



# Environmental Assessment of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan and Regulatory Changes



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**NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES**

Cover photos (left to right, top to bottom):

Northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*). Photo: Robert Schwemmer/NOAA

Horned Aeolid (*Hermisenda crassicornis*). Photo: Steve Lonhart/NOAA

Juvenile copper rockfish (*Sebastes caurinus*). Photo: Steve Lonhart/NOAA

Bixby Bridge and Big Sur coastline. Photo: Robert Schwemmer/NOAA

California hydrocoral (*Stylaster californicus*) and purple sea urchin (*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*).  
Photo: Steve Lonhart/NOAA

Scouler's surf grass (*Phyllospadix scouleri*). Photo: Chad King/NOAA

Small rock with colorful creatures and giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*). Photo: Chad King/NOAA

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## List of Agencies and Persons Consulted

*NOAA consulted with the following agencies and persons in preparing this environmental assessment:*

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## Glossary of Acronyms

AUV	Autonomous Underwater Vehicle
Beach COMBERS	Beach Coastal Ocean Mammal/Bird Education & Research Surveys
CCLEAN	Central Coast Long-term Environmental Assessment Network
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DPS	Distinct Population Segment
DSMZ	Davidson Seamount Management Zone
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECOS	Environmental Conservation Online System
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESU	Evolutionarily Significant Unit
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FR	Federal Register
HAPC	Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
IMO	International Maritime Organization
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MBNMS	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
MHHW	Mean Higher High Water
MHW	Mean High Water
MLLW	Mean Lower Low Water
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MSA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMSA	National Marine Sanctuaries Act
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
ONMS	Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
PAHs	Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SESA	Sanctuary Ecologically Significant Area
SIMoN	Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network
Team OCEAN	Team Ocean Conservation Education Action Network
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds