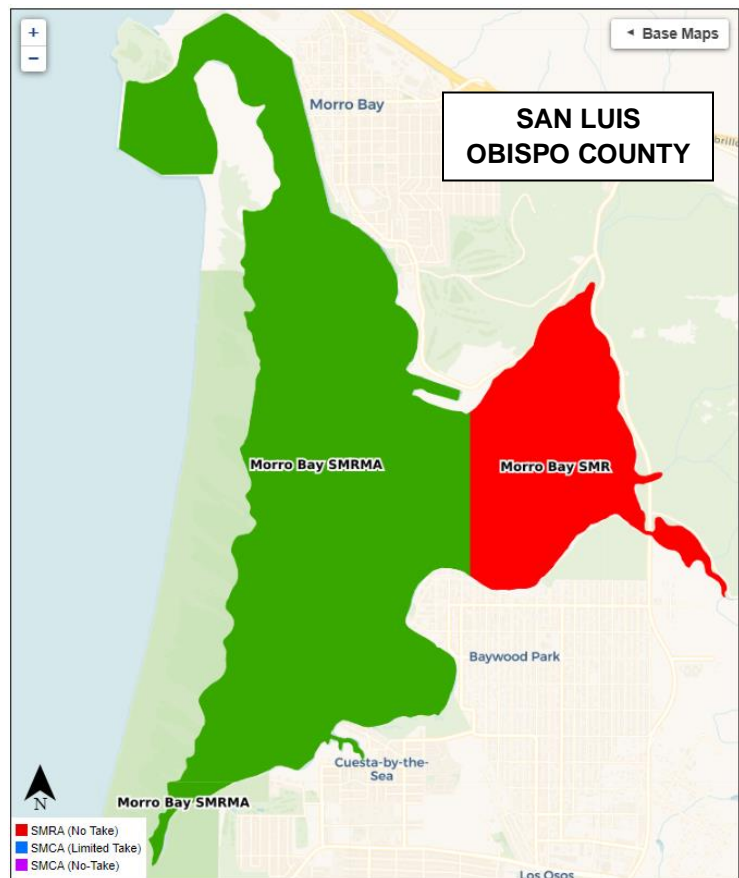
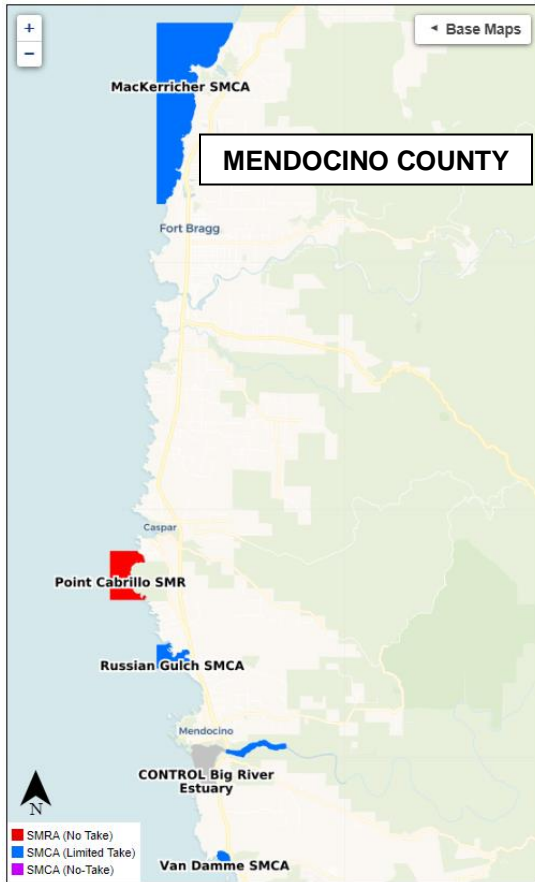


Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch Statewide Report

Mendocino, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo
 January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Map of Region's MPAs



California State Parks has been training parks staff and volunteers in MPA Watch protocol and data collection since 2019. These trainings and data contribution are supported by a Once-Through Cooling grant from the Ocean Protection Council. Beginning in 2023, MPA Watch managers from partner organizations statewide have begun incorporating MPA Watch data collected by State Parks into their regional reports. This report covers regions where there is no local MPA Watch partner participating (Mendocino, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo Counties).

Executive Summary

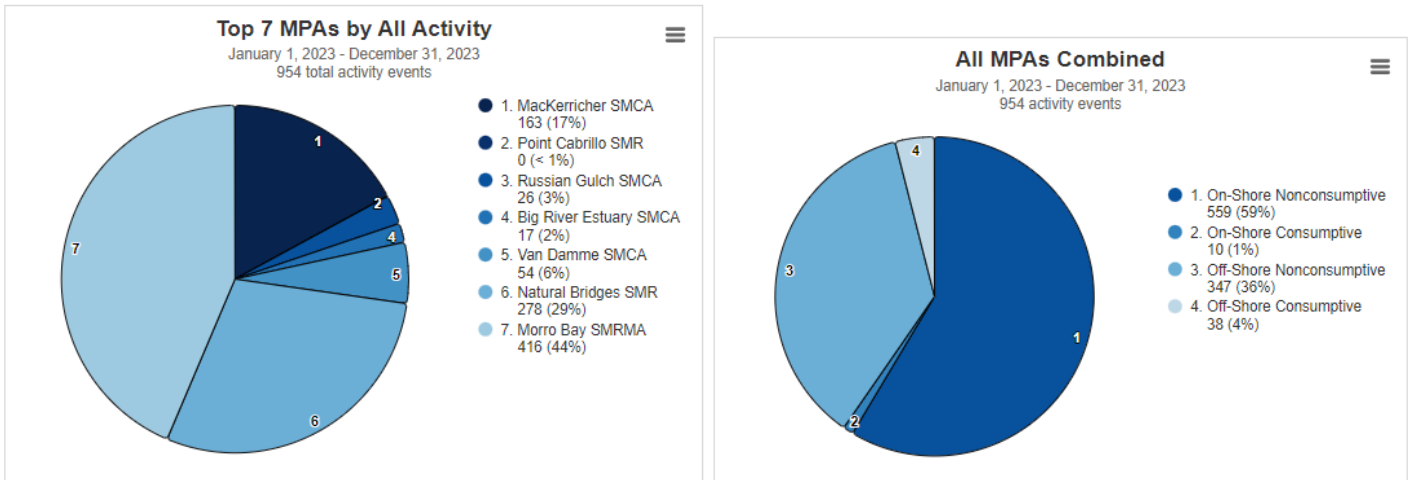
- Between January 1 and December 31, 36 surveys were collected in four MPAs in Mendocino County, 14 surveys were collected in one MPA in Santa Cruz County, and 39 surveys were collected in on MPA in San Luis Obispo County.
- An additional 234 surveys were collected in other counties and incorporated into other regional data reports.
- A total of 32 staff and volunteers submitted data statewide
- A total of three MPA Watch trainings were held for staff and volunteers in Mendocino, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties.



HUMAN USE OF MPAS INSERT REPORT DATES

OVERVIEW

The charts in this report compare activities taking place in MPAs across three different counties: Mendocino (northern California), and Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo Counties (central California). Visitation to north coast beaches is significantly less than the more populated areas on the central coast.



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.

