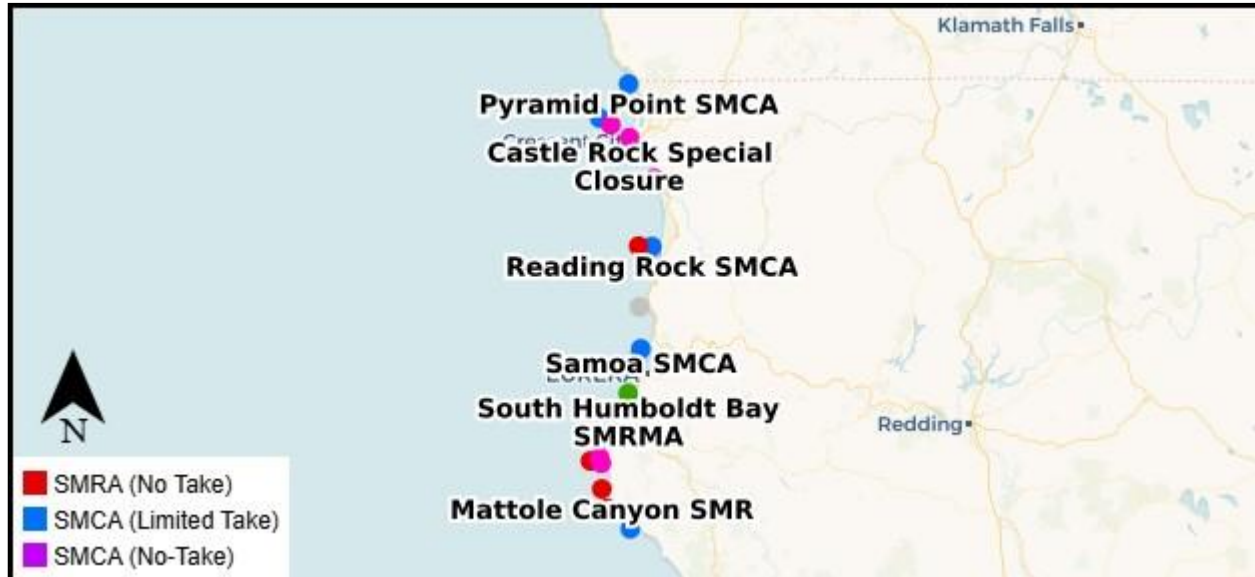




MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) WATCH NORTH COAST REPORT

Del Norte & Humboldt Counties
January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024



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 Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation (TDN) and Eagle Eyes of False Klamath Cove (EEFKC), engages tribal staff/scientists, tribal volunteers and community members in data collection in two MPAs in the county. 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.

Humboldt County MPA Watch efforts are accomplished through California State Park Interpreters who assist with the management and monitoring of MPAs across the state.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation staff continues to monitor two sites within Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt MPA, educating potential violators as safe and appropriate.
- Eagle Eyes of False Klamath Cove (EEoFKC) staff and volunteers conducted 685 surveys, observing 11,196 activity events.
- MPA Watch Surveys conducted by North Coast Redwoods District showed little to no activity on survey beaches
- EEoFKC staff and volunteers conducted 903 surveys at Trinidad State Beach, observing 19,947 activity events.

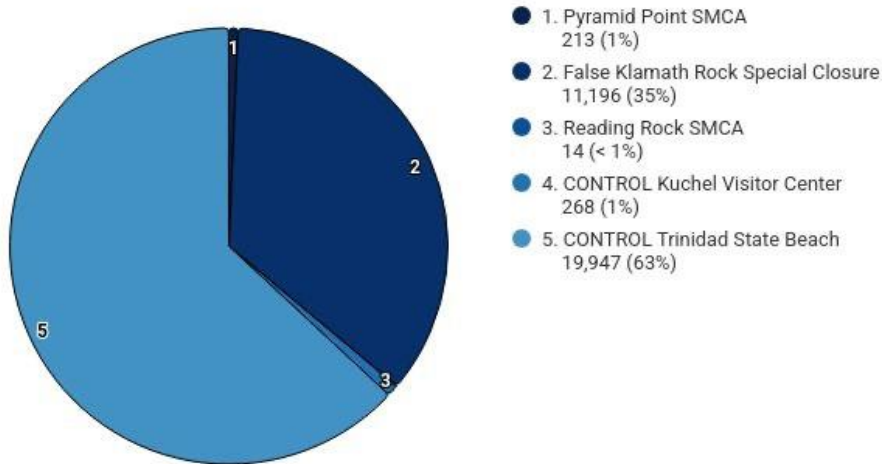
MPA	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024
Pyramid Point SMCA	261	31
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	3,415	685
Reading Rock SMCA	63	18
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	100	26
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	1,603	903
All MPAs Combined	5,498	1,663



HUMAN USE OF MPAS January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

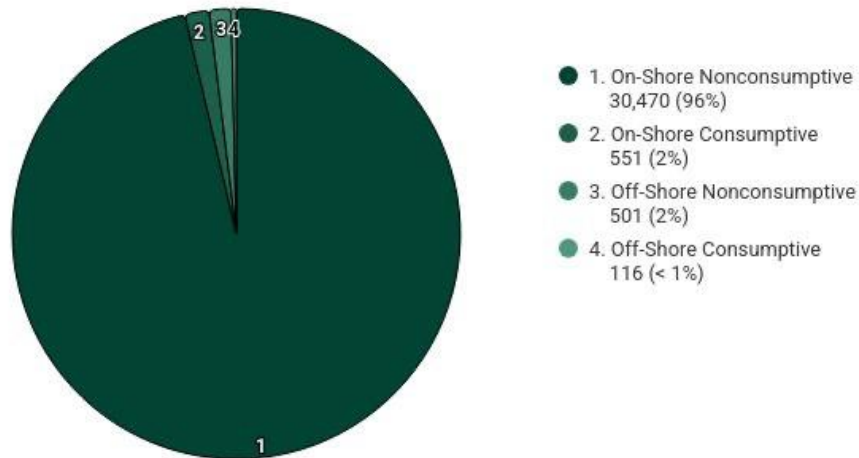
Top 5 MPAs by All Activity

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
31,638 total activity events



All MPAs Combined

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
31,638 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.

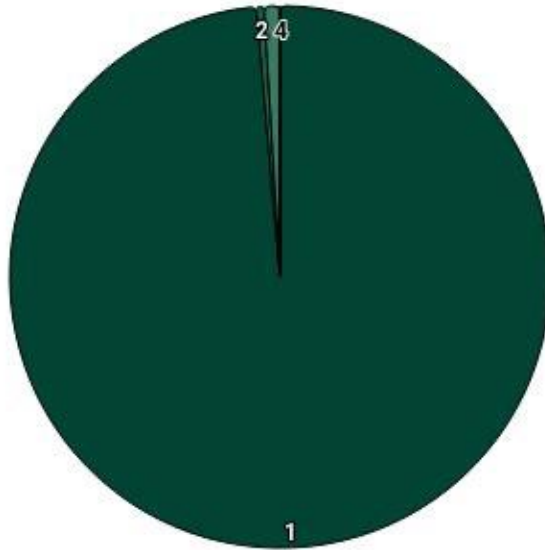
Consumptive - An activity in which a natural resource (i.e. fish, kelp, shells) is being collected.

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



Pyramid Point SMCA

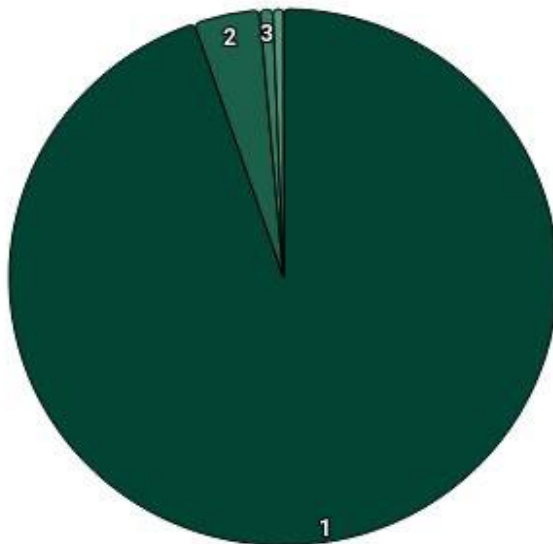
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
213 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive
210 (99%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive
1 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
2 (1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive
0 (< 1%)

False Klamath Rock Special Closure

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
11,196 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive
10,606 (95%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive
435 (4%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
86 (1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive
69 (1%)

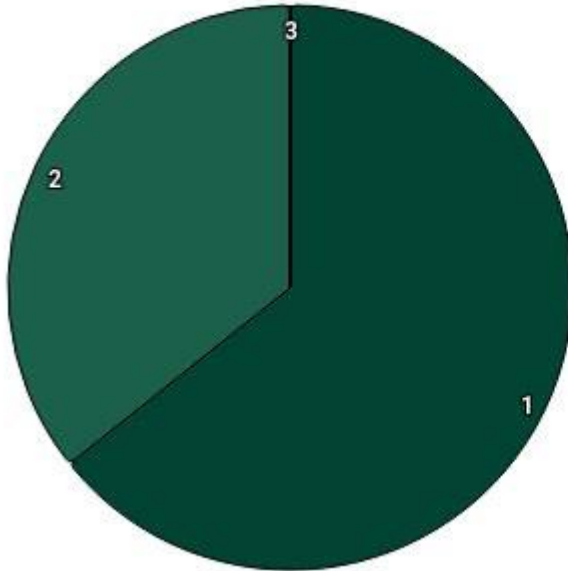


ACTIVITY BY MPA

Reading Rock SMCA

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

14 activity events

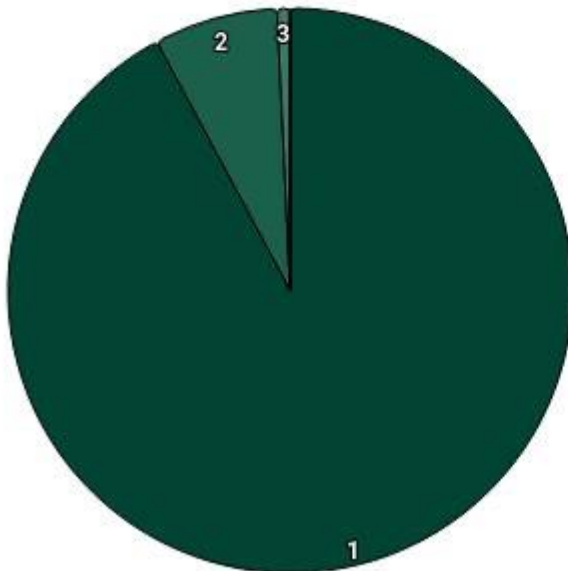


- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive
9 (64%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive
5 (36%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive
0 (< 1%)

CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

268 activity events

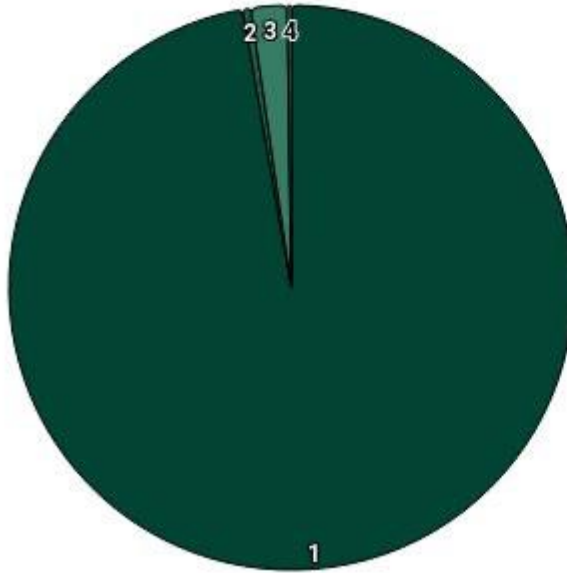


- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive
247 (92%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive
19 (7%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
2 (1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive
0 (< 1%)



