



THE CHANGING TIDE

Spring 2015

Celebrating California's Underwater Parks

The network of over 124 MPAs conserves 16% of California's coastal waters.

Contributing Author: California Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Now that the first statewide network of marine protected areas (MPAs) is complete, California leads the nation in ocean protection. Often called underwater parks, MPAs conserve special places like Big Sur's submarine canyons and rocky pinnacles that are home to sea otters, rare cold water corals, and large rockfish. The network of 124 MPAs protects 16% of California's waters, provides a series of refuges for ocean creatures to recover and thrive, and gives residents and tourists places to fish, dive, surf, and enjoy the benefits of a healthy coastal community.

Boating Destinations

California's MPAs protect a range of coastal habitats such as kelp forests, rocky reefs, and coastal wetlands and many of them are fantastic boating destinations! There are many ways to enjoy these special places: you can swim, dive, surf, kayak, fish, watch birds and marine mammals, or simply relax in nature. A boat makes accessing and enjoying these special places easier. Just make sure you know the rules before you go!

For brochures and fishing guides with maps and regulations, please visit: www.californiampas.org/pages/resources/products-brochures.html

Continued on back page.



Photo: GreenInfo Network

For more maps please visit: www.californiampas.org/pages/resources/products-maps.html

Little Things That Matter - OIL RECYCLING



This logo identifies certified used oil collection centers.

Did you know that used motor oil never wears out? It just gets dirty and can be recycled, cleaned, and used again. Recycling used motor oil conserves a natural resource and is good for the environment too! Look for the logo (on the left) to find a certified oil collection center near you.

These centers will take used motor oil from the public and will pay you 40c a gallon. Most centers will take up to 5 gallons at a time. Additionally, many communities have curbside recycling programs that allow you to leave your oil at the curb. Contact your County waste collection program.

For more information, please visit: www.calrecycle.ca.gov/usedoil

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Photo: Victoria Gambale

Destination Series:

SANTA BARBARA HARBOR *Where the Environment Comes First*

Santa Barbara Harbor has been the hub of recreational boating on California's central coast since 1930, and for commercial fishing long before that. As the first man-made harbor providing year-round protection between Morro Bay and San Pedro, virtually all commercial and recreational boating activities were centered in Santa Barbara decades before harbor development occurred farther south. Santa Barbara Harbor's popularity has never waned. To this day, the harbor is 100% occupied with demand for slips far exceeding supply.

Contributing Author: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

With the northern Channel Islands only 20 nautical miles offshore and the first stop for transient boaters heading south past Pt. Conception, the harbor remains a destination for visiting boaters as well. The harbor provides all the amenities a visitor might need. Restaurants, boat supplies, haul-out facilities, laundry, commercial ice, fuel, and fish hoists—not to mention nearby hotels and a vibrant downtown corridor—are right there or a short walk away.

Santa Barbara boaters take enormous pride in maintaining the harbor's natural resources, specifically good water quality. In 2002, Santa Barbara adopted a Clean Marina Program (initially called the Clean Water Program). Today, program facilities include five sewage pumpouts, a bilge water pumpout, three waste-oil dump stations, and free oil-absorbent pads. In addition, Harbor Patrol consistently distributes Clean Marina literature to boaters as just one of several public outreach efforts associated with the program.

Meanwhile, the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) has generously granted funds for the installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of these essential "clean harbor" facilities. Two of the harbor's most highly used pumpouts were recently replaced with a DBW grant.

One unique component of the Clean Marina Program is its annual Harbor Clean Sweep event. In 2006, harbor staff and a cadre of 40 volunteer dock workers, City maintenance divers, and divers from local boat-service

businesses, began recovering seafloor debris adjacent to harbor docks. The treasure trove has been extraordinary, including dock carts, fishing traps, boat liners, bow pulpits, sailboat rigging, and barbecues, plus occasional oddities like a television or microwave oven. To date, the hardy, dependable volunteers have removed 15.7 tons of seafloor junk. The ninth annual Operation Clean Sweep takes place on Saturday, May 2nd, marking the project's first complete circumnavigation of the Harbor. A second round will begin next year, hopefully with less "bountiful" results.

Santa Barbara Harbor's staff and boating community realize that a clean marina requires constant vigilance, and a partnership between the two has, over the years, helped develop a culture of responsibility for keeping it that way. So, come see us soon, and enjoy one of the most beautiful and environmentally responsible harbors on the coast.



