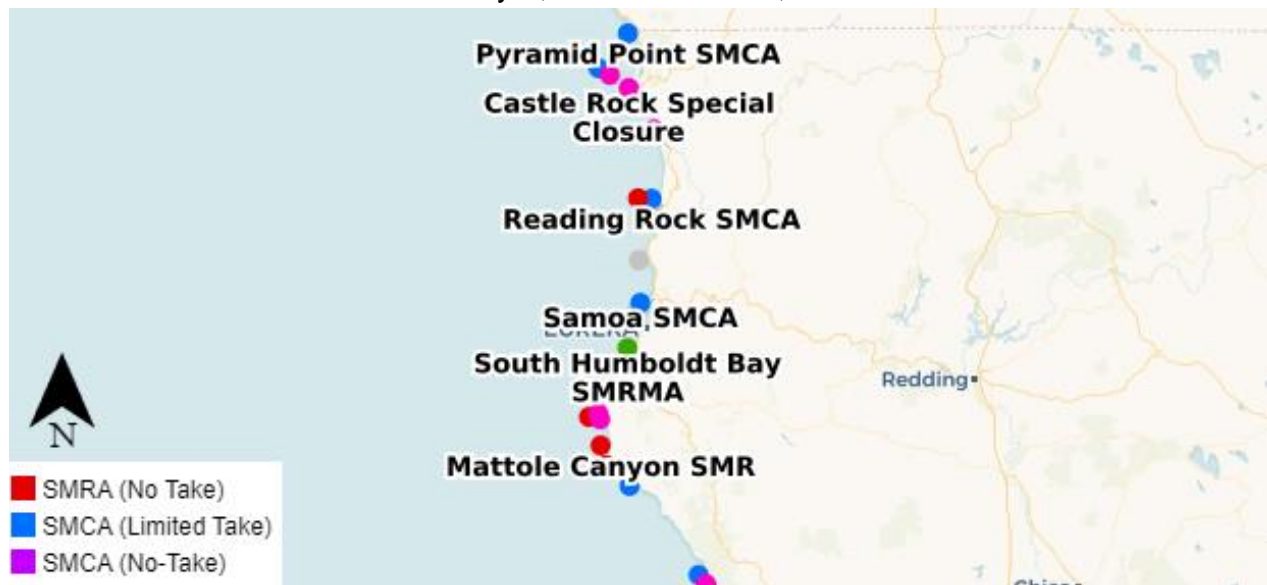


## Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch Regional Report

North Coast

January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023



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 tribal nations and 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. The Del Norte County Marine Protected Area Watch Program, organized by Yurok Tribe, Eagle Eyes of False Klamath Cove (EEFKC), engages tribal staff/scientists, tribal volunteers and community members in data collection in seven MPAs in the Del Norte and Humboldt counties. TDN staff and volunteers are responsible for Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt (Pyramid Point) MPA surveys and EEFKC is responsible for False Klamath Rock Special Closure, Mouth of the Klamath, the Kuchel Visitor Center Control and Trinidad State Beach.

### Executive Summary

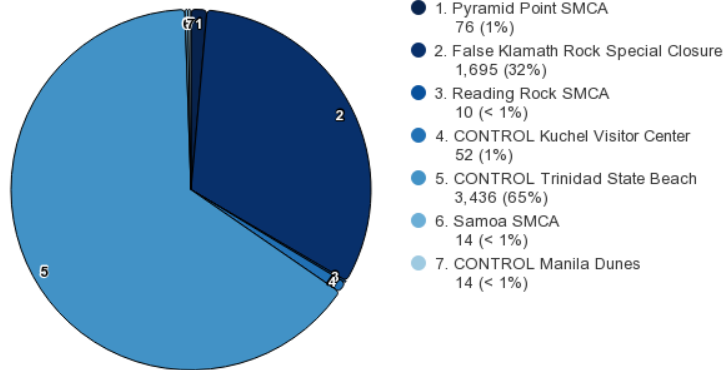
- EEFKC has added the Kuchel Visitor Center Control and Control Trinidad State Beach.
- In the wake of COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions impacting MPA Watch in 2020, there has been a return to regular operations, while still being mindful of the pandemic and taking precautions when necessary.
- Compared to previous years, Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt continues to see a decline in take violations.

HUMAN USE OF MPAS January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023

OVERVIEW

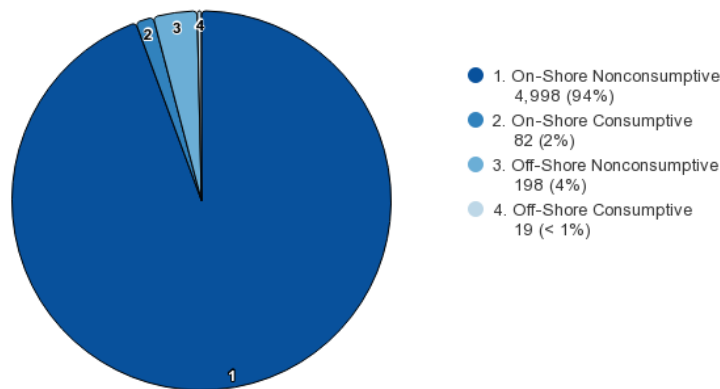
Top 7 MPAs by All Activity

January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
5,297 total activity events



All MPAs Combined

January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
5,297 activity events



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.

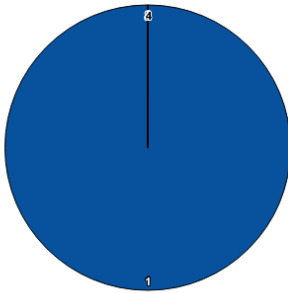
**Consumptive** - An activity in which a natural resource (i.e. fish, kelp, shells) is being collected.

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

## ACTIVITY BY MPA

### Pyramid Point SMCA

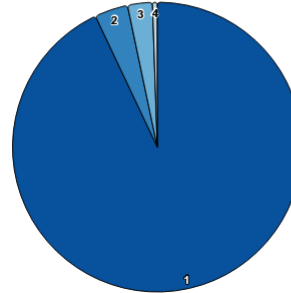
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
76 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
76 (100%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)

### False Klamath Rock Special Closure

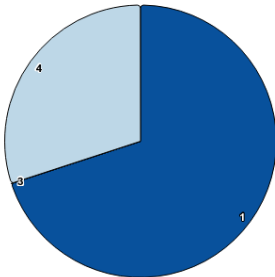
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
1,695 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
1,576 (93%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
63 (4%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
47 (3%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
9 (1%)

### Reading Rock SMCA

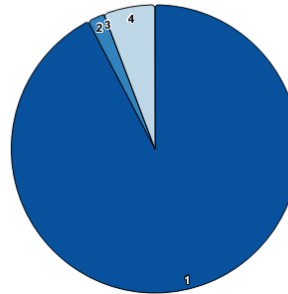
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
10 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
7 (70%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
3 (30%)

### CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center

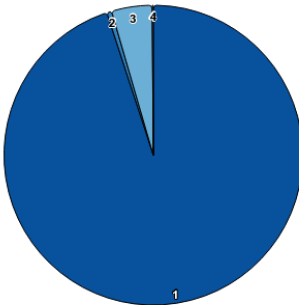
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
52 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
48 (92%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
1 (2%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
3 (6%)

### CONTROL Trinidad State Beach

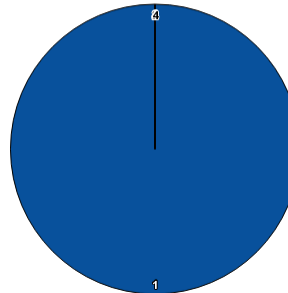
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
3,436 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
3,263 (95%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
18 (1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
151 (4%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
4 (< 1%)

### Samoa SMCA

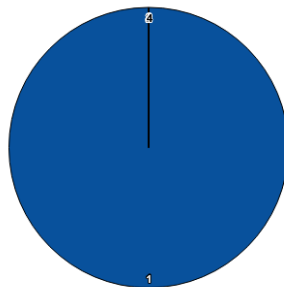
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
14 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
14 (100%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)

### CONTROL Manila Dunes

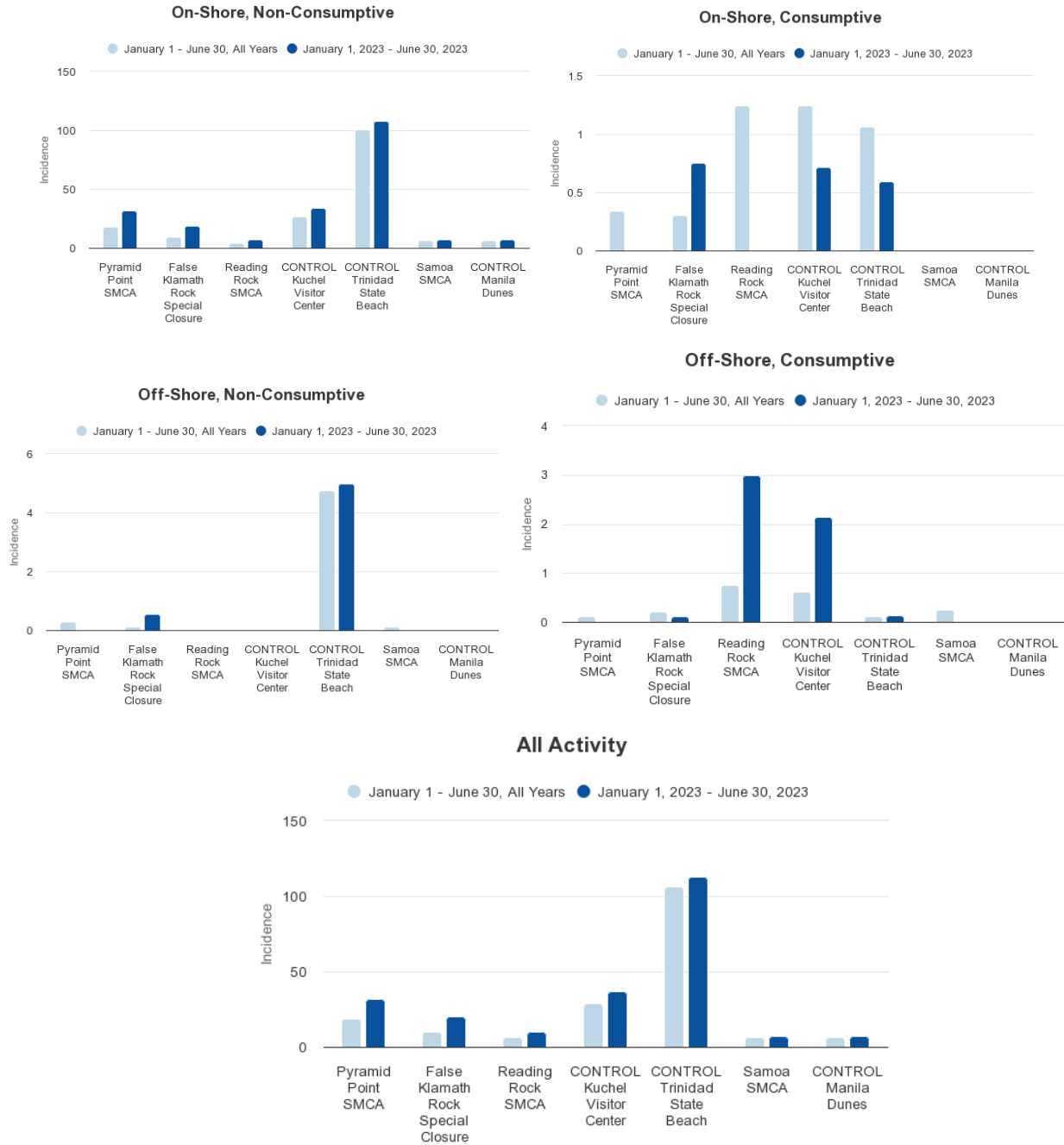
January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
14 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
14 (100%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)



### ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA



### ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA

MPA	On-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 June 30 All Years	January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023	January 1 June 30 All Years	January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023
Pyramid Point SMCA	18.2	31.7	0.3	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	9.8	18.9	0.3	0.8
Reading Rock SMCA	4.5	7.0	1.3	0.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	26.9	34.3	1.3	0.7
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	100.4	107.7	1.1	0.6
Samoa SMCA	6.5	7.0	0.0	0.0
CONTROL Manila Dunes	6.4	7.0	0.0	0.0
All MPAs Combined	14.0	40.9	0.3	0.7

MPA	Off-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 June 30 All Years	January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023	January 1 June 30 All Years	January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023
Pyramid Point SMCA	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.1
Reading Rock SMCA	0.0	0.0	0.8	3.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	0.0	0.0	0.6	2.1
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	4.7	5.0	0.1	0.1
Samoa SMCA	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
CONTROL Manila Dunes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
All MPAs Combined	0.3	1.6	0.2	0.2

MPA	Total Combined	
	January 1 June 30 All Years	January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023
	Pyramid Point SMCA	18.9
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	10.4	20.4
Reading Rock SMCA	6.5	10.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	28.8	37.1
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	106.4	113.4
Samoa SMCA	6.9	7.0
CONTROL Manila Dunes	6.4	7.0
All MPAs Combined	14.9	43.3

#### 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 MPAs 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 MPAs 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

### Pyramid Point SMCA

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 31.7 total use count per total miles surveyed in the False Klamath Rock Special Closure. This is a 67.7 % increase compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the SMCA were solely taking part in onshore non-consumptive activities like beach recreation. This accounted for 100% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys.

