







#### CALIFORNIA MARINE ROTECTED AREAS

# **KNOW THE RULES BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT.**

### About Marine Protected Areas

- Marine protected areas, or MPAs, are specially designated underwater areas that prohibit or limit the take of marine resources.
- MPAs are recognized tools for protecting and restoring marine life. MPAs foster diverse and healthy habitats, safeguarding the ocean's resources for economic, recreational, and environmental benefits now and into the future.

## California's MPAs

- California was the first state in the U.S. to establish a statewide network of MPAs. There are now 124 MPAs statewide.
- The Southern California region of the MPA network consists of 50 MPAs, including the Channel Islands MPAs. The 50 MPAs in the region cover approximately 15% of Southern California state waters.

### **MPA Regulations**

- Boats are allowed to anchor and transit through an MPA with catch on board, however, fishing gear may not be deployed when in marine reserves. See code 632(a)(7) and 632(a)(8) and 632(b).
- Unless otherwise stated all non-consumptive recreational activities such as swimming, wading, boating, diving, and surfing are allowed in MPAs.
- Visit the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife website for more information about MPA boundaries and regulations at:

#### www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs

#### California Fishing Regulations

- A fishing license is required for anyone 16 years of age or older for any fishing, except for fishing from a public fishing pier in ocean waters. (Code 1.88) Fishing report cards for Sturgeon and Spiny Lobster are required to take either of these species from a public pier in ocean waters.
- "Take" means to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill fish, mollusks, or crustaceans, or attempting to do so.
- A complete list of ocean fishing regulations is available at: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean

#### **Boundary between Point Vicente SMCA** (No Take) and Abalone Cove SMCA



Point Vicente SMCA (No Take)

**Abalone Cove SMCA- Eastern Boundary** 

