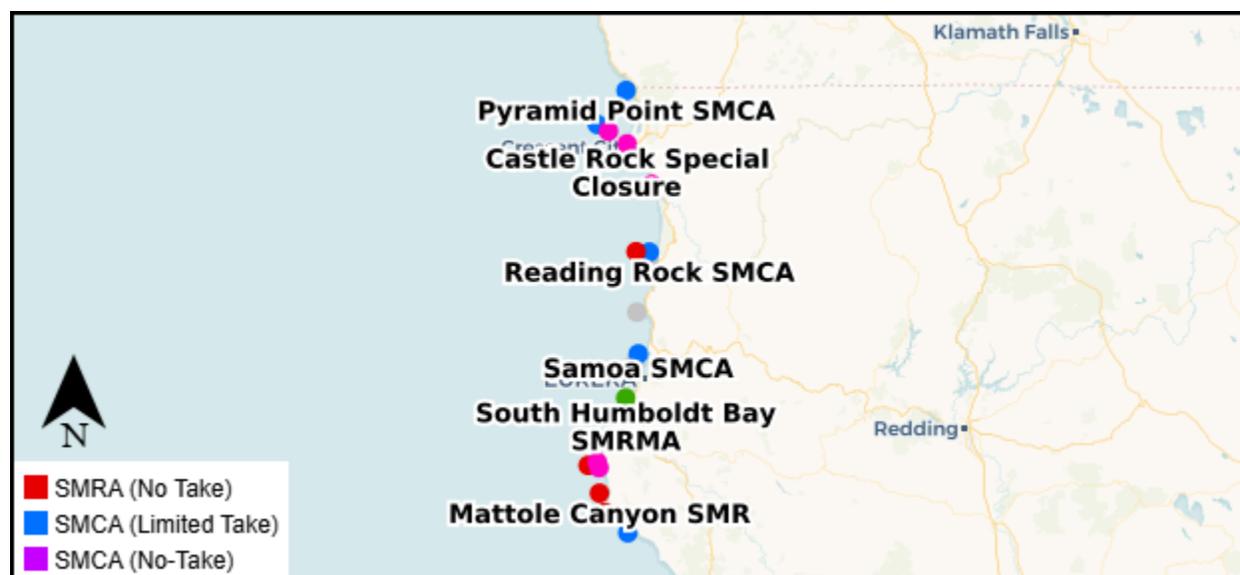




# Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch North Coast Report

Del Norte & Humboldt Counties  
January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

## Map of Region's MPAs



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 Watch 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.
- EEFKC collected 386 surveys at False Klamath Rock Special Closure, observing 4,816 observations of human activities including sandy beach recreation, tidepooling, and hand collection of biota.
- At Reading Rock SMCA, 10 surveys were collected observing sandy beach recreation and animals off leash (sandy).
- 165 surveys were collected at a non-MPA site at Trinidad State Beach observing 4,223 observations of human activities including sandy beach recreation, animals off leash (sandy), and animals off leash (sandy).

<b>MPA</b>	<b>January 1 December 31 All Years</b>	<b>January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025</b>
Pyramid Point SMCA	309	48
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	3,896	386
Reading Rock SMCA	72	10
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	112	12
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	1,808	165
<b>All MPAs Combined</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>621</b>

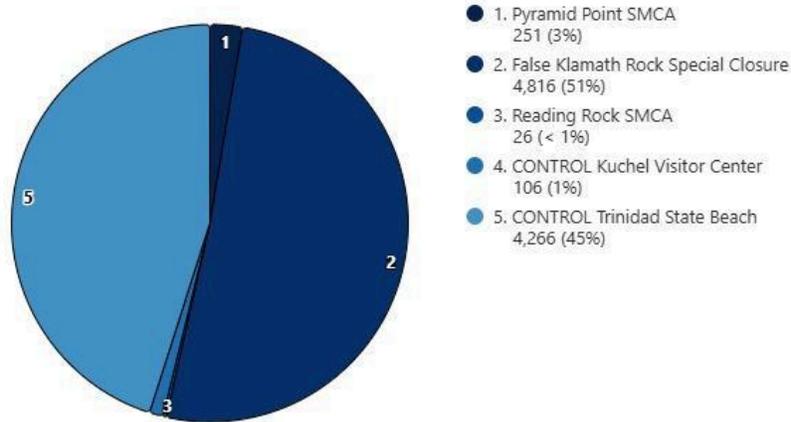
	<b>January 1 December 31 All Years</b>	<b>January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025</b>
Number of Surveys	6,253	621
Number of Volunteers	61	5
Survey-Miles	4,956	729
Activities Observed	95,237	9,465



HUMAN USE OF MPAS January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

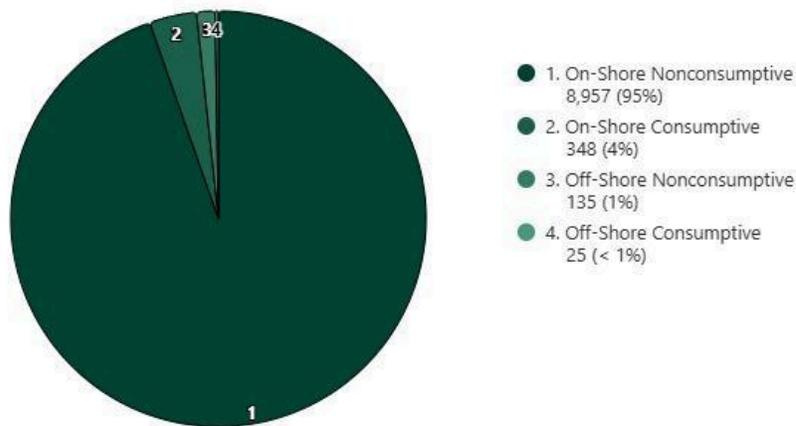
**Top 5 MPAs by All Activity**

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
9,465 total activity events



**All MPAs Combined**

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
9,465 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.

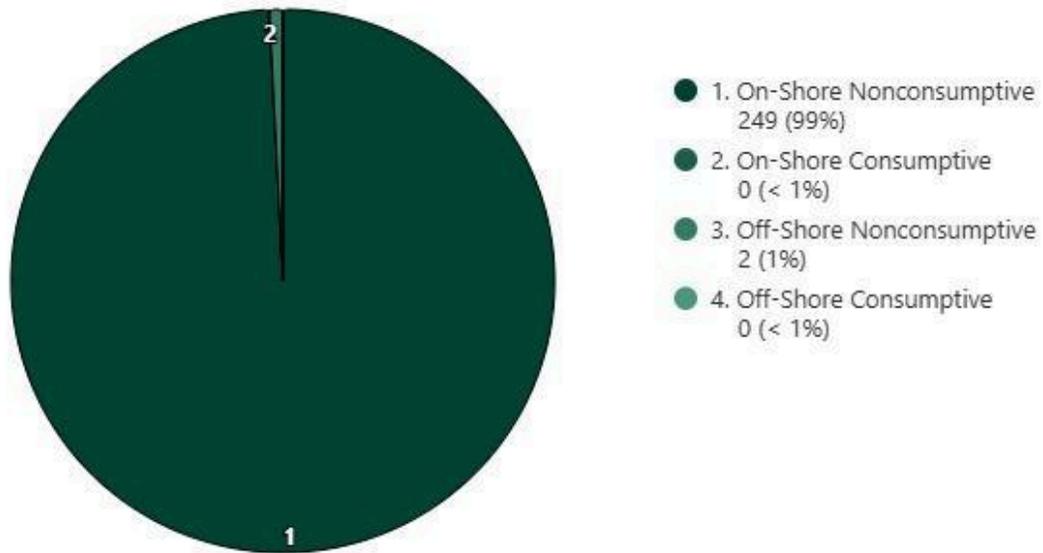
**Non-Consumptive** - An activity in which a natural resource is not collected.



