

Water Quality Monitoring Council Ocean Health Workgroup and Portal

Water Quality Monitoring Council, 29 May 2015



CALIFORNIA
OCEAN
SCIENCE
TRUST

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Interim Executive Director, Ocean Science Trust

Laying a path forward



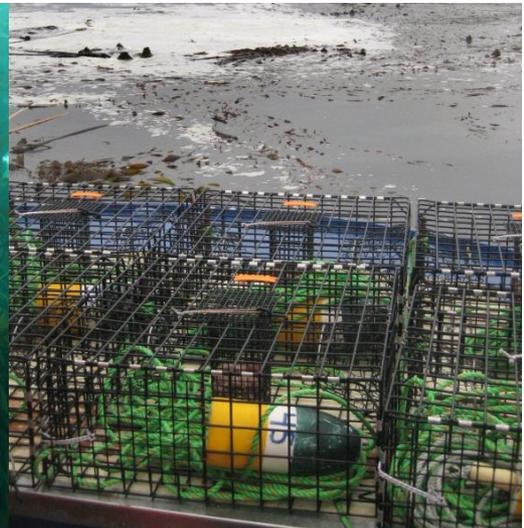
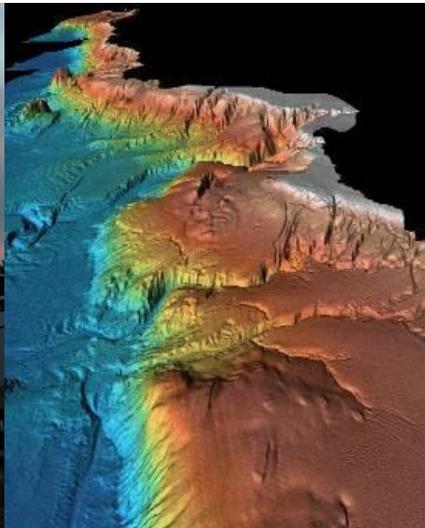
An ***engaged workgroup*** and achievable, cost-effective content and ***technical development strategy*** for an ocean health-themed component of the My Water Quality website.

Implementing the Roadmap

- Developed by Ocean Science Trust with philanthropic support
- Charts a new feasible path forward
- Sets the stage for sustainable engagement
- Presented to WQMC in May 2014
- www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings/2014may/ocean_roadmap.pdf

...acknowledging size and scope

- Many ecosystems/habitats
- Many management frameworks
- Significant scientific capacity
- Many issues of public interest



...leveraging existing resources

...in monitoring programs and technology assets

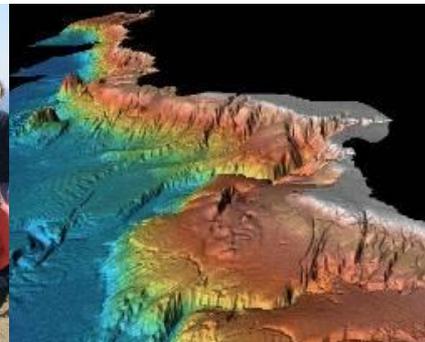
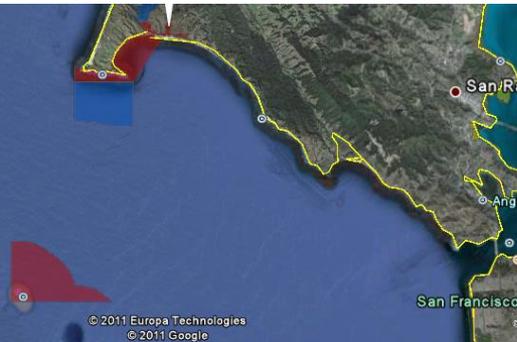
The image displays four overlapping web portals related to ocean monitoring and research:

- Water Quality:** A portal from the California Water Quality Monitoring Council. It features a search bar, navigation menu, and a main section titled "INFORMING DECISION-MAKERS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT WATER QUALITY". It includes articles on "CORE MANAGEMENT QUESTIONS" and a map of the California coast.
- PISCO:** Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans. The header includes navigation links for "ABOUT PISCO", "TOPICS", "RESEARCH", "EDUCATION", "POLICY", and "PUBLICATIONS". A featured article discusses "PISCO studies marine communities along the west coast of North America from Mexico to Alaska" and mentions a "New NSF Award To Study Effects of Ocean Acidification".
- Reef Check California:** Nearshore Ecosystem Database (NED). The header features a large image of a blue tang fish. The main content includes a "Welcome" message, a description of the coastline's ecosystem, and a "Map Viewer" section.
- CeNCOOS:** Central & Northern California Ocean Observing System. The header includes navigation links for "Home", "About Us", "News & Events", "Current Conditions", "Data Products", and "Download Data". It features a "MARINE" logo and a "Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal" section with a list of resources and a map of the Gorda Escarpment.

