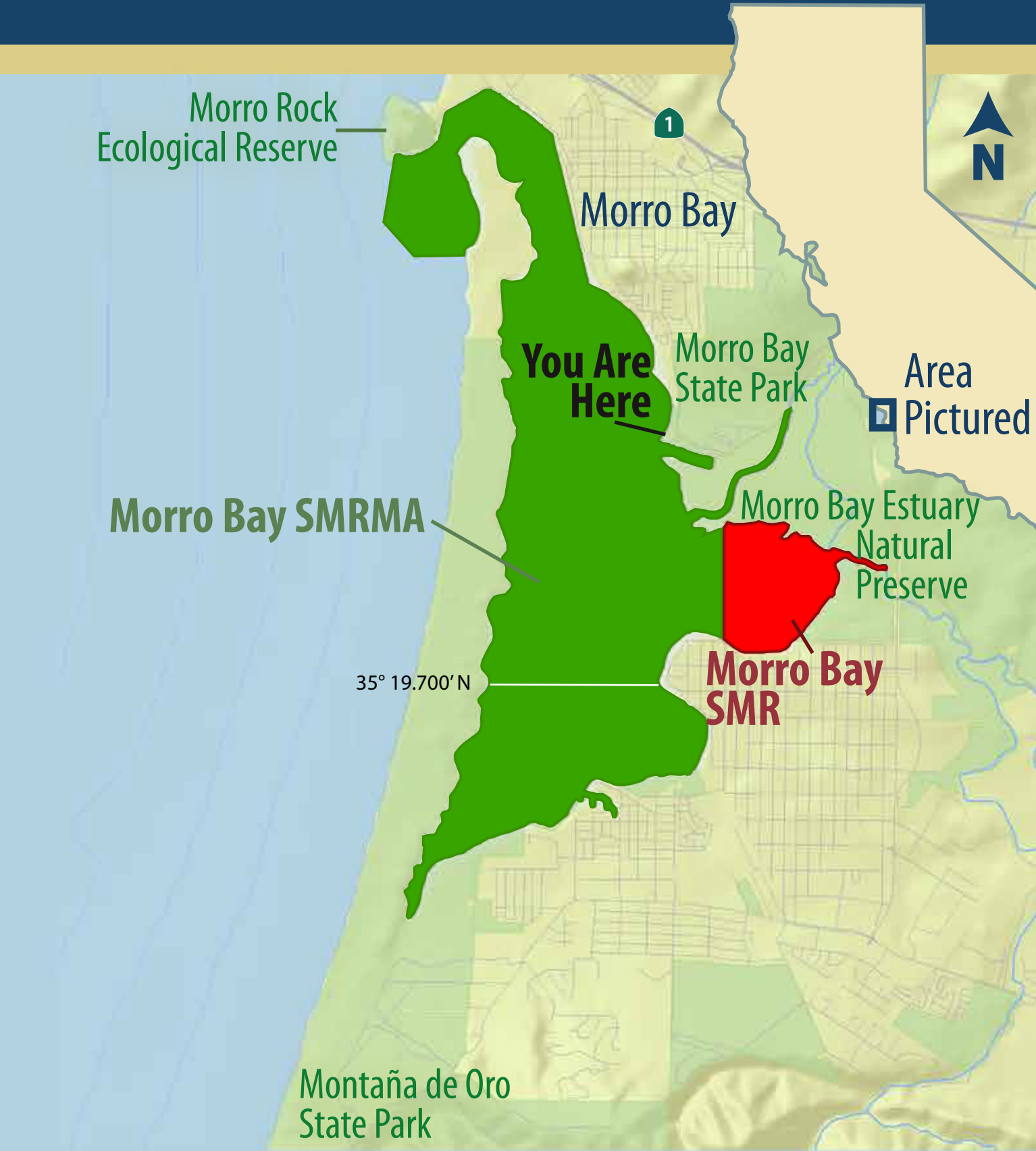


Conserving California's Coastal Treasures



MPA Regulations

- Morro Bay State Marine Reserve (SMR)**
No fishing; No take of any living marine resources.
- Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area (SMRMA)**
Recreational hunting of waterfowl is allowed unless otherwise restricted by hunting regulations.
North of latitude 35° 19.700' N only: Recreational take of finfish, commercial oyster aquaculture, and storing finfish taken outside of the SMRMA for bait purposes is allowed.

Marine Protected Areas Safeguard Our Ocean's Bounty

A statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) safeguards California's rich coastal resources. Morro Bay MPAs are a maze of tidal creeks, mudflats, and marshes teeming with life. The shallow waters are nursery grounds for fishes, including leopard sharks. The area is a critical migratory stop and winter home for many species of birds. Fishes and birds feast on shrimp, crabs, and other tiny invertebrates.



Leopard shark

Photo by Chad King / SIMoN NOAA

California leads the nation and the world with its network of MPAs.

These MPAs—

- Have varying levels of protection
- Conserve marine habitats and diversity
- Allow marine life to thrive
- Make great places for education, research, and fun

MPA Mobile Website



MPAs-Good for the Ocean; Good for You!



Morro Bay Estuary



Photo by Linda Tanner

Once common, more than 95% of California's wetlands have been filled or developed, making it crucial to conserve these ecologically rich habitats.



Southern sea otter

Photo by Sea Otter Savvy

Southern sea otters and other marine mammals dine on bountiful marine life inside the MPAs.



Eelgrass

Photo by MBNEP

Eelgrass is an important marine plant that provides habitat for fish and invertebrates.



White pelican

Photo by Steve Lonhart / SIMoN NOAA

Morro Bay MPAs provide plentiful food and resting places for migrating birds.



To report violations call (888) 334-CalTIP, (888) 334-2250
For detailed maps and regulations go to www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs