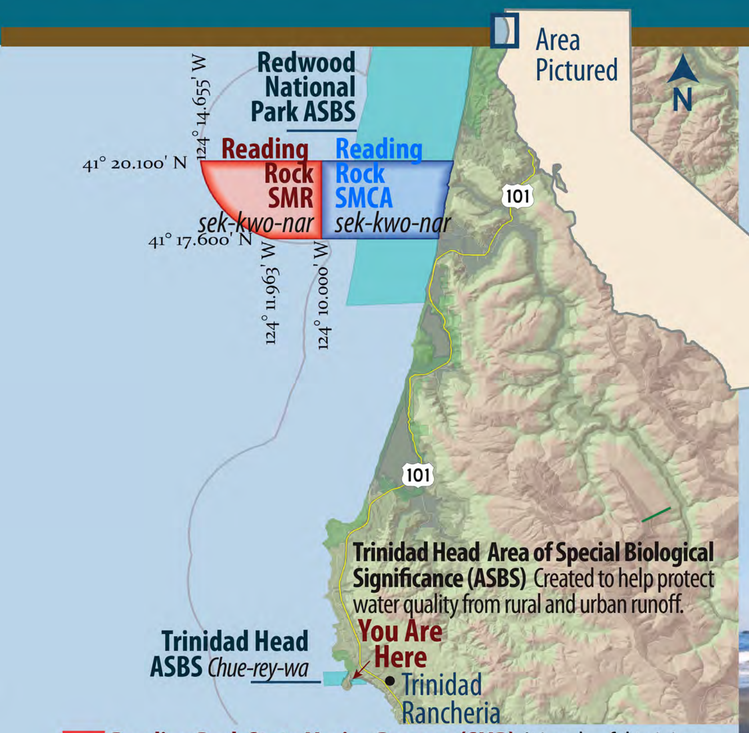
Conserving California's Coastal Treasures

CALIFORNIA MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



Reading Rock State Marine Reserve (SMR) It is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource.

Reading Rock State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) It is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any living, geological, or cultural marine resource, except recreational take of salmon by trolling, surf smelt by dip net or Hawaiian-type throw net, and Dungeness crab by trap, hoop net or hand is allowed. Commercial take of salmon with troll fishing gear, surf smelt by dip net, and Dungeness crab by trap is allowed. Includes take exemption for Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, Resighini Rancheria, and Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation.

Marine Protected Areas Safeguard Our Ocean's Bounty

A statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) safeguards California's rich coastal resources. Located in one of the most spectacular and pristine segments of the California coast, ocean waters near Trinidad are vital to Native American communities and commercial fishing fleets. Today these waters have several layers of protection to ensure that the abundance of marine life continues to provide a way of life for communities nearby.



Trinidad Coast

Trinidad's majestic sea stacks are part of the California Coastal National Monument, including rocks and islands that line the California coast from Oregon to Mexico.

Photo courtesy of the Chumash Maritime Association

Trinidad Rancheria

Treasuring Culture, Honoring Tradition

People of Trinidad Rancheria and other tribes of historic Yurok origin depend on the rich diversity of marine and coastal plants found within tribal lands, and our ancestral territory, as part of our daily lives. From the ocean we harvest salmon, clams, and abalone (as food and for the shells used in ceremonial regalia), mussels, seaweed, eels, crab, surf fish, candle fish, and sea salt.

Our Elders share memories of subsistence gathering and prayer activities all along the coast, from Luffenholtz beach to Trinidad Harbor and beyond.

Every object or feature within the cultural landscape has importance in our traditional way of life - from the sharp rock in the water known as kwee-ge-rep to remnants of our former village homes. This land and the beings that inhabit it are an integral part of who we are as a people. Without them, we do not exist.

For MPA boundaries, maps, coordinates, and allowed uses, go to: www.wildlife.ca.gov/MPAs

Report violations: (888) 334-CalTIP, (888) 334-2258



Photo by Michelle W

Trinidad Pier is owned by the Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, a federally-recognized tribe using best management practices to promote long-term stewardship of their ancestral natural heritage.

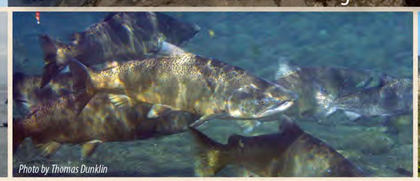


Photo by Thomas Dunklin

From time immemorial, the waters of the North Coast have been a critical source of sustenance and cultural significance to local Native American people.



Photo by Franco Folini

Trinidad has a seasonal fleet of salmon and crab fishermen and many charter fishing operations that offer recreational fishing opportunities.



Photo by Swift Benjamin

Nearby rocky cliffs are home to one of the most diverse seabird colonies in California with twelve species and over 100,000 breeding individuals.

California Marine Sanctuary Foundation

OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

MPA COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

MPA Mobile Website

MPAs - Good for the Ocean; Good for You!