

National Marine Sanctuaries Coordination Report



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West Coast Region

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Keeping PFMC Informed of Activities/Programs in West Coast National Marine Sanctuaries



NMFS/ONMS/PFMC communication and coordination continuously improving

Sixth annual ONMS report with following topics:

- Nominations
- Condition Reports
- Management Plan Review
- Climate Change
- Kelp Research
- Black Abalone Translocation
- Outreach



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

What are National Marine Sanctuaries?



Areas of the marine environment with special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archaeological, or esthetic qualities...

National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)

- Raising public awareness and understanding through education and outreach
- Improving management through research (e.g., historical, conservation science, social science)
- Helping coastal economies by promoting and protecting healthy resources
- Facilitating public use compatible with resource protection



Office of National Marine Sanctuaries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Status of Sanctuary Nominations To Date



In Inventory of Candidate Sites

- Lake Erie Quadrangle (PA)
 - St. George Unangan Heritage (AK)
 - Hudson Canyon (NY)
 - Mariana Trench (CNMI)*
- *undergoing 5 year review

Designated

- Malloys Bay - Potomac River (MD)
- Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast (WI)

Nomination Under Review

- Alaġum Kanuu: Pribilof Islands Marine Ecosystem (PRIME) (AK)

Designations in Process

- Chumash Heritage (CA)
- Lake Ontario (NY)
- Papahānaumokuākea (HI)

Declined by NOAA

- Shipwreck Coast (MI)
- SoCal Offshore Banks (CA)
- Aleutian Islands (AK)

Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary Designation Process Initiated

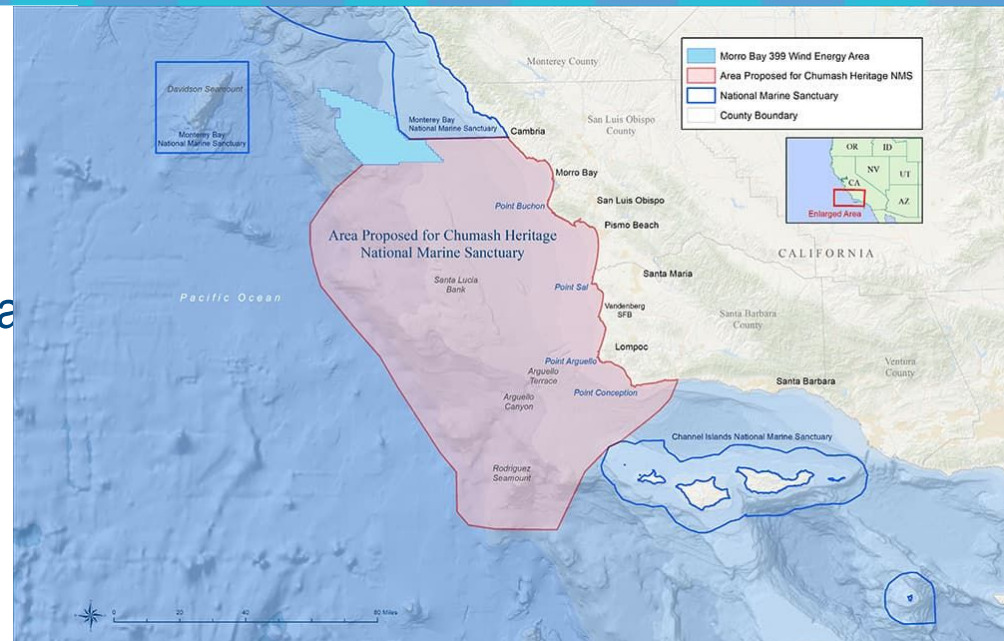


Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary Designation

- Added to inventory October 2015
- NOAA NOI in November, 2021
- Scoping Comment period extended to Jan 31 at request of fishermen
- Draft documents end of 22, final documents by early 2024

Initial Summary of Scoping

- Over 22,000 comments
- Many different ideas about boundaries
- Many comments re: offshore wind, oil and gas development, tribal collaborative or co-management
- Intend for public workshops on action plans



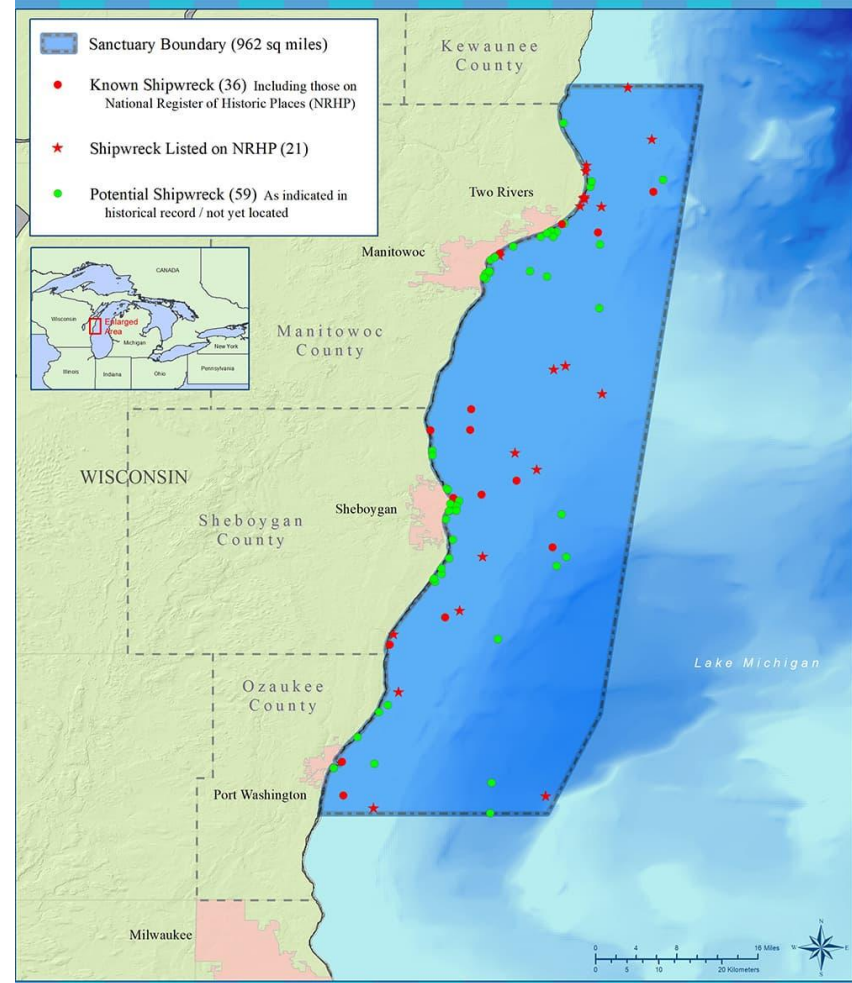
Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary Designation



Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast

- Added to inventory October 2015
- Final Rule published June 23, 2021
- 962 square-mile area encompasses a portion of the waters and submerged lands of Lake Michigan
- 36 known shipwrecks and about 59 suspected shipwrecks
- Well preserved by Lake Michigan's cold, fresh water, the shipwrecks in the WSCNMS possess exceptional historical, archaeological and recreational value

Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary



Condition Report Updates for OCNMS, CBNMS and GFNMS

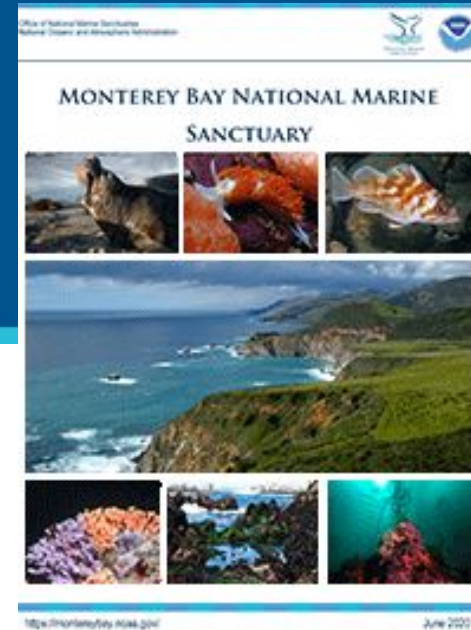


- **Condition reports precede management plans** and are periodically updated and reviewed (5 – 10 year timeline)
- Condition reports evaluate status and trends of sanctuary resources:
 - Update to past condition report
 - Integrate with partner processes
 - Incorporate NOAA IEA indicators
 - Use of confidence scores
- Each process collaborative with NMFS – use of IEA indicators
- New: evaluation of ecosystem services

- **OCNMS:** 2019 – 2022
- **CBNMS:** 2020 – 2022
- **GFNMS:** 2021 – 2023

Status:	Good	Good/Fair	Fair	Fair/Poor	Poor	Undet.
Trends:	Conditions appear to be improving.....▲					
	Conditions do not appear to be changing.....—					
	Conditions appear to be declining.....▼					
	Undetermined trend.....?					
	Question not applicable.....N/A					

Management Plan Reviews for MBNMS, CINMS, and OCNMS



MBNMS Management Plan Review (MPR):

- Published final documents Nov. 2021
- Minimal regulatory changes:
 - Allow for beneficial use of dredge material
 - Allow for use of motorized personal watercraft at Mavericks and better designed zones
- **New Action Plans:** Climate Change, Marine Debris, Coastal Erosion

CINMS MPR:

- **Draft Published:** Dec. 17, 2021 (comment period closed Feb. 24, 2022)
- **Regulatory changes:** None proposed. Nothing in plan that directly or indirectly adversely impacts fisheries.
- **New Draft Action Plans:** Climate Change, Marine Debris, Introduced Species

OCNMS MPR:

- **Planning:** Includes discussions with the Olympic Coast Intergovernmental Policy Council (IPC), and OCNMS Advisory Council; **initiate in late 2022**

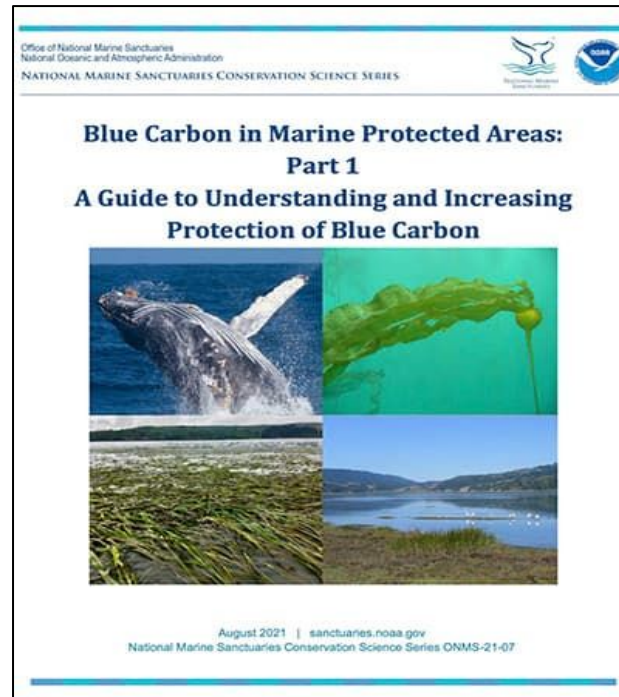
Climate Change

- **Climate Vulnerability Assessments (CVA)**
 - GFNMS/CBNMS completed CVA in 2015
 - OCNMS in process, February 2022 workshop
 - CBNMS/GFNMS rapid VA 2023
 - MBNMS and CINMS, planned for 2023/2024
- **Blue Carbon Science and Management in GFNMS**
 - Fall 2021, GFNMS published “Conservation Science Series: Blue Carbon in Marine Protected Areas”, a two-part report series

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for the North-central California Coast and Ocean



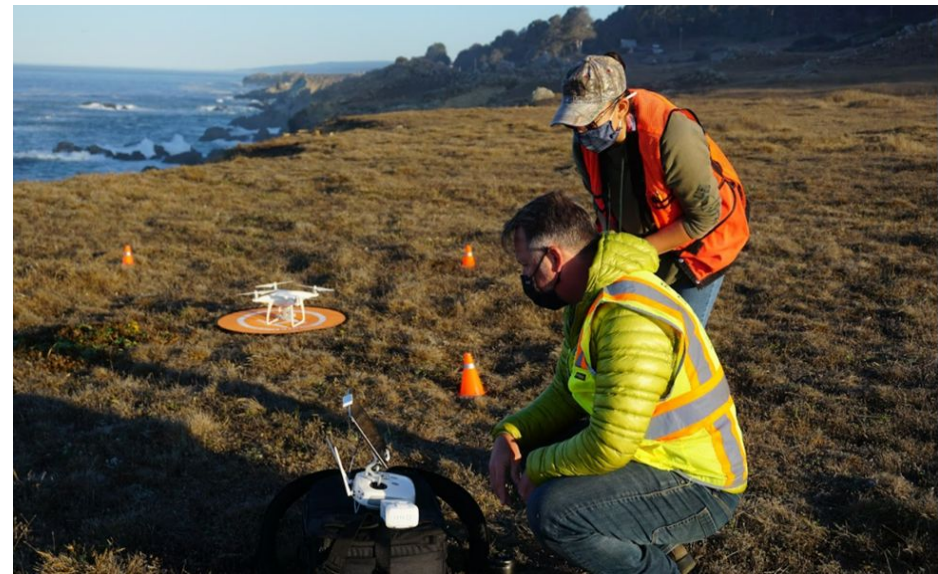
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Kelp Research in GFNMS - Kelp Canopy Mapping and Restoration Site Assessment



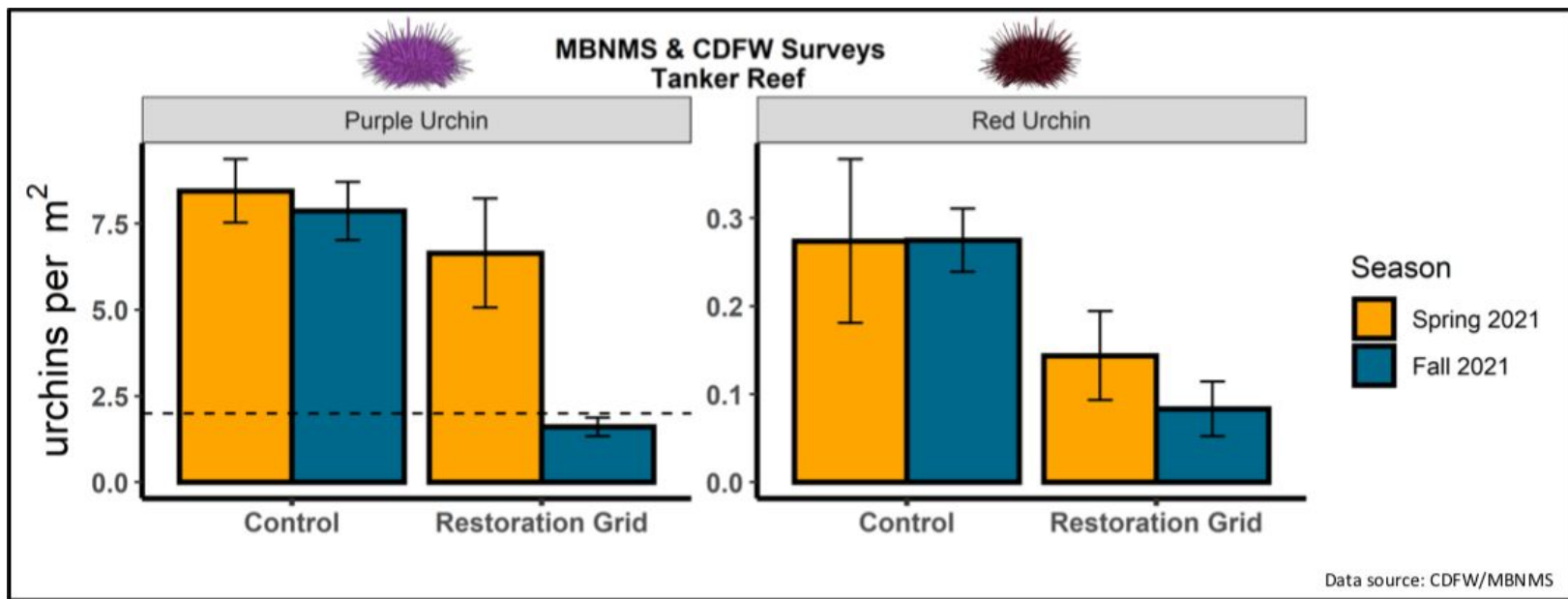
- **Kelp Forest Restoration Site Assessment**
 - Mapped kelp canopy at 25 sites in the sanctuary
 - Subtidal surveys to collect data on inverts, algae and benthic composition
 - 4 initial sites identified for restoration
- **Two papers being published** - assessment of remote sensing platforms and summary of kelp canopy mapping results 2019-2019



Kelp Research in MBNMS - Tanker Reef Targeted Monitoring



- **Sportfishing regulations amended April 2021**
 - Fish & Game Commission allows culling of urchins *in situ* at Tanker Reef (with a valid sportfishing license) through March 2024
- **CDFW, MBNMS, and Reef Check CA conduct surveys**
 - Divers survey control and restoration plots (2.5 acres) April 2021 prior to culling and again in October 2021 after culling completed



Black Abalone Translocations

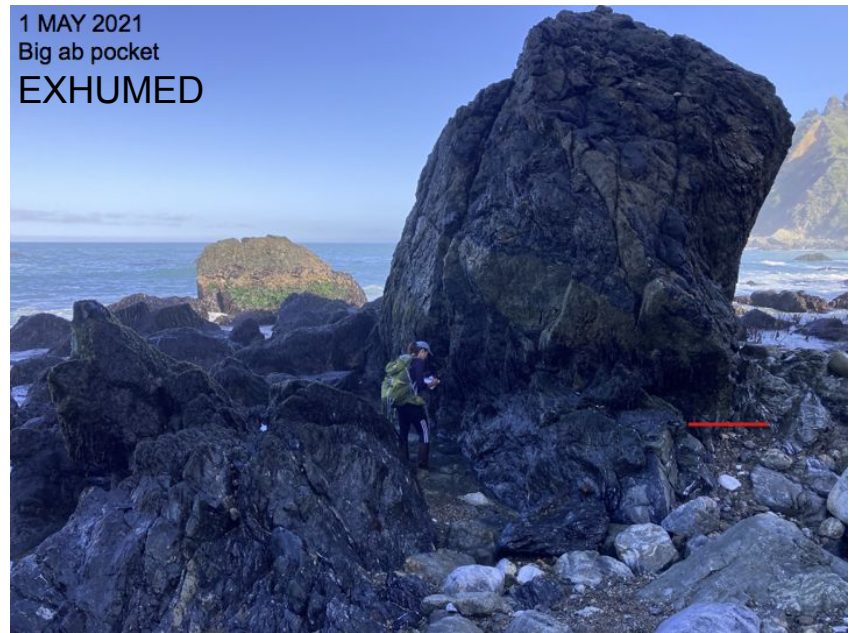


- Dolan Fire 2020 & January 2021 atmospheric river = Big Sur debris flows
- Endangered black abalone (*Haliotis cracherodii*) and their critical habitat are buried at the outlet of multiple watersheds, killing thousands of black abalone
- Subsequent movement of debris continued to bury for several months
- 200 black abalone rescued, 160 were translocated to safe locations in Big Sur
- Monitoring of translocated abalone continues throughout 2022

8 FEB 2021
Big ab pocket
BURIED



1 MAY 2021
Big ab pocket
EXHUMED



Outreach Highlights



- **ONMS 50th Anniversary** - events around the country/region
- **Salmonscape Exhibit** - art, science and resource protection come together



Opportunities Among ONMS & PFMC 'Family' (Fishermen, Managers, Scientists)



Shared values and interests to sustain a healthy, resilient, and productive California Current ecosystem:

- Develop, use, and 'webenizing' of NOAA IEA indicators and tools
- Climate change science, communications, and processes
- Review of offshore industrial development
- Response and recovery of endangered species
- Research, monitoring and conservation of deep sea habitats, particularly corals
- Education and outreach to boaters, fishermen, and general public



More information at:

[*https://channelislands.noaa.gov/*](https://channelislands.noaa.gov/)

[*https://montereybay.noaa.gov/*](https://montereybay.noaa.gov/)

[*https://farallones.noaa.gov/*](https://farallones.noaa.gov/)

[*https://cordellbank.noaa.gov/*](https://cordellbank.noaa.gov/)

[*https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/*](https://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/)

[*www.nominate.noaa.gov*](http://www.nominate.noaa.gov)



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