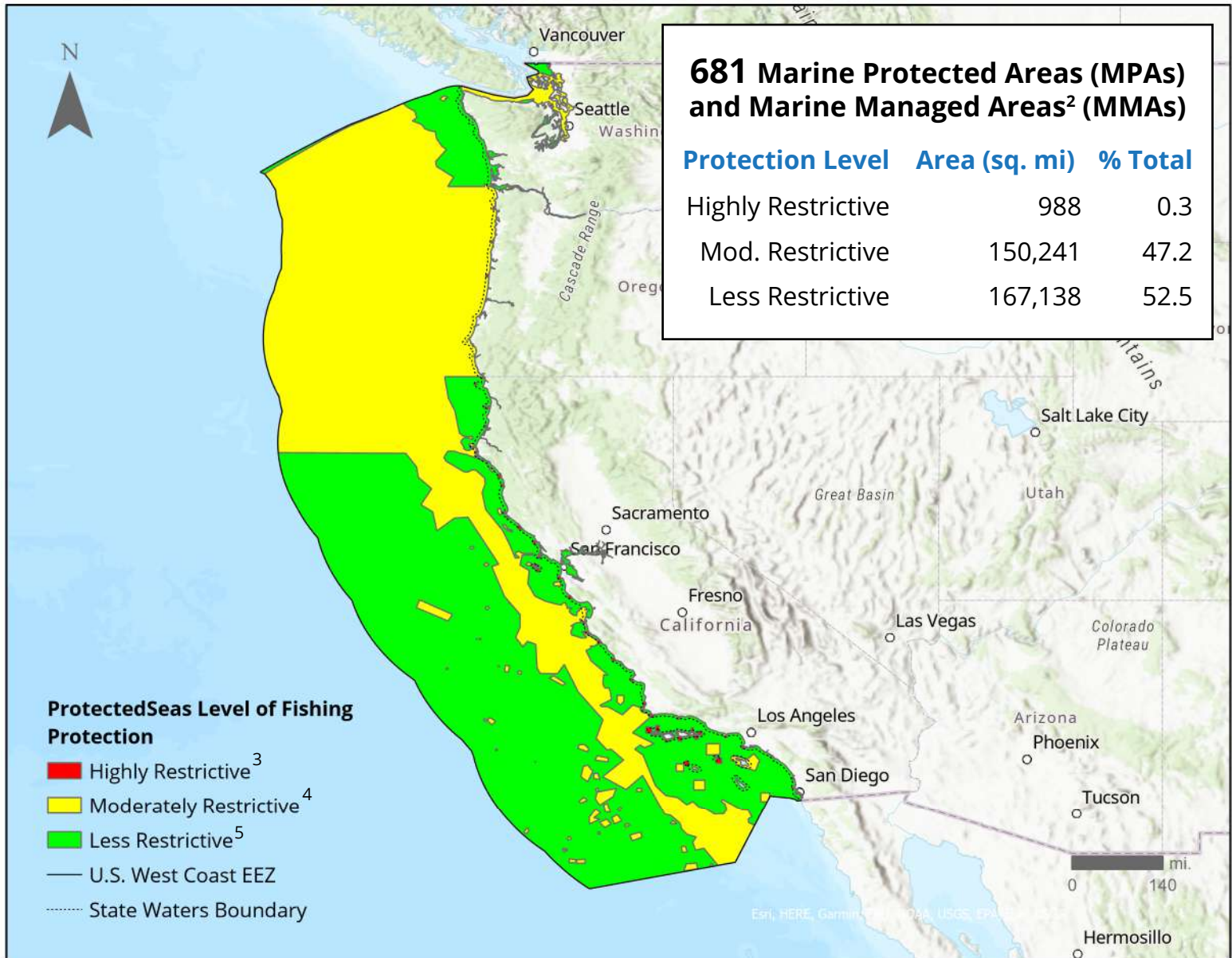


U.S. West Coast EEZ (CA, OR, WA)