Timely opportunity

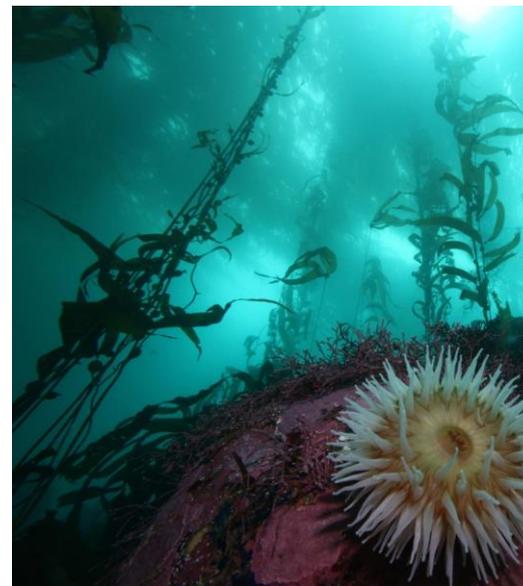
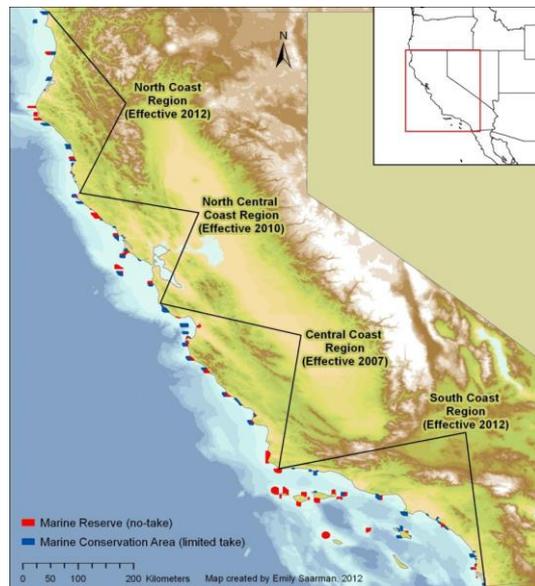
MPA and ASBS rocky intertidal monitoring

- Advance ocean health policy priority
- Promote integrated data analysis and interpretation
- Provide useful information for regional efforts



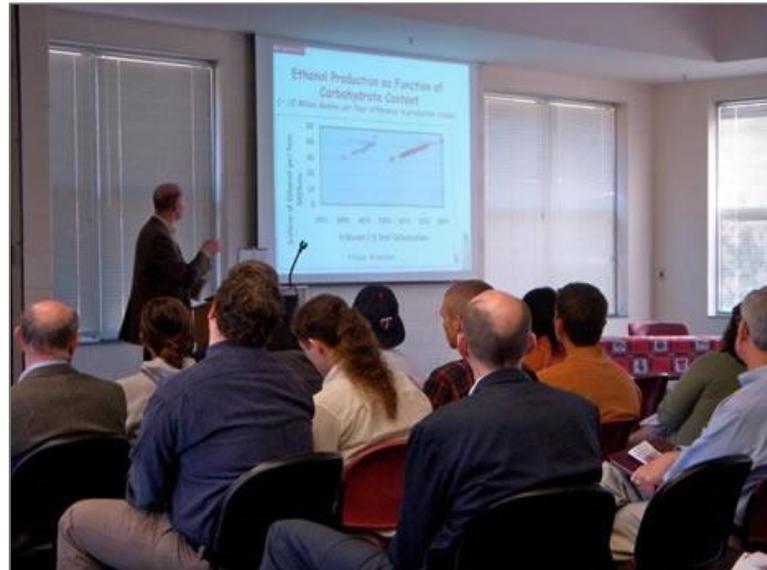
Why this topic?

- Shared programmatic goals for healthy and resilient oceans
- Comparable management approach under different authorities and mandates



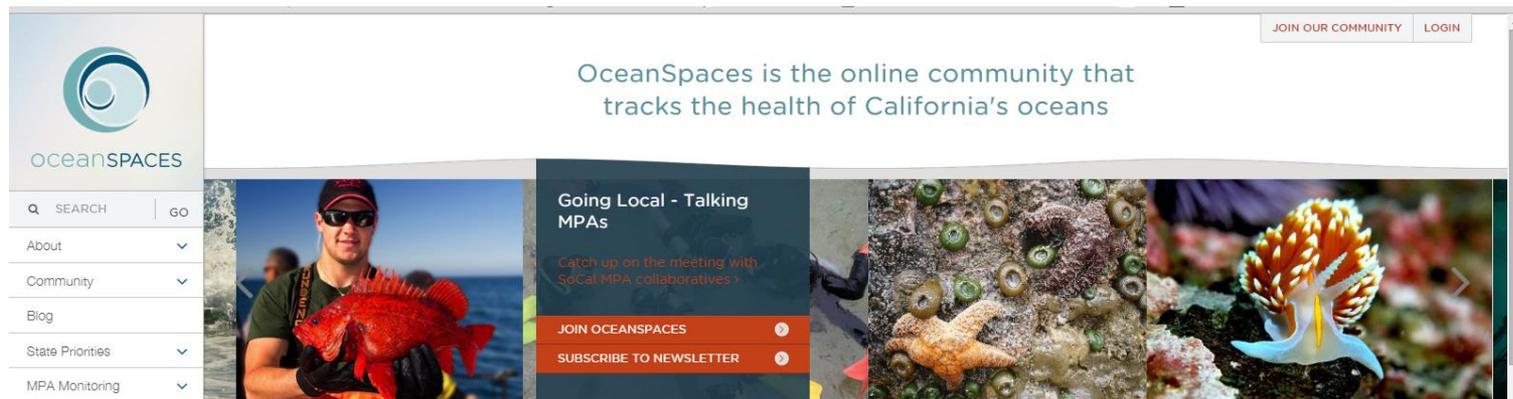
Why this topic?

- Responsive to stakeholder questions re fishing and water quality impacts
- Established collaborations, partnerships, poised to engage



Why now?

- Ocean Health is a continued priority for OPC and WQMC
- ASBS/MPA alignment is a strategic priority of MPA Statewide Leadership Team convened by OPC
- Investments in technology platforms (OceanSpaces, UCSC Rocky Intertidal) provide leveraging opportunity



Why now?

- Regional MPA Baseline Programs underway providing rich data sets for integrated analyses
- Recent assessments of regional ASBS's completed
- Approaches to statewide long-term monitoring being developed
- Existing efforts by OST, SCCWRP, MARINE provide launching point



Pacific Rocky Intertidal Monitoring: Trends and Synthesis

Pacific Rocky Intertidal Monitoring

Sea Star Wasting Syndrome

Overview >

Survey Methods

Interactive Map & Graphing Tool

Study Regions

Site Pages & Trend Graphs

MARINE

BOEM
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PISCO

pacificrockyintertidal.org home

Who?

State Water Resources Control Board

ASBS managing authority; existing monitoring investment

Department of Fish and Wildlife

MPA managing entity

Ocean Protection Council

MPA policy lead and investments in MPA programs

Who?

Ocean Science Trust

MPA monitoring lead; leveraging opportunity w PostDoc and OceanSpaces

SCCWRP

ASBS assessment lead; leveraging opportunity w Bight '13

MARINe/UC Santa Cruz

Monitoring partner; leveraging opportunity with new research projects & technology investments

California Coastkeeper Alliance

Web and programmatic investment

How? - Proposed approach

- Establish collaborative workgroup sharing programmatic information
- Share results to allow qualitative comparisons and refine data coordination opportunities
- Pursue and display integrated analysis and interpretation

Phase 1: ID shared goals and questions

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Home

Welcome to My Water Quality

This web portal, supported by a wide variety of public and private organizations, presents monitoring data and assessment information that may be viewed across space and time. I development concentrates on four theme areas, with web portals to be released one at a tab for more information.

The Monitoring Council seeks to provide multiple perspectives on water quality information data gaps and inconsistencies in data collection and interpretation, thereby identifying areas in order to better address the public's questions. Questions and comments should be add [Us](#) tab.

Ocean and Coastal Monitoring Workgroup

Linking MPA and ASBS Monitoring

CORE MANAGEMENET QUESTIONS

- How can monitoring results from MPAs and ASBS linked to management decisions?
- How does coupling MPA and ASBS data help assess whether changes are natural variability or anthropogenic?

WHAT STRESSORS AND PROCESSES AFFECT OUI

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Water Quality

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY | LOGIN

WATER QUALITY

INFORMING DECISION-MAKERS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT WATER QUALITY

Water Quality

Organizations

- California Ocean Science Trust
- SCOWRP

Related Documents

- My Water Quality Ocean Portal Roadmap

SEARCH GO

- About
- Community
- Blog
- State Priorities
- Marine Protected Areas
- Fisheries
- Water Quality
- Ocean Acidification
- Ocean Health
- MPA Monitoring
- Data Archive

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CALIFORNIA'S URBAN COAST BRINGS WATER QUALITY TOGETHER WITH OCEAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

California is actively seeking ways to better integrate water quality and marine resource monitoring