## ACTIVITY BY MPA

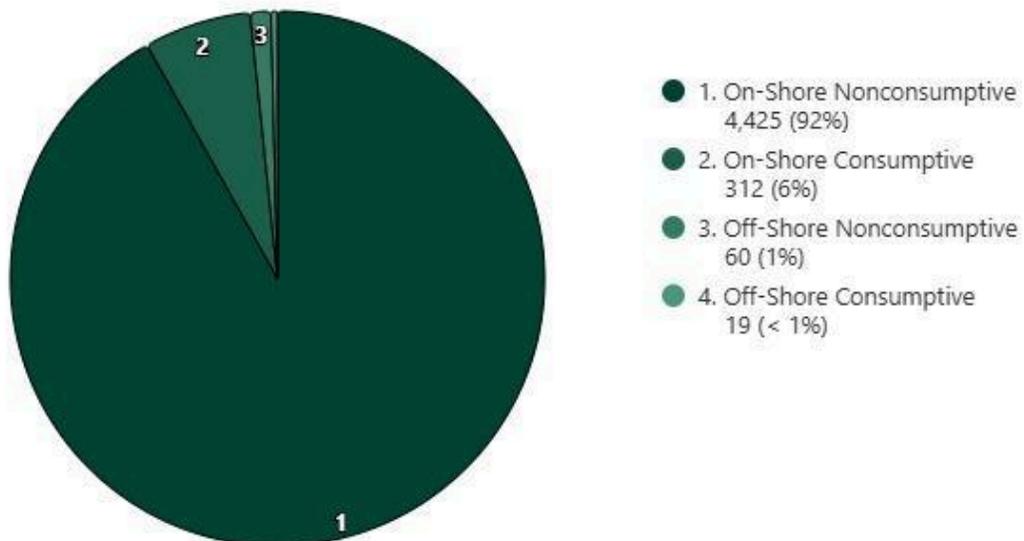
### Pyramid Point SMCA

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
251 activity events



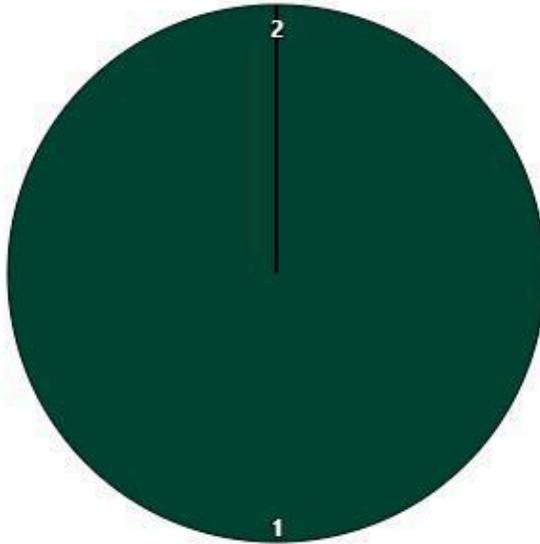
### False Klamath Rock Special Closure

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
4,816 activity events



## Reading Rock SMCA

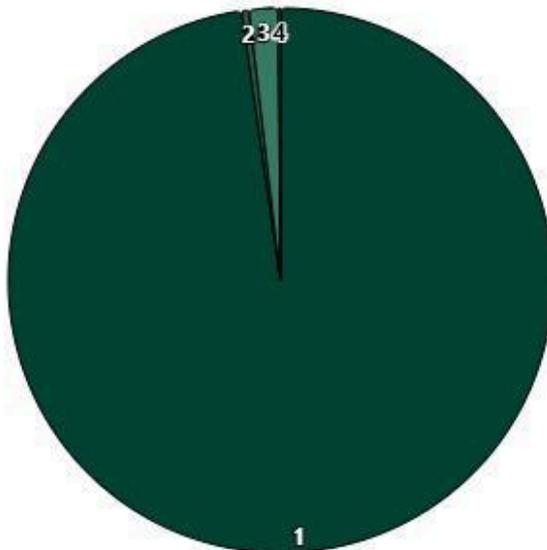
January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
26 activity events



- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
26 (100%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
0 (< 1%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
0 (< 1%)

## CONTROL Trinidad State Beach

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
4,266 activity events

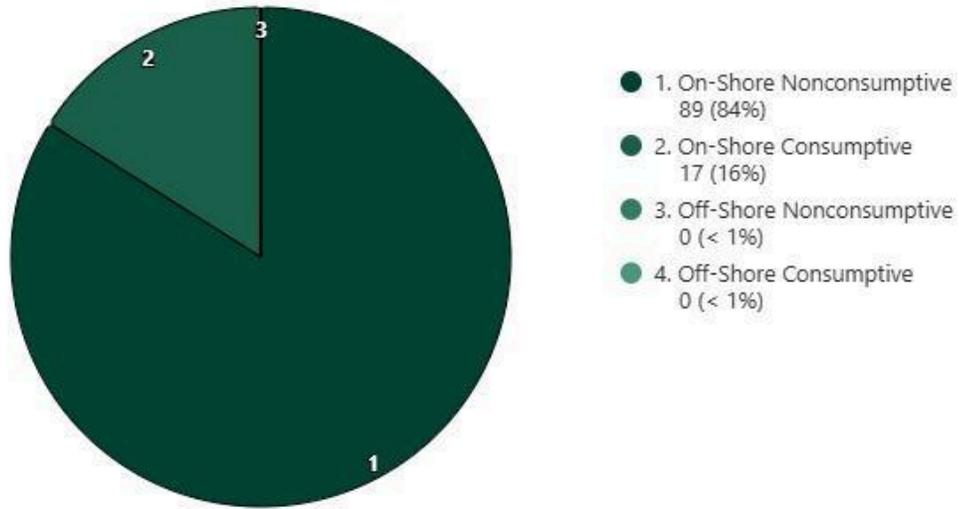


- 1. On-Shore Nonconsumptive  
4,168 (98%)
- 2. On-Shore Consumptive  
19 (< 1%)
- 3. Off-Shore Nonconsumptive  
73 (2%)
- 4. Off-Shore Consumptive  
6 (< 1%)



**CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center**

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
106 activity events

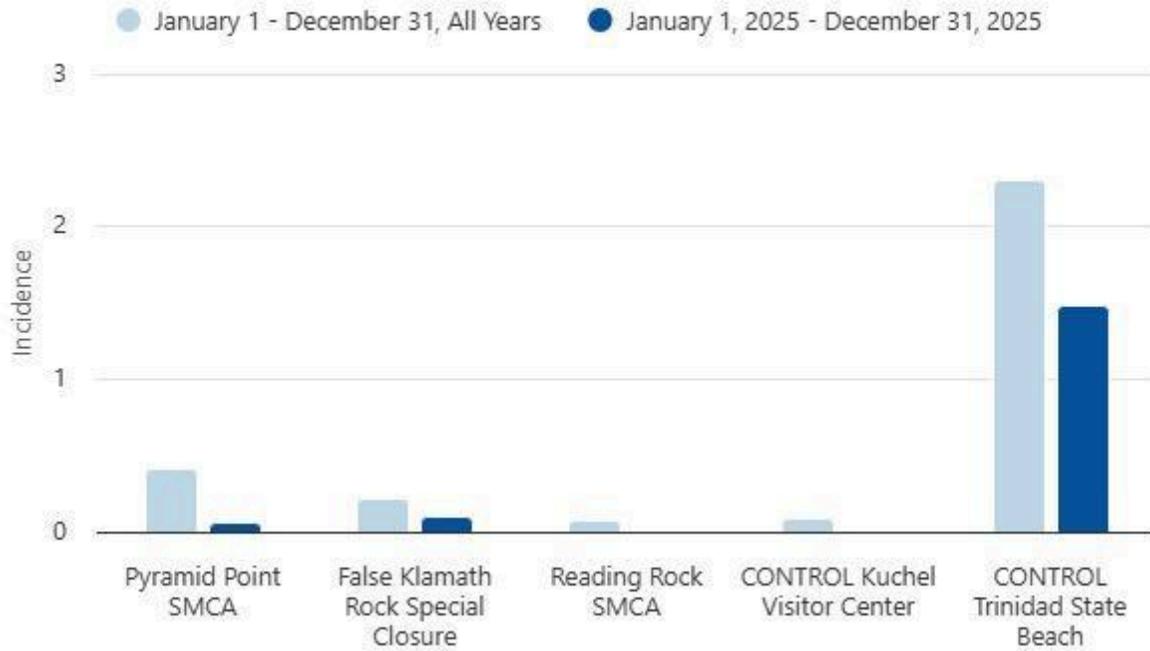


**ACTIVITY INCIDENCE BY MPA**

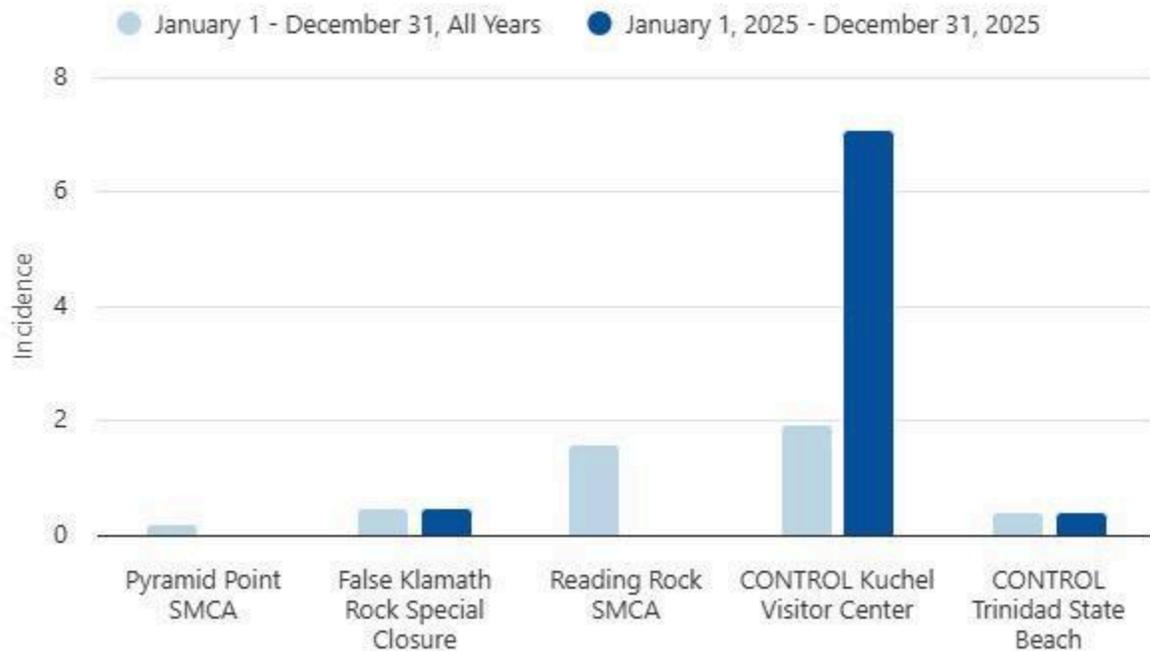
**Off-Shore, Consumptive**



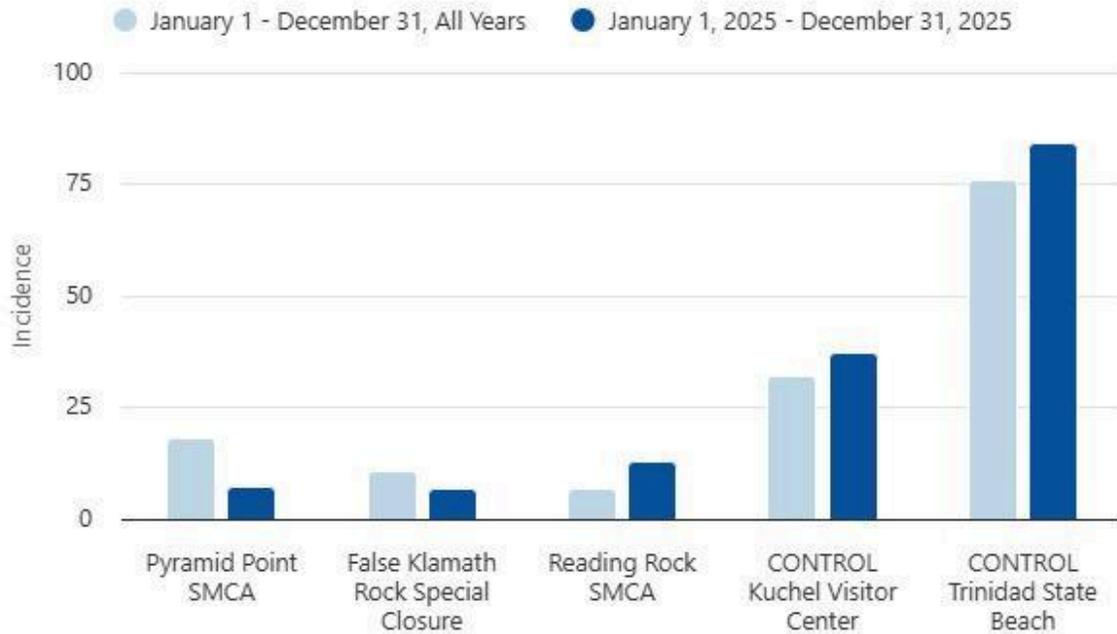
### Off-Shore, Non-Consumptive



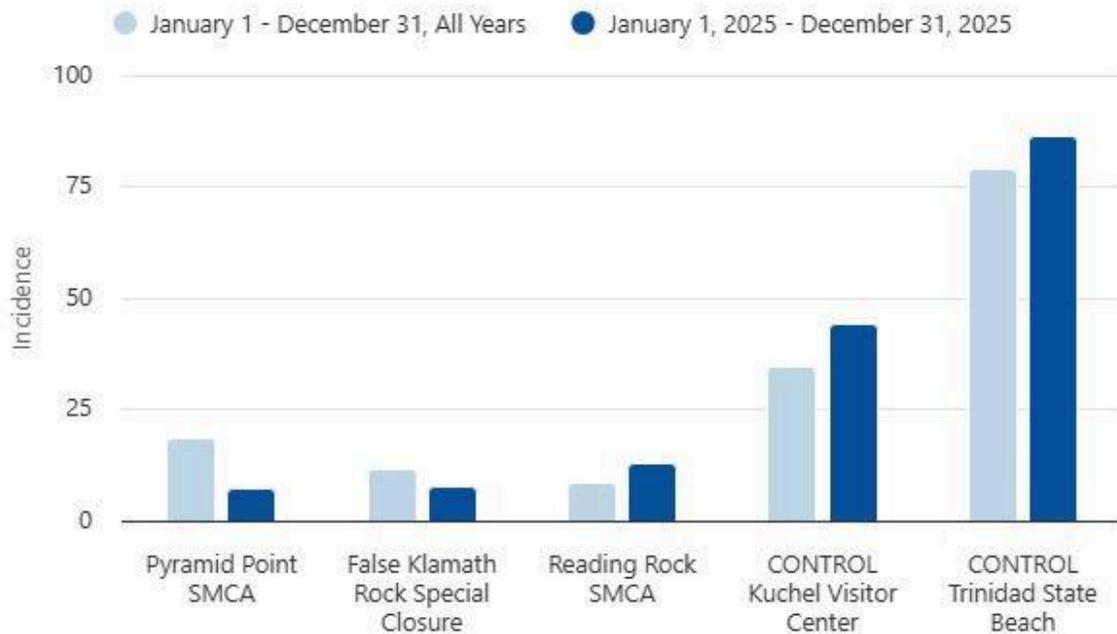
### On-Shore, Consumptive



**On-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 the number of activities recorded divided by total survey-miles.*





INCIDENCE TABLES

MPA	Off-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025
Pyramid Point SMCA	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Reading Rock SMCA	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	2.3	1.5	0.2	0.1
All MPAs Combined	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0





# MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) WATCH NORTH COAST REPORT

MPA	On-Shore			
	Non-Consumptive		Consumptive	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025
Pyramid Point SMCA	17.9	7.3	0.2	0.0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	10.7	6.9	0.5	0.5
Reading Rock SMCA	6.7	13.0	1.6	0.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	32.0	37.1	1.9	7.1
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	76.0	84.2	0.4	0.4
All MPAs Combined	18.2	12.3	0.5	0.5





# MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) WATCH NORTH COAST REPORT

MPA	Total	
	Combined	
	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025
Pyramid Point SMCA	18.6	7.4
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	11.5	7.5
Reading Rock SMCA	8.6	13.0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	34.5	44.2
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	78.8	86.2
All MPAs Combined	19.2	13.0

## 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 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, 2025, 48 surveys were conducted within Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt at 2 transect sites (23 at Site 1 and 25 at Site 2), recording 251 total activities. We have 5 volunteers covering 3 survey miles. All of our activities were non-consumptive (on and off-shore) and 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. We have trained 3 new Stewards in MPA Watch procedures.