### False Klamath Rock Special Closure

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 20.4 total use count per total miles surveyed in the False Klamath Rock Special Closure. This is a 96.1 % increase compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the Special Closure were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities both on and offshore, like beach and ocean recreation. This accounted for 96% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys. The remaining 4% of human use consisted of onshore and offshore consumptive activities including the hand collection of biotas (sandy), boat trap and line fishing (inactive and active, commercial and recreational), and inactive passenger fishing.

We recruited and trained five Tribal and two community member volunteers, one data entry personnel as well as one consulting accountant for excel spreadsheet survey data, retention and reporting. EEOFKC has approximately 25 surveyors and volunteers that include but are not limited to local Tribal members from Tolowa, Yurok, Karuk, Hoopa, Navajo, Lakota, Ojibwa and Paiute Tribes. Although all are welcome, we are proud of having ninety percent local native participation and are adding more Tribes in Mendocino County and possibly throughout the state through the Tribal Marine Collaborative.

### Reading Rock SMCA

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 10.0 total use count per total miles surveyed in the Reading Rock SMCA. This is a 53.8% increase or decrease compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the SMCA were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities both on and offshore, like beach and ocean recreation. This accounted for 70% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys. The remaining 30% of human use consisted of onshore and offshore consumptive activities, including active boat trap commercial fishing.

### CONTROL: Kuchel Visitor Center

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 37.1 total use count per total miles surveyed at the Control Site: Kuchel Visitor Center. This is a 28.8% increase or



decrease compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the control area were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities both on and offshore, like beach and ocean recreation. This accounted for 92% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys. The remaining 8% of human use consisted of onshore and offshore consumptive activities, including active boat trap commercial fishing and hook fishing from shore.

### **CONTROL: Trinidad State Beach**

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 113.4 total use count per total miles surveyed at the Control Site: Trinidad State Beach. This is a 6.6% increase compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the control area were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities both on and offshore, like beach and ocean recreation. This accounted for 99% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys. The remaining 1% of human use consisted of onshore and offshore consumptive activities, including inactive boat trap fishing.

### **Samoa SMCA**

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 7.0 total use count per total miles surveyed in the Samoa SMCA. This is a 1.4% increase compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the SMCA were solely taking part in onshore non-consumptive activities like beach recreation. This accounted for 100% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys.

### **CONTROL Manila Dunes**

Between the months of January and June 2023, MPA Watch data shows 7.0 total use count per total miles surveyed in the False Klamath Rock Special Closure. This is a 9.4% increase compared to the rate calculated from the data collected by MPA Watch volunteers January – June in previous years.

People observed in the control area were solely taking part in onshore non-consumptive activities like beach recreation. This accounted for 100% of the activities logged in MPA Watch surveys.

### **POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS**

Rate of consumptive activities observed remains low in all MPAs surveyed accounting for less than 1% of all observations recorded. Anecdotal evidence suggests rates may be higher than reflected in the data. MPA Watch data does not show any potential violations in recent months.



False Klamath Rock Special Closure, 8 potential violations observed.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Eagle Eyes of False Klamath Cove for 2023, we are collaborating with Yurok Tribe, Cal-Poly to start working on Kelp restoration.

Wiyot Tribe South Humboldt Bay MPA was added for one survey, funding would help ensure survey and Tribal members will be added as community citizen scientists.

## **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](http://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](http://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 about the work Eagle Eyes of False Klamath Cove does to conserve California's MPAs and other conservation projects please e-mail [ruthiemaloney@gmail.com](mailto:ruthiemaloney@gmail.com) or [northcoastnativeprotectors@gmail.com](mailto:northcoastnativeprotectors@gmail.com). [www.tribalmarinecollaborative.com](http://www.tribalmarinecollaborative.com)