

# Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



- **Year Designated:** 1992
- **Size (area):** 5,322 square miles
- **Location:** Offshore of California's central coast, stretching from Marin to Cambria
- **State Waters:** 952 square miles
- **Purpose:** For the purpose of resource protection, research, education, and public use.
- **Fully-Protected Areas:** Three no-take marine reserves: Hopkins Marine Life Refuge, Point Lobos Ecological Reserve, and Big Creek Ecological Reserve
- **Date Management Plan Issued:** 1992
- **Date of Management Plan Review:** The Monterey Bay NMS is reviewing its management plan jointly with Cordell Bank NMS and the Gulf of Farallones NMS. The Draft Joint Management Plan is under NOAA review and is expected to be released by late Spring 2006. The Final Management Plan is expected to be completed by Fall/Winter 2006.



Map credit: Monterey Bay NMS

**Sanctuary Website:** <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>  
**Sanctuary Regulations:** 15 C.F.R. § 922, Subpart M

### Examples of Research and Monitoring Activities in the Sanctuary:

- Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) program -- enables researchers to monitor the sanctuary effectively by integrating the existing monitoring programs and identifying gaps in information.
- Exploring Davidson Seamount.
- Monitoring *Undaria* (an invasive species in Monterey Harbor).

### Examples of Endangered and Threatened Bird and Marine Species in the Sanctuary:

Endangered	Threatened	Candidates/Of Concern	Delisted
Tidewater Goby	Western Snowy Plover	Rough Sculpin	Peregrine Falcon
California Clapper Rail	Marbled Murrelet	California Black Rail	
Bald Eagle	Green Sea Turtle	Loggerhead Shrike	
California Brown Pelican	Loggerhead Sea Turtle	Tricolored Blackbird	
California Least Tern	Olive Ridley Sea Turtle	Saltmarsh Common Yellowthroat	
Hawksbill Sea Turtle	Chinook Salmon	Belding's Savannah Sparrow	
Leatherback Sea Turtle	Steller Sea Lion	White-faced Ibis	
Blue Whale	Gaodelupe Fur Seal	MacKenzies' Cave Amphipod	
Fin Whale	Southern Sea Otter	Harlequin Duck	
Humpback Whale		Elegant Tern	
Pacific Right Whale		Coho Salmon	
Sperm Whale		Summer Steelhead Trout	
Sei Whale		Northern Fur Seal	

**Summary of Regulation of Activities and Uses in  
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**  
(For full regulations, see 15 C.F.R. § 922 and contact the regulating agencies)



Type of Use	Regulated by the Sanctuary (NMS)				Examples of Other Regulating Agencies, States/Territories, or Laws (may not be comprehensive list)
	Zoned (areas closed to this type of use)	Restricted	Prohibited	Comments	
Commercial Fishing				Not regulated by NMS regulations	State of California, Pacific Fishery Management Council
Recreational Fishing				Not regulated by NMS regulations	State of California, Pacific Fishery Management Council
Bottom Trawling				Not regulated by NMS regulations	State of California, Pacific Fishery Management Council
Collecting Aquarium Fish				Not regulated by NMS regulations	State of California, Pacific Fishery Management Council
Aquaculture				May be regulated under Discharges and Alteration of or Construction on Seafloor	State of California, Army Corps, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Environmental Protection Agency
Alteration of or Construction on Seafloor		√		Listed activities allowed, including anchoring, aquaculture, and traditional fishing operations	
Seabed cables or devices				May be regulated under Alteration of or Construction on Seafloor	Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, Army Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, FCC
Exploring for, Developing, or Producing Oil and Gas			√		Minerals Management Service, Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
Exploring for, Developing or Producing Other Minerals	√			Only allowed for jade collection in zones; all other areas are closed	Minerals Management Service, Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
Removal/Damage of Natural Resources	√	√		Take of marine mammals, sea turtles, or seabirds restricted; attracting white sharks prohibited in state waters	State of California, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Removal/Damage of Cultural or Historical Resources		√		Only allowed if occurs incidental to traditional fishing operations	Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987
Overflights	√			Overflights at less than 1000 feet prohibited in zones	Marine Mammal Protection Act
Use of motorized watercraft	√			Motorized personal watercraft prohibited except in zones	
Underwater Noise				Not regulated by NMS regulations	Marine Mammal Protection Act
Discharging or Depositing Material Within the NMS		√		Listed types of discharge allowed	U.S. Coast Guard
Discharging or Depositing Material Outside the NMS that Might Injure NMS Resources		√		Listed types of discharge allowed	U.S. Coast Guard

**Other Regulations:** Permits for research, education, or salvage/recovery operations may be issued to allow any otherwise prohibited or restricted activity.