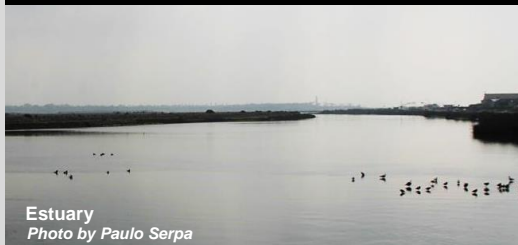


# Famosa Slough State Marine Conservation Area (No-Take)

Southern California Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), *Established January 2012*



## Site Overview

Photos are representative of the South Coast Region and may not be within this MPA.

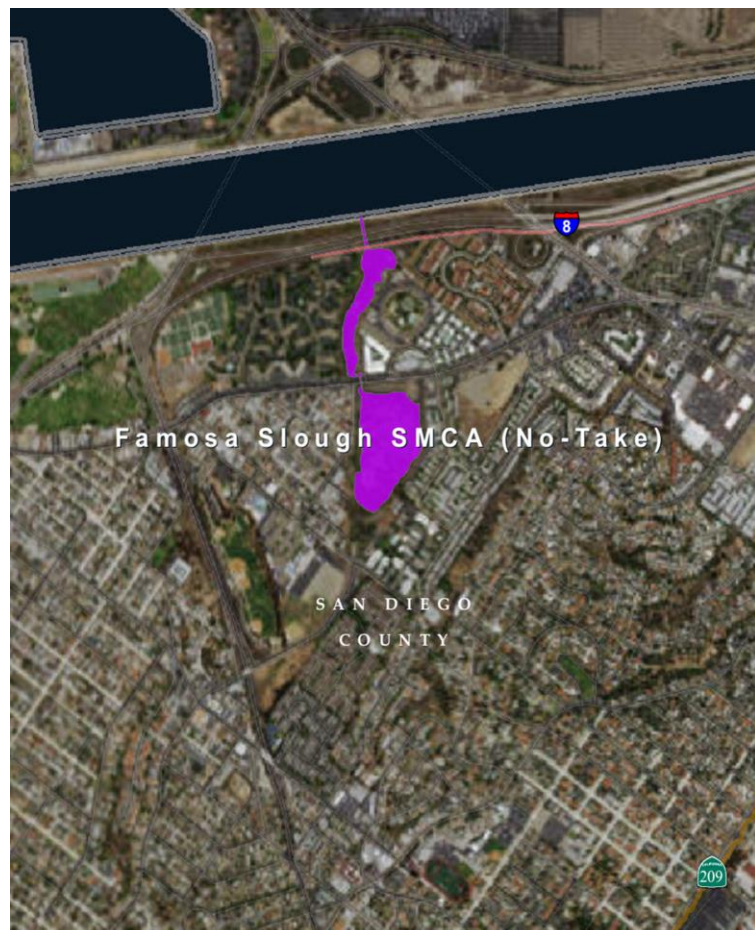
## What is an MPA?

MPAs are a type of [marine managed area](#) (MMA) where marine or estuarine waters are set aside primarily to protect or conserve marine life and associated habitats. California has a coastal network of 124 protected areas designed to help increase the coherence and effectiveness of protecting the state's marine life, habitats, and ecosystems. The network includes three types of MPA: [state marine reserve](#) (SMR), [state marine conservation area](#) (SMCA), and [state marine park](#) (SMP); one MMA: [state marine recreational management area](#) (SMRMA); and [special closures](#). There are 119 MPAs, 5 MMAs and 15 special closures, each with unique boundaries and regulations in the network. Non-consumptive activities, restoration, and permitted scientific research are allowed.

## What is an SMCA (No-Take)?

An **SMCA (No-Take)** is a type of MPA that protects resources by prohibiting commercial and recreational take while allowing take incidental to the permitted operation and maintenance of artificial structures inside the SMCA.

## Where is Famosa Slough SMCA (No-Take)?



## Famosa Slough SMCA (No-Take) Key Habitats & Overview

- **MPA size:** 0.03 square miles
- **Marsh:** 0.01 square miles
- **Estuary:** 0.03 square miles
- **Unidentified (all depths):** 0.03 square miles

## Boundaries and Regulations

**Boundary:** This area includes the waters below the mean high tide line within Famosa Slough estuary southward of the San Diego River channel, located at approximately 32° 45.430' N. lat. 117° 13.750' W. long.

**Only the following take is allowed in Famosa Slough SMCA:** take pursuant to habitat restoration, maintenance dredging and operation and maintenance of artificial structures is allowed inside the conservation area per any required federal, state and local permits, or as otherwise authorized by the department.

# Famosa Slough State Marine Conservation Area (No-Take)

## How and Why Famosa Slough was Chosen for an SMCA (No-Take)

MPAs were designed through a collaborative, regional public process by a cross-interest regional stakeholder group (RSG). Using scientific criteria, public input and local resource knowledge the RSG developed MPA proposals. RSG proposals included site specific rationale (why the site should be an MPA-*included below*), the classification (type of MPA), boundaries, and regulations. Final MPA proposals were sent to the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) for their adoption process. Famosa Slough SMCA was adopted by the Commission in 2012.

### **South Coast RSG Identified Rationale for Famosa Slough SMCA (No-Take):**

Protect estuary habitat and provide for educational and recreational opportunities. The Famosa Slough State Marine Reserve (SMR) was designed to protect a 37-acre urban wetland in San Diego estuary habitat and provide for outstanding educational and recreational opportunities. It is a significant feeding and resting site for ducks and shorebirds including a myriad of heron and tern populations using the Pacific Flyway.

## Species Likely to Benefit from the Establishment of MPAs in California

Species likely to benefit from establishing an MPA are those, whose home range, behavior, reproduction, exploitation rate or population status indicates that they may benefit from spatial management. This includes species that are directly targeted by fisheries, those which are caught incidental to fishing for the target species (bycatch) and which cannot be returned to the water with a high rate of survival, and those which may be indirectly impacted through ecological changes within MPAs.

For a list of species likely to benefit from MPAs statewide: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/species.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/species.asp)

For a list of species likely to benefit from south coast MPAs: [www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders\\_sc/b2q.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b2q.pdf)

## South Coast Regional Resources

California MPA Overview:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Overview](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Overview)

South Coast Regional Goals and Objectives:

[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders\\_sc/b1n.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b1n.pdf)

California MLPA South Coast Study Region Description of MPAs:

[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders\\_sc/b1pv.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b1pv.pdf)

Methods Used to Evaluate MPAs in the South Coast:

[www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders\\_sc/b2b.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/binders_sc/b2b.pdf)

MPA Research and Monitoring Activities:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Research-And-Monitoring](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Research-And-Monitoring)

Regional MPA Statistics:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Statistics](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Statistics)

Regional Planning History:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Planning-Process](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Planning-Process)

## California MPA Network Resources

Detailed MPA guidebooks maps and brochures:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network)

California Marine Life Protection Act Marine Protected Areas Master Plan:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Master-Plan](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Master-Plan)

Marine Life Protection Act Summary and Network Goals:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Goals](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs/Network-Goals)



For more information, visit:

[www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs)

Email:

[AskMPA@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:AskMPA@wildlife.ca.gov)

MPA Mobile:



Report poaching and polluting,  
Call CalTIP

1-888-334-2258

The information in this document does not replace the official regulatory language found in the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 632 [www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network/Title-14-Section-632](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs/Network/Title-14-Section-632)