Photo: Damian Gadal



Southern California Chapter

Pad for Pad

Mariners can rejoice a collective “oh buoy” as four new Absorbent Pad Exchange Programs (Exchange) are now open in Los Angeles and San Diego Counties. The four new Exchanges feature free recycling of fuel and oil soaked absorbent pads, in addition to distribution of free absorbent pads, in exchange for a completed anonymous survey. The two new Exchanges in Los Angeles county are located at Del Rey Landing and LA County Department of Beaches & Harbors (coming soon). The two new Exchanges in San Diego county are located in Oceanside Harbor Department of Harbors & Beaches and Sun Harbor marina.



Visit an Absorbent Pad Exchange near you!
Photo: Victoria Gambale

The Bay Foundation is able to offer these Exchanges through a grant funded by CalRecycle. “It is vital boaters take the necessary steps to prevent discharges of fuel and oil into our waterways,” says Michelle Staffield, The Bay Foundation. According to the Environmental Protection Agency; the oil from a single oil change (1 gallon) can ruin one million gallons of drinking water, the supply for 50 people in one year.

Absorbent pads are hydrophobic, able to absorb fuel and oil while repelling water. Pads should be used during fueling to catch drips, and must be disposed of properly since they are considered hazardous waste. Pads should also be used in the bilge compartment to extract oil from bilge water before it is automatically pumped overboard into coastal waterways. If boaters have an extremely oily bilge, they may consider using a bilge pumpout company that properly disposes of the wastewater. There are also bilge pumpout facilities located in Santa Barbara at the fuel dock and Channel Islands Harbors at the harbor patrol dock, and a new facility coming soon to Oceanside Harbor.

Boaters are cautioned that applying soap to remove a fuel or oil sheen is illegal and bad for the environment. If a spill occurs, it is best to use an absorbent pad and report the spill. Absorbent pads are the least expensive method boaters can use to control oily discharges and are available at most marine supply stores, if an Exchange is not near you. To find a facility that recycles fuel and oil soaked pads near you, please call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.earth911.org.

New Absorbent Pad Exchange Locations:

- Del Rey Landing 13800 Bora Bora Way
- LA Co. Beaches & Harbors 13575 Mindanao Way (coming soon)
- Oceanside Dept. Harbors & Beaches 1597 N. Harbor Drive
- Sun Harbor Marina 5000 N. Harbor Drive, #200

Monitoring Marine Protected Areas

from the Sky



LightHawk volunteer pilots help survey boating activity throughout Southern California. Photo: The Bay Foundation

Contributing Author: Heather Burdick, The Bay Foundation

The Marine Life Protection Act of 1999 proposed the creation of a new statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to protect and conserve marine life and habitat. In 2008, to assist in the MPA planning process, The Bay Foundation’s Marine Program (TBF) initiated aerial surveys of the southern California coast to provide data on boating activities in Southern California. TBF completed over 40 flights with the help of LightHawk volunteer pilots to record the type, location, and activity of boats in state waters from Point Conception to the US Mexican border. To successfully survey this large area, the South Coast was divided into a northern transect – Los Angeles to Point Conception, and a southern transect – Los Angeles to the US Mexican border. This information helped decision makers create a network of MPAs while still allowing valuable fishing areas to remain accessible.

In January 2012, the South Coast MPAs went into effect and TBF continued surveys to better understand how the newly established MPAs were affecting commercial and recreational boating activity in Southern California. With the support of The Campbell Foundation and project partners LightHawk, an additional 60 surveys have been completed. This data set now has more than 12,000 data points taken before and after the MPAs were established and allows us to look at changing patterns of boating activity off the Southern California Coast.

Initial survey results show that fishing on rocky reefs is concentrated in Point Loma, La Jolla, and Palos Verdes, and that there has been a high level of compliance with the new MPA regulations with few exceptions. Over the next year, TBF will conduct quarterly surveys to determine if these trends continue to hold true.



Lodi Lake Park

Photo: City of Lodi Staff

Delta Destination Series:

Lodi Lake Park

A variety of activities are available at Lodi Lake, a man-made lake in Lodi's northwest corner that draws some 200,000 people annually. The lake is located along the north side of Turner Road, east of Lower Sacramento Road, and across from the General Mills plant.

Lodi Lake Nature Area Docents offer Nature Programs that focus on topics related to nature and the Mokelumne River area and help provide ongoing education.

Whether it's renting a paddle boat or kayak, taking a guided tour of the Mokelumne River, or a kayak lesson, the Lodi Lake Boathouse at Lodi Lake Park has something for you! The Lodi Lake Boathouse is open weekends April through October, and Wednesday through Sunday in June, July, and August. Rent paddle boats, single-person kayaks, and tandem kayaks for \$5 per half hour.