CONTROL Trinidad State Beach

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024
19,947 activity events

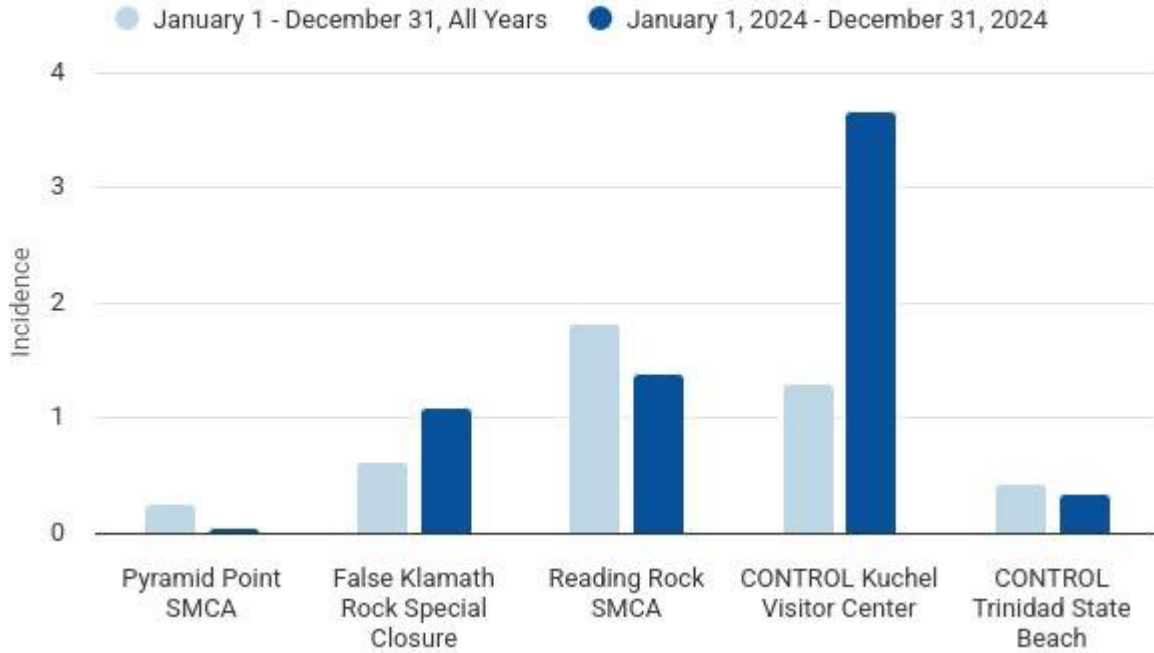


- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive
19,398 (97%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive
91 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive
411 (2%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive
47 (< 1%)

