



OCMPAC
ORANGE COUNTY MARINE
PROTECTED AREA COUNCIL

Our mission is to preserve and protect Orange County's coastal resources through ongoing improvements in research, monitoring, education, outreach, and enforcement.

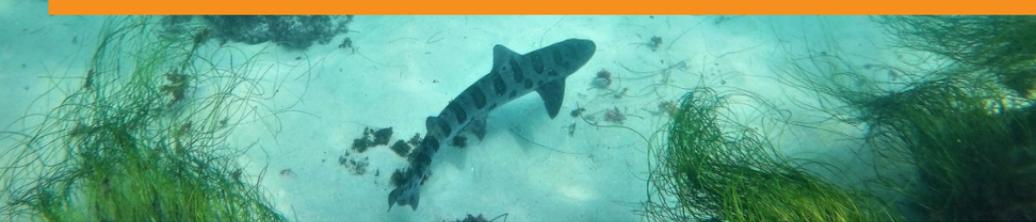
The Orange County Marine Protected Area Council (OCMPAC)

is a collaboration of city, county, and state officials, academic faculty, nonprofit organizations, and community members who share an interest in protecting and increasing awareness of Orange County's Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and other coastal marine resources.

Our History & Past Achievements

OCMPAC was founded in 1999 in response to concerns that Orange County coastal ecosystems, located on the traditional lands and waters of the Acjachemen and Tongva Tribal Nations, were in need of improved and coordinated management. Since then, OCMPAC has become a statewide model for MPA-related collaboration between stakeholders.

Together, we have helped to standardize and facilitate communication about MPAs across Orange County. This has included installing interpretive signs, developing a county-wide tidepool docent training program, assembling and communicating results of coastal marine research, developing community-wide science projects to monitor vulnerable species, and participating at the statewide level to uphold the aims of the Marine Life Protection Act.



Our Committees

Research

Provides a platform for scientists across Orange County to collaborate on research, monitoring, and outreach efforts.

Education

Coordinates county-wide outreach and education about MPAs, including an annual tidepool docent training and interpretive materials.

Enforcement

Provides MPA-related training for resource officers and creates a platform for cross-agency exchange of information across Orange County.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Focuses on decreasing barriers to coastal access and incorporating social and environmental justice into OCMPAC's work.



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Why Get Involved?

OCMPAC provides a platform for community members to have a voice in protecting and managing Orange County's marine resources. Participation and membership are free.

By getting involved, you have the opportunity to...

Meet and network with Orange County professionals working in marine research, ocean education, and natural resource management.

Give input on collaborative activities that affect Orange County's Marine Protected Areas.

Participate in countywide programs to increase awareness of Orange County's Marine Protected Areas and other coastal marine resources, such as research symposia, annual docent workshops, and community science initiatives.

Get access to the statewide network of MPA collaboratives, which share knowledge and resources between stakeholders across California.

How to Get Involved

Sign up for the mailing list

Information about general meetings, workshops, and other opportunities are sent out through OCMPAC's email list. Visit our website to sign up.

Attend a general meeting

Anyone is welcome to attend OCMPAC's general meetings to network and find out more about the organization and our current efforts.

Join a committee

If you are interested in a particular part of OCMPAC's work, the committees may be the place for you! Anyone (even non-OCMPAC members) can volunteer to join a committee or attend meetings to get involved in its work.

Become a member

If you are interested in getting more involved in our work, consider becoming a voting member of OCMPAC.



Memberships

Both organizations and individuals are eligible to become voting members of OCMPAC. To become a member, you must attend at least two OCMPAC general meetings in a year and then submit a membership commitment form to the leadership team.

Everyone (not just members) is welcome to attend OCMPAC meetings and events.

For more information or to get involved, please visit
<https://www.mpacollaborative.org/oc/>