MPA Watch surveyors: TDN Marine Division Staff and Nethl-'ii~-ne Stewards

## False Klamath Rock Special Closure

EEFKC collected 386 surveys at False Klamath Rock Special Closure, observing 4,816 observations of human activities. Top activities observed were sandy beach recreation, tidepooling, hand collection of biota on sandy substrate, animals off leash on sandy beach, and wildlife viewing on sandy beach. 93% of the activities observed at False Klamath Rock Special Closure were non-consumptive (onshore and offshore).

## Reading Rock SMCA

At Reading Rock SMCA, State Parks collected 10 surveys, observing sandy beach recreation and animals off leash on a sandy substrate. 73% of the activities were the sandy beach recreation with animals off leash making up the remaining 27% of activities observed.

## Kuchel Visitor Center - Non-MPA Site

EEFKC and State Parks collected 12 surveys. Trained volunteers observed 106 activities including sandy beach recreation (75%), net fishing on a sandy beach (11%), animals off leash on a sandy beach (6%), hook fishing on a sandy beach (5%), and animals on leash on a sandy beach (4%).

Trinidad State Beach - Non-MPA Site

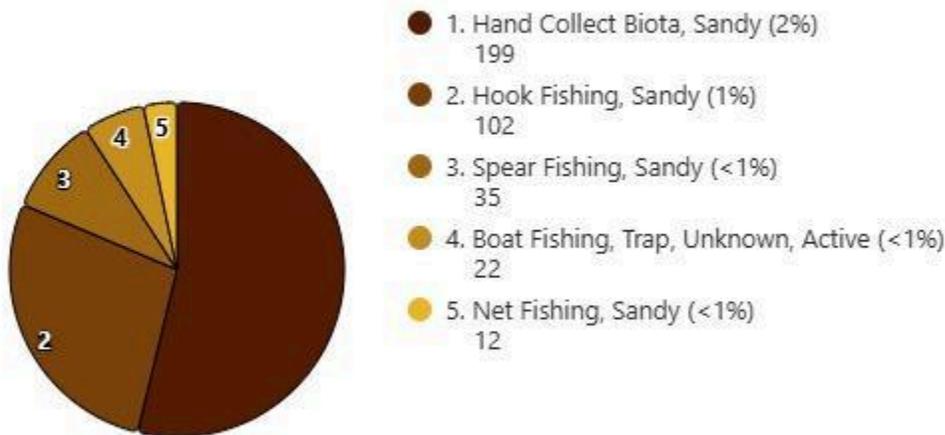
165 surveys were collected by EEFKC at a non-MPA site at Trinidad State Beach observing 4,223 observations of human activities including sandy beach recreation, animals off leash (sandy), and animals off leash (sandy).

POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS

MPA	January 1 December 31 All Years	January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025
Pyramid Point SMCA	79	0
False Klamath Rock Special Closure	441	27
Reading Rock SMCA	23	0
CONTROL Kuchel Visitor Center	0	0
CONTROL Trinidad State Beach	0	0
<b>All MPAs Combined</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>27</b>

**All MPAs Combined**

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025  
 Top consumptive activity, 370 (4%) of all 9,465 observations





### Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt (Pyramid Point) SMCA

In Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt, zero violations were recorded. 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

In False Klamath Rock Special Closure, there were 27 violations observed between January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

### Reading Rock SMCA

No violations were observed.

## NEXT STEPS

### Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt (Pyramid Point) SMCA

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 completed training of another cohort of Netlh-ii~ne Stewards, who started in June 2025, so we have three additional people trained to conduct MPA Watch surveys. Two of the three Stewards will be returning this summer to continue training, including conducting MPA Watch surveys monthly.

## 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 regarding Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation's MPA Watch program, please email Rosa Laucci at [rosa.laucci@tolowa.gov](mailto:rosa.laucci@tolowa.gov).





## MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA) WATCH NORTH COAST REPORT

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).

For more information regarding the North Coast Redwoods District MPA Watch efforts, please contact Kyle Buchanan at [Kyle.Buchanan@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Kyle.Buchanan@parks.ca.gov).