Lodi Lake's boat launch is available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visitors can also enjoy the scenic beauty of the Mokelumne River aboard one of the Lodi Boathouse chartered boat tours. The 90-minute trip covers nearly five miles of river on Lodi's northern border. Trips are offered May through September. Food and beverages may be brought on board. There are two boats available to accommodate your needs. The larger boat can hold a maximum of 10 passengers while the smaller boat can hold up to six passengers. Additionally, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, the Lodi Boathouse at Lodi Lake offers 45-minute mini-trips. For more information or reservations, call (209) 333-6890.

Lodi Lake features a large sandy beach area for plenty of fun in the sun. The tiny tot water feature and spray pool is open Monday-Sunday, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. No alcohol or glass containers allowed at the beach nor are flotation devices or diapers allowed in the water.

Additional information on reservations, amenities, and fees can be found at the [City of Lodi's Lodi Lake webpage](#).



Lodi Lake Park

Photo: City of Lodi Staff



Submerged and Floating Aquatic Vegetation Control Programs

*Contributing Authors: Angela Llaban, Leandro Ramos, and Geoff Newman.
CA State Parks Division of Boating & Waterways*

The California Department of Parks and Recreation began its 2015 treatment of *Egeria densa*, water hyacinth, spongeplant, and curlyleaf pondweed in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region in early March.

Division of Boating and Waterways' (DBW) Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Control Program started treatment operations on March 9, 2015 at 23 sites for *Egeria densa* and curlyleaf pondweed within the Delta. Sacramento County sites include: Sacramento Marina, Beaver Slough, Sycamore Slough, Delta Marina, Brannon Island State Park, Korths Pirates Lair, Willow Berm Marina, Perry's Boat Harbor, and B & W Resort. Sites in San Joaquin County include: Atherton Cove, Louis Park, St. Francis Yacht Club, Hog Island (Power Squadron), Village West Marina/14 Mile Slough, Bishop Cut, and Honker Cut. Contra Costa County treatment sites are: Italian Slough, Kings Island, Discovery Bay, Holland Riverside, Sandmound Slough, Piper Slough, Dutch Slough, and Taylor Slough.

SAV treatments use the herbicide fluridone in three granular formulations, which exhibit different release rates in order to maintain prescribed herbicide concentrations in the water. DBW applies the herbicide at a rate of 10 to 20 parts per billion (ppb). The receiving water limit for fluridone is 560 ppb. Approximately 4 – 6 weeks after initial treatment, plant tips will develop a bleached or reddish to pink appearance. Other herbicide symptoms include loss of foliage and collapse of stalks where they fall to the bottom to decay. Usually herbicide levels in the water are at zero detection levels within 2 – 3 weeks after the final application. The public should not gather on or near boat docks during treatment applications. Boaters, swimmers, fisherman, and other recreationists in an area being immediately treated are urged to heed any directives aimed at protecting public safety offered by herbicide applicators.

The Floating Aquatic Vegetation (FAV) Control Program started treatment operations on March 4, 2015. Surveys of water hyacinth and spongeplant were conducted to determine potential nursery sites, levels of infestations, public health concerns, and waterway navigability. Based on this information, sites were prioritized and ranked to develop a treatment plan. FAV treatments use the herbicides glyphosate, 2,4-D, Imazamox, and Penoxsulam. Treatment plans can change during the season due to the presence of threatened and/or endangered species, presence of sensitive crops in adjacent land, weather, water conditions, plant growth, and plant movement. In 2014, 2,617 acres of water hyacinth were treated with glyphosate and 2,4-D. During winter, alternative control methods included utilization of mechanical removal/harvesting, herding, and manual removal. Mechanical removal/harvesting efforts of water hyacinth were focused along the Stockton Deep Water Channel and in Old River near the state and federal water pumps in the South Delta.



Egeria densa in Honker Cut
Photo: Michael Palm, DBW



DBW crews pushing water hyacinth for removal at Tracy Fish Facility
Photo: Angela Llaban, DBW



Mechanical removal of water hyacinth in Old River near Fabian Tract.
Photo: Angela Llaban, DBW

For more information, please visit:

[Egeria densa Public Notice](#)

[Water Hyacinth Public Notice and treatment area maps](#)

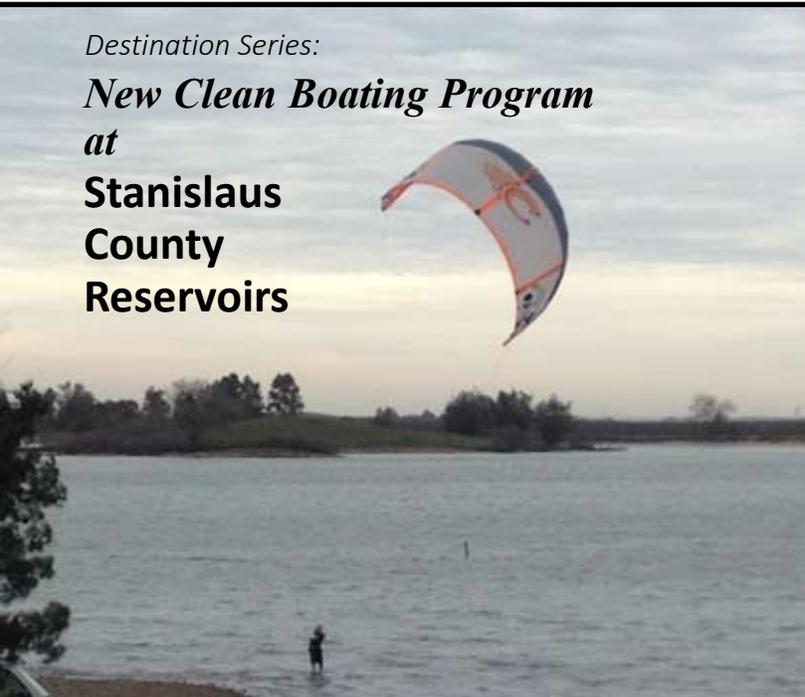
For more information on Water Hyacinth, see the [2015 Water Hyacinth Frequently Asked Questions](#).

For more information on the Aquatic Invasive Weeds currently treated by DBW, see our [Fact Sheet](#).

To report sightings or for more information regarding the control program, please see DBW's website at www.dbw.parks.ca.gov, call 888-326-2822, or email at AIS@parks.ca.gov.

Destination Series:

New Clean Boating Program at Stanislaus County Reservoirs



Modesto Reservoir

Photo: Tom Dias, Modesto Reservoir Park Manager



Contributing Author:

Denise London, Stanislaus County, Dept. of Environmental Resources

Woodward Reservoir

Photo: Cheryl Jackson, Woodward Reservoir Park Manager

Stanislaus County has two beautiful reservoirs which provide drinking water to over 380,000 residents in Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties: Modesto and Woodward Reservoirs.

Modesto Reservoir is part of a regional park located a few miles east of the town of Waterford off Hwy 132. The reservoir was completed in 1915 by the Modesto Irrigation District. The regional park offers 3,240 acres of land and 2,800 acres of reservoir for recreation and camping. In addition the park offers camping (150 campsites), swimming, boating, water/jet skiing, fishing, picnic and barbeque areas, an archery range, and an electric radio controlled airplane field.

Woodward Reservoir is also part of a regional park and it is located few miles north of Oakdale off Hwy 120. This regional park offers 3,767 acres of land and 2,900 acres of reservoir for recreation and camping. Recreational opportunities include swimming, boating, water/jet skiing, camping, picnic and barbeque areas. In addition visitors will find 40 full hook-up campsites, picnic tables, and a radio controlled airplane field.

Considering the importance of these reservoirs, the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) in partnership with California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), and California Coastal Commission's (CCC) Boating Clean and Green Program will begin a clean boating program for both reservoirs. The purpose of the program will be to install two oil absorbent exchange centers at the reservoirs' boat launch ramps and to educate boaters on the use of oil absorbents and other clean and safe boating practices to keep oil and fuel out of the reservoirs. The oil absorbent exchange centers will offer free oil absorbent to boaters and an accessible disposal location for the used oil absorbents. Oil absorbent can be used directly in the bilge to capture oil and prevent it from getting discharge overboard. They can also be used when refueling or to wipe minor spills. Used oil absorbents are considered hazardous waste and cannot be thrown in the trash.

From Memorial Day weekend and each weekend through Labor Day, DER staff will be conducting boater education at the reservoirs' boat launch ramps. Boaters will have the opportunity to learn about clean boating and receive a Clean Boater kit which includes an oil absorbent and additional clean boating information. Boaters will learn how to use and properly dispose of used oil absorbents. The Stanislaus Clean Boating program is made possible through a grant from CalRecycle and implemented by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, DER, DBW, CCC, Modesto Irrigation District, and South San Joaquin Irrigation District.

For more information on the Stanislaus County Clean Boating Program, please contact the Department of Environmental Resources, (209) 525-6700.



CA Stow It, Don't Throw It! *Calling Teachers, Schools, and Youth Groups!*

Used fishing line is often left behind on piers and beaches, or lost off of boats. Fishing line is not biodegradable and when left in the environment can entangle animals causing injury, damage boat propellers, and create a serious problem around boat ramps and fishing areas.

How can you and your school or youth group make a difference?

People of all ages can do something to help prevent this problem, whether they fish or not. Constructing and distributing simple, portable fishing line containers can help people store their monofilament fishing line until they get to a recycling collection site or a secure trash can. Constructing these containers is a great project for classrooms, environmental clubs, scout troops, and community groups of all kinds.

The Stow It, Don't Throw Project was conceived by the Florida high school student Sean Russell, who manages the program nationally. The California Coastal Commission and California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways are partnering to bring this program to California. We are inviting schools, teachers, and youth groups to be part of the solution to this problem by learning more about marine debris and by implementing a hands-on project. To join us in preventing harmful debris in our waterways, follow these steps:

1. Visit <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/stowit.html>
2. You will receive details including construction guidelines for the containers and additional related educational resources for your group regarding debris and its impacts.
3. Participating groups can take on the task of collecting empty tennis ball cans and following simple instructions, with materials we provide, to assemble the fishing line containers (Tennis ball cans can be easily found at your local tennis club, sporting goods store, or school PE departments. We can help with ideas if you need them).
4. Send us the completed containers for distribution, or you can distribute them yourselves at your local fishing pier, marina, boat launch ramp, or marine supply store.

If you want to learn more about this program and to get involved call or email Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905; vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check Our 2015 Events Calendar and Join Us!

Plan to join us in some of the following free trainings and workshops:

Marinas and Yacht Clubs Spill Response

Communication Workshops

April 28, Ventura
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Ventura West Marina
1198 Navigator Dr. Ventura, CA 92106

April 29, Los Angeles
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Cabrillo Marina - San Pedro
224 Whalers Walk, San Pedro, CA 90731

California Coastal Cleanup Day

September 19 Statewide
Check out www.CoastalCleanupDay.org for further details.

Dockwalker Trainings

Saturday, March 28 - Dana Point
10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Orange County Sailing and Events Center (Pilot House)
34451 Ensenada Place, Dana Point, CA 92629

Thursday, April 2nd - Oakland
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Oakland Yacht Club (Regatta Room)
101 Pacific Marina, Alameda, CA 94501

Saturday, April 4th - Long Beach
10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Long Beach Yacht Club
6201 E Appian Way, Long Beach, CA 90803

Saturday, April 18 - San Diego
10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Marina Village
1936 Quivira Way - San Diego, CA 92109

Saturday, April 25th - Ventura
10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Ventura West Marina
1198 Navigator Drive Ventura, CA 93001

Friday, May 8 - Vacaville
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Solano County Water Agency (Lake Berryessa Room)
810 Vaca Valley Pkwy #203, Vacaville, CA 95688



Portable fishing line containers
Photo: Vivian Matuk, DBW and CCC

Celebrating California's Underwater Parks

Point Reyes State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)



- ✦ Access from the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta area harbors and Bodega Harbor
- ✦ This MPA lies slightly offshore from Point Reyes, a spectacular and biologically diverse peninsula in Marin County. From your vessel, watch for unique birds and migrating marine mammals or enjoy certain kinds of fishing under specific rules and regulations: www.californiampas.org/pages/regions/northcentralcoast/pointreyessmca.html

Morro Bay State Marine Recreation Management Area (SMRMA)



- ✦ Access from Morro Bay Harbor
- ✦ This MPA encompasses a large portion of the Morro Bay National Estuary, one of the largest wetland systems on the central coast. A variety of activities can be enjoyed from your vessel including bird and marine mammal watching and even certain kinds of fishing: www.californiampas.org/pages/regions/centralcoast/morrobaysmrma.html

Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA):



- ✦ Access from Newport Harbor and Dana Point Harbor
- ✦ This MPA lies just outside of Newport Harbor, and protects 3.45 square miles of rocky platforms and sandy beaches, shallow reefs and kelp forests. It features outstanding opportunities for scuba diving and wildlife viewing. You can even enjoy certain kinds of fishing: www.californiampas.org/pages/regions/southcoast/crystalcovesmca.html

For more information on California's MPAs please visit CaliforniaMPAs.org.

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Northern California Chapter
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The Changing Tide newsletter is a great resource for you to get California's latest clean boating information. Help to reduce our carbon footprint and the amount of trash added to the waste stream by going paperless.

To go paperless, contact Victoria Gambale at vgambale@santamonibabay.org or 213-620-2271