ProtectedSeas Level of Fishing Protection (LFP)¹



Explore the map at protectedseas.net

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1 - ProtectedSeas assigns a LFP score to each MPA/MMA based on an analysis of restrictions on marine life extraction. LFP scores are not cumulative, but only indicative of the regulation and management for each MPA/MMA; the highest LFP from all overlapping MPAs/MMAs is shown in the map above. Due to the overlap of MPAs/MMAs, a given ocean area may appear less protected than the cumulative analysis of all applicable regulations might indicate. Regulations are interpreted narrowly. In order for an activity to be coded as prohibited, the legal source must clearly and completely prohibit the activity, without exception or in such a way to apply only to specific species, people, gear, seasons, or vessels. Without a clear and complete prohibition, the activity will be coded as restricted or unknown.

2 - MMAs in the ProtectedSeas Navigator dataset include areas managed for fisheries purposes, such as permanent gear closure areas, that regulate extraction of marine life.

3 - Marine life removal is either fully or mostly prohibited (or entry is prohibited) with few exceptions, e.g. very limited or relatively non-intrusive recreational/sport or subsistence fishing. In the U.S. West Coast EEZ, these areas include: Closed Areas, a Coastal Reserve, a Conservation Area, a Federal Marine Conservation Area, Federal Marine Reserves, a Habitat Refuge, Marine Life Refuges, a Marine Life Sanctuary, Marine Preserves, a Marine Protected Area, Marine Reserves, National Estuarine Research Reserves, a National Monument, National Wildlife Refuges, a National Wildlife Refuge - Research Natural Area, Nature Reserves, Public Fishing Piers, a Seabird Sanctuary, a Seasonal Closure, Special Closures - No Entry, a Special Closure - Entry Restricted, Species Restricted Areas, State Marine Conservation Areas, State Marine Parks, State Marine Recreational Management Areas, State Marine Reserves, and an Underwater Park.

4 - Several species- or gear-specific restrictions apply OR commercial marine life removal is prohibited OR both commercial and recreational marine life removal are heavily restricted OR recreational marine life removal is prohibited and commercial marine life removal is restricted. In the U.S. West Coast EEZ, these areas include: Closed Areas, Conservation Areas, Essential Fish Habitat Areas Protected from Fishing, Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Areas, a Fish Refuge, a Groundfish Conservation Area, Marine Protected Areas, a National Historical Park, a National Historical Reserve, National Parks, a National Seashore, National Wildlife Refuges, a Research Reserve, Seasonal Closures, a Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area, Species Restricted Areas, State Marine Conservation Areas, and Underwater Parks.

5 - At least one species- or gear-specific restriction applies (beyond permit requirements or generally applicable restrictions) OR no known restrictions exist for marine life removal beyond national or subnational generally applicable restrictions. In the U.S. West Coast EEZ, these areas include: Conservation Areas, a Dredged Material Disposal Site, an Ecological Preserve, Essential Fishing Habitat Areas Protected from Fishing, Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Areas, Game Refuge, Gear Restricted Areas, Groundfish Conservation Areas, a Marine Biological Preserve, Marine Life Refuges, a Marine Mammal Reserve, Marine Protected Areas, Motorized Personal Watercraft Zones, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Marine Sanctuaries, a National Marine Sanctuary - Entry Restricted, a National Monument, a National Recreation Area, National Wildlife Refuges, a National Seashore - Entry Restricted, Natural Area Preserves, Natural Resources Conservation Areas, No Anchor Zones, a No Take Exemption Area, Overflight Prohibition Zones, Research Reserves, a Rockfish Conservation Area, a Seabird Protection Area, Seasonal Closures, Slow Speed Areas, Special Management Fishery Areas, Special Wildlife Protection Zones, Species Restricted Areas, State Marine Conservation Areas, State Water Quality Protection Areas, Underwater Parks, Voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction Areas, and a Wildlife Area.

MPA and MMA boundary sources: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, National MPA Center, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Park Service, NOAA National Estuarine Research Reserve System, University of California, and ProtectedSeas.

We offer this compilation of data freely, and encourage wide usage. It has taken many years and intense effort by staff to create this platform. As a scientific courtesy, when using the data, please attribute it to ProtectedSeas.