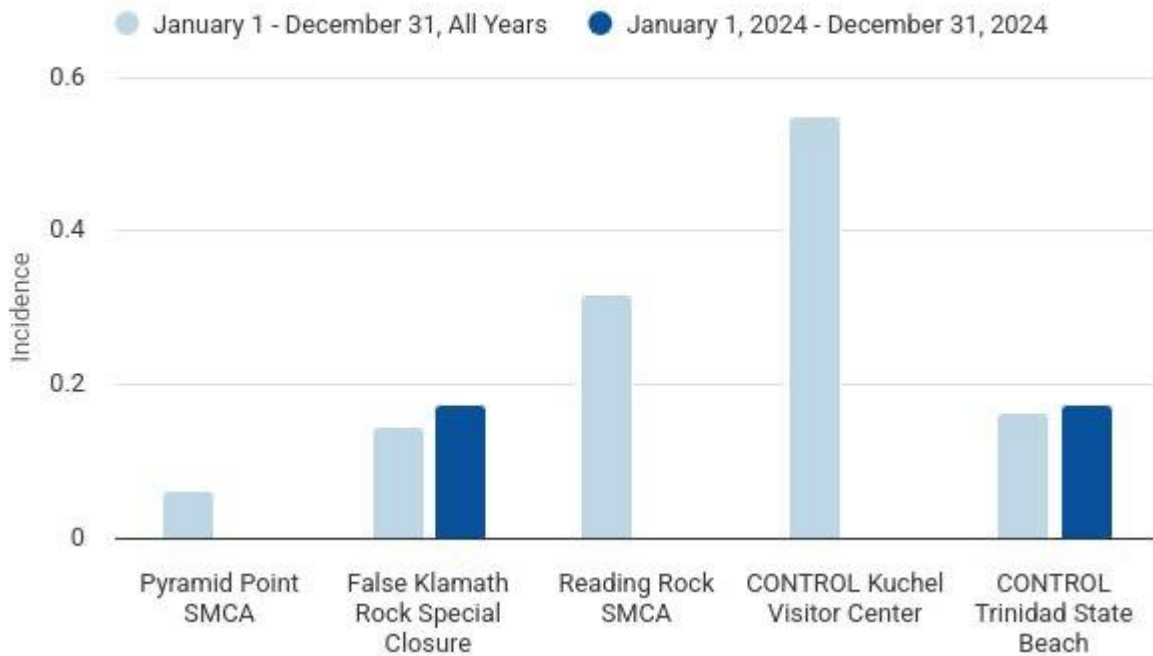


ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA

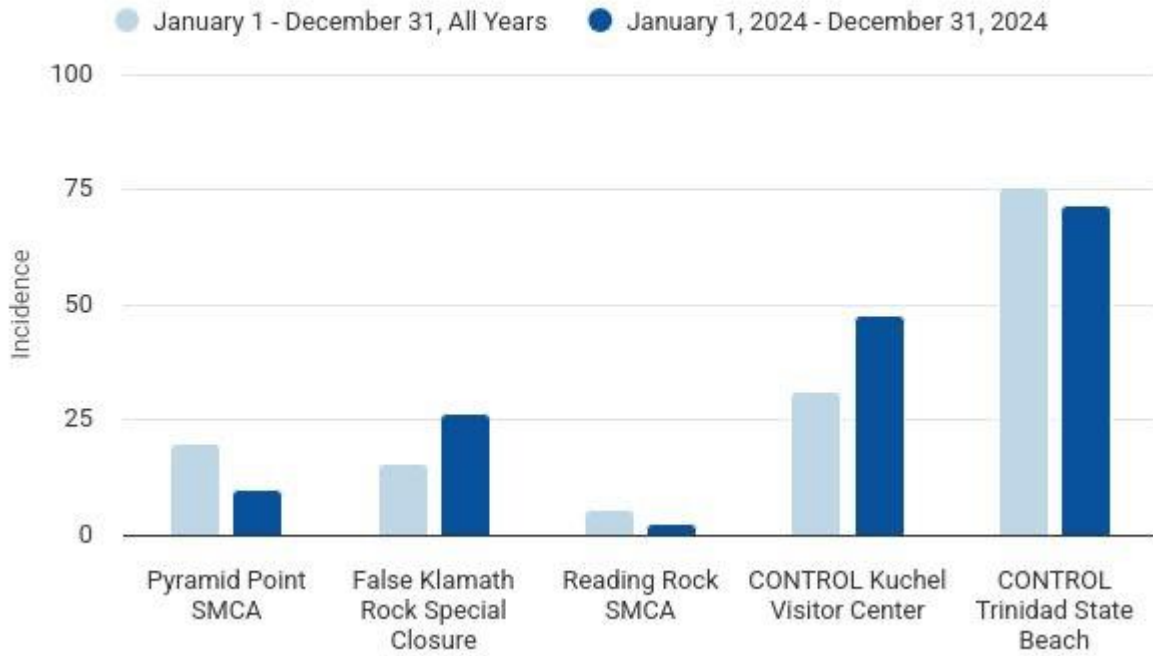
On-Shore, Consumptive



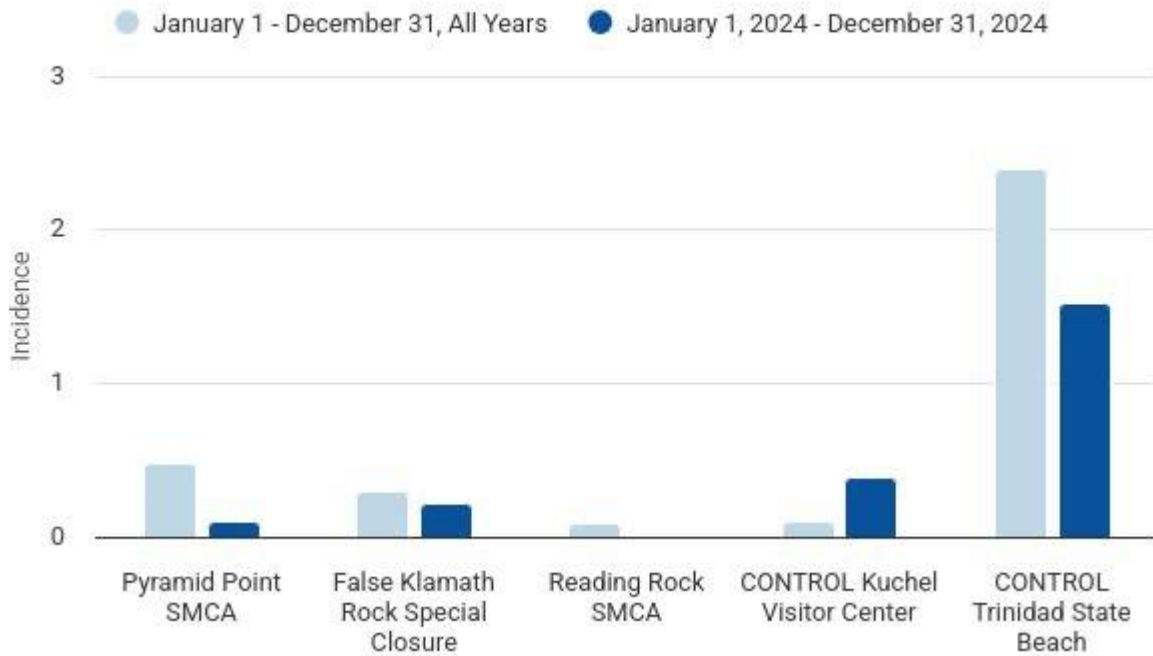
Off-Shore, Consumptive



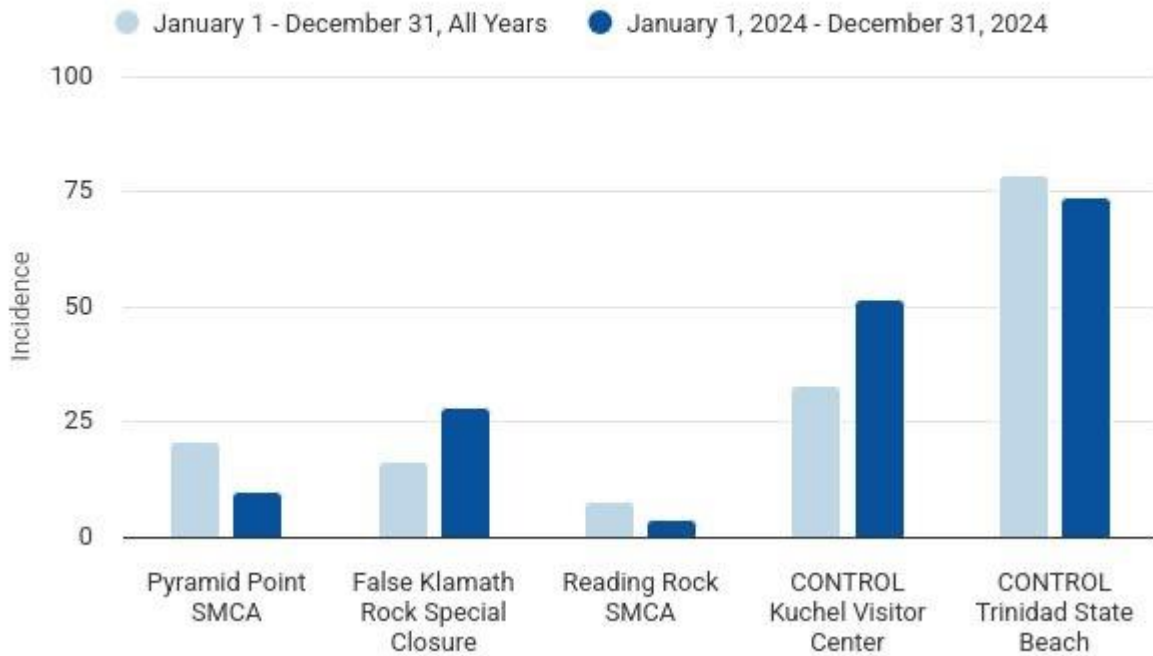
On-Shore, Non-Consumptive



Off-Shore, Non-Consumptive



All Activity



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

ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA

MPA	Off-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024
Pyramid Point SMCA	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
Reading Rock SMCA	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.0
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	2.4	1.5	0.2	0.2
All MPAs Combined	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.2





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MPA	On-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024
Pyramid Point SMCA	19.9	9.6	0.2	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	15.3	26.5	0.6	1.1
Reading Rock SMCA	5.6	2.5	1.8	1.4
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	31.1	47.5	1.3	3.7
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	75.5	71.6	0.4	0.3
All MPAs Combined	24.4	43.4	0.6	0.8