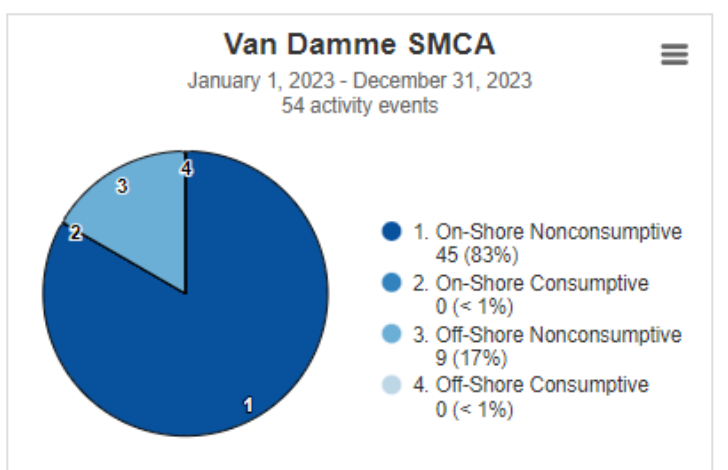
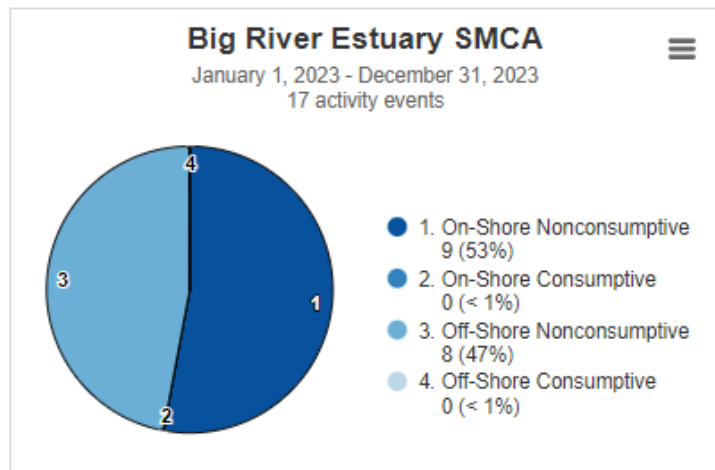
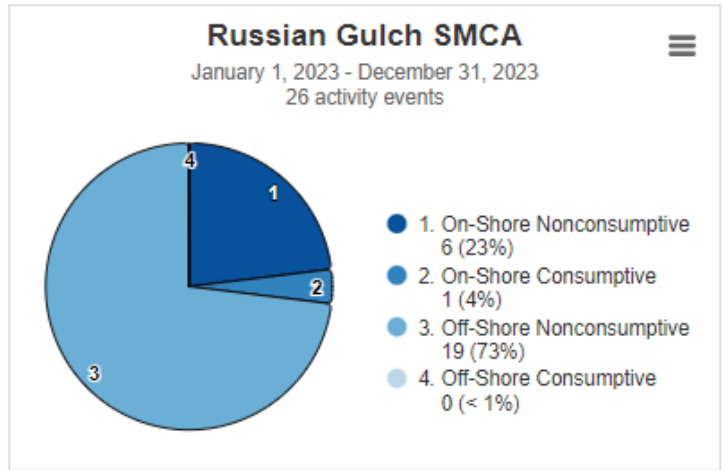
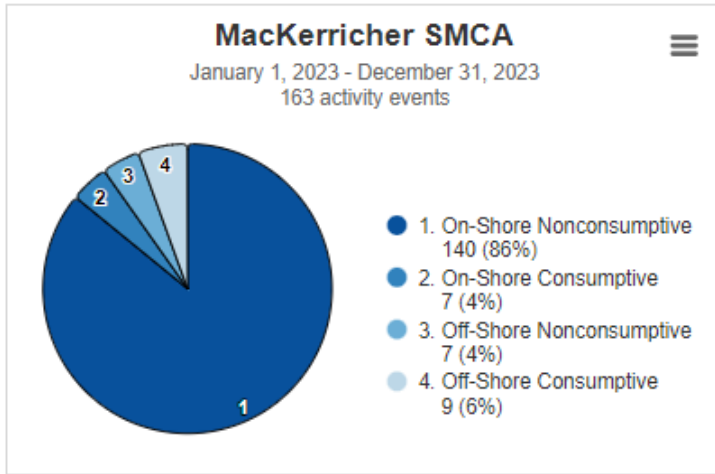
Consumptive - An activity in which a natural resource (i.e. fish, kelp, shells) is being collected.