MPA	Total Combined	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024
	Pyramid Point SMCA	20.7
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	16.4	28.0
Reading Rock SMCA	7.8	3.9
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	33.0	51.5
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	78.5	73.6
All MPAs Combined	25.7	45.1

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

Tr’uu-luu-k’wvt (Pyramid Point) SMCA

From January 1 – December 31, 2024, 31 surveys were conducted within Tr’uuluu-k’wvt at 2 transect sites (15 at Site 1 and 16 at Site 2), recording 213 total activities. We have 4 volunteers covering 3 survey miles. 212 of our activities were nonconsumptive (on and off-shore) and only 1 no consumptive activity was recorded for this time frame. TDN continued their Netlh-‘ii~ne Stewards program, where Tribal citizens go through training to learn traditional stewardship protocols and natural resource management techniques in order to take care of their ancestral territory. MPA Watch surveys and procedures were a component of this training and have continued surveys throughout the year.



MPA Watch surveyors and TDN Marine Division Staff Race Richards and Rudy Lopez

False Klamath Rock Special Closure

People observed in the MPA were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities (over 99% of all 11,196 observations): both on-shore (95% of all 11,196 observations) and off-shore (1% of all 11,196). The remaining 504 observations (5% of total observations) were consumptive activities, primarily fishing and hand collection of biota.





Reading Rock MPA & Control site

July-December 2024 SUMMARY by Kyle Buchanan:

The two transects in which I survey are the Reading Rock MPA transect and the CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center transects.

Reading Rock MPA transect:

- Very little beach use. The majority of my surveys have recorded zero activity at this beach
- Large amount of driftwood has been accumulating there throughout the past 6 months

CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center transect:

- Little to moderate beach use. Typically anywhere from 1 to 15 people use this stretch of beach during my surveys.
- Primarily recording on-shore, sandy beach, recreation

Additionally, it should be mentioned that the Control Kuchel Visitor Center transect appears to get most of its recreation from visitors stopping at the visitor center then walking out to the beach after.

Trinidad

People observed in the MPA were primarily taking part in non-consumptive activities (over 99% of all 19,947 observations): both on-shore (97% of all 19,947 observations) and off-shore (2% of all 19,947). The remaining 134 observations (less than 1% of total observations) were consumptive activities, primarily fishing and hand collection of biota.

POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS

MPA	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024
Pyramid Point SMCA	79	1
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	411	69
Reading Rock SMCA	23	5
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	0	0
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	0	0
All MPAs Combined	513	75





In Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt, 1 (one) observed violation was recorded, but not reported to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife wardens by MPA Watch volunteers. Instead, our volunteers approached the angler fishing for surf perch, educated him on the regulations, gave him alternative fishing areas, and he left. Past violations recorded of driving on the beach due to a large homeless encampment in Site 2 and the destruction of gates and locks that deter vehicle access behind the Howonquet Hall Community Center continue but were not recorded during surveys. TDN is still trying to figure out the most efficient way to deter driving on the beach as this disrupts surf smelt spawning grounds. We are also actively trying to safely clean up abandoned homeless camps within our sites to ensure a safe and healthy coastal environment.

False Klamath Rock Special Closure Violations

False Klamath Rock is a special closure that restricts access from March 1 to August 31 each year to protect thousands of birds that nest on the rock each year. Observers have noted 69 trespassers in this time frame.

Reading Rock MPA

No violations were observed.

CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center

No violations were observed.

CONTROL Trinidad State Beach

No violations were observed.

NEXT STEPS

In Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt since 2023, we have been collaborating with CalPoly Humboldt's Marine Mammal Stranding Network and including carcass and stranding surveys that are conducted in tandem with our MPA Watch surveys. TDN will also be starting another cohort of Netlh-'ii~-ne Stewards in the summer of 2025 and will have additional people completing the MPA Watch survey training.

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.





MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) WATCH NORTH COAST REPORT

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 Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation's MPA Watch program, please email Rosa Laucci at rosa.laucci@tolowa.com.

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 ram58@humboldt.edu.

For more information regarding the North Coast Redwoods District MPA Watch efforts, please contact Kyle Buchanan at Kyle.Buchanan@parks.ca.gov.