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

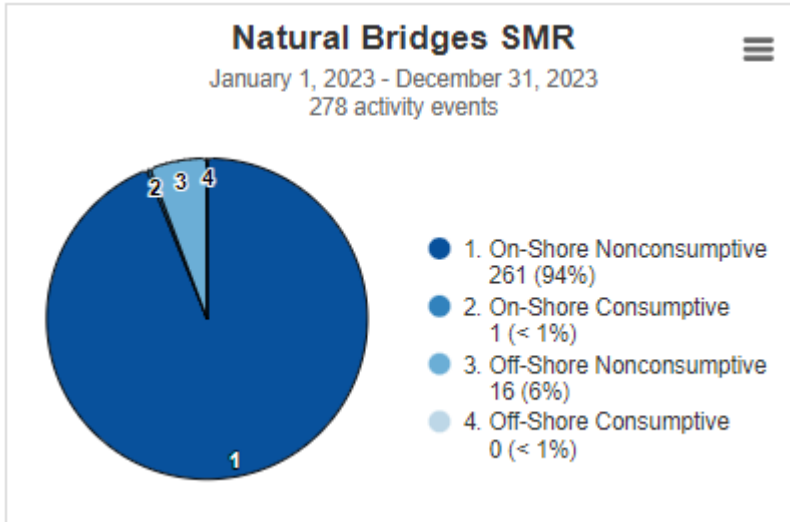


ACTIVITY BY MPA

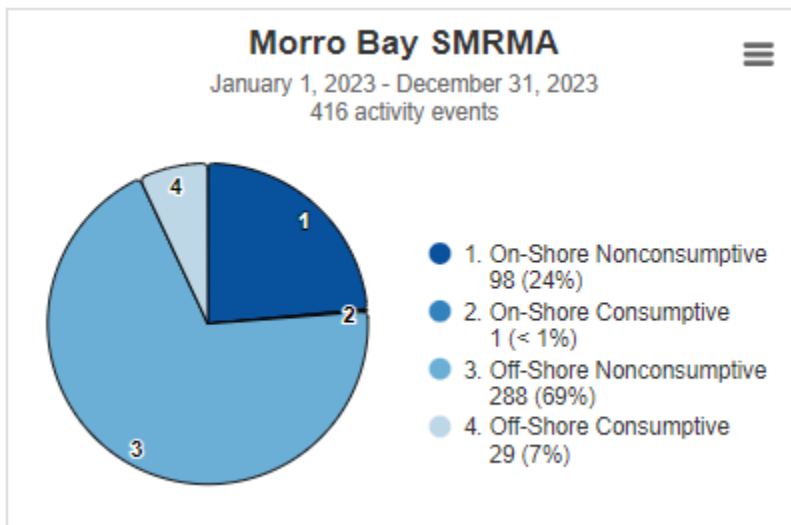
MENDOCINO COUNTY



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

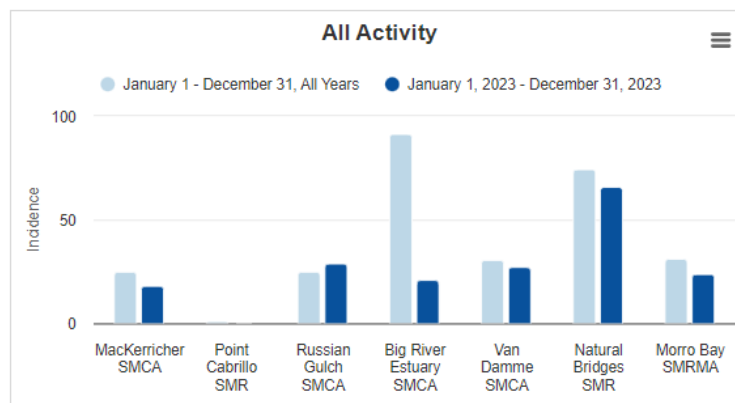
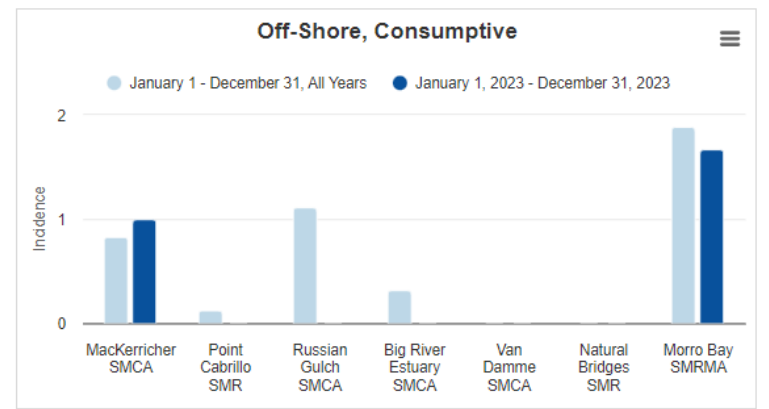
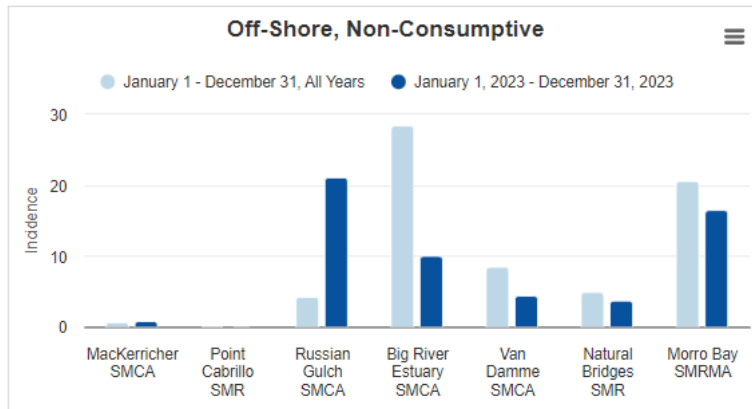
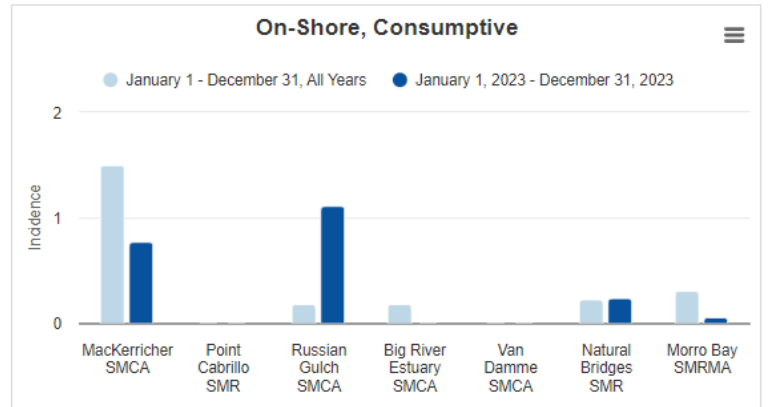
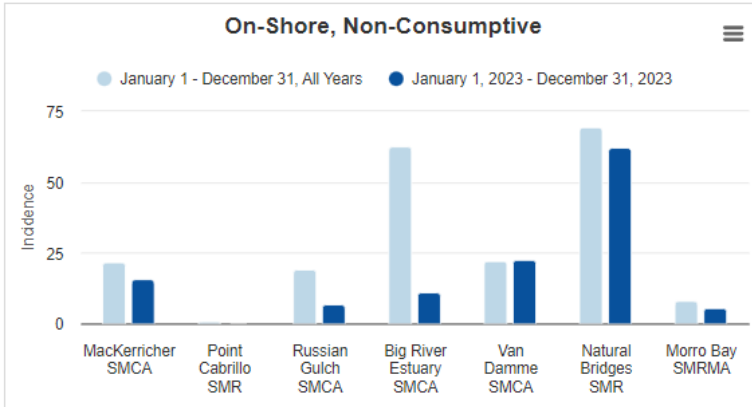


SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA

Incidence Bar Charts



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.**



Incidence Tables

MPA	On-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023
MacKerricher SMCA	21.7	15.6	1.5	0.8
Point Cabrillo SMR	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Russian Gulch SMCA	19.4	6.7	0.2	1.1
Big River Estuary SMCA	62.8	11.3	0.2	0.0
Van Damme SMCA	22.3	22.5	0.0	0.0
Natural Bridges SMR	69.3	62.1	0.2	0.2
Morro Bay SMRMA	8.1	5.6	0.3	0.1
All MPAs Combined	20.4	12.9	0.4	0.2

MPA	Off-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023
MacKerricher SMCA	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0
Point Cabrillo SMR	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Russian Gulch SMCA	4.3	21.1	1.1	0.0
Big River Estuary SMCA	28.4	10.0	0.3	0.0
Van Damme SMCA	8.4	4.5	0.0	0.0
Natural Bridges SMR	4.9	3.8	0.0	0.0
Morro Bay SMRMA	20.7	16.6	1.9	1.7
All MPAs Combined	12.5	8.0	1.0	0.9

MPA	Total Combined	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023
MacKerricher SMCA	24.7	18.1
Point Cabrillo SMR	1.1	0.0
Russian Gulch SMCA	24.9	28.9
Big River Estuary SMCA	91.7	21.3
Van Damme SMCA	30.8	27.0
Natural Bridges SMR	74.4	66.2
Morro Bay SMRMA	31.0	23.9
All MPAs Combined	34.3	22.0

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

This page(s) is for specific information regarding the region's MPAs. Info like poaching numbers, heavy usage, seasonal usage, etc. Break it down by specific MPAs to go into detail. See the San Diego MPA Watch Report for examples.

MPA1

Text

MPA 2

Text

POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS

Provide a summary of potential violation hotspots, trends, or potential violations of note.

NEXT STEPS

Write a short paragraph about what your organization/group plans to do with MPA Watch data or how you intend to improve data collection or anything like that.

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.

For additional information about California State Parks Marine Protected Area Outreach and Education Program, please contact Erika Delemarre at erika.delemarre@parks.ca.gov or at (916) 704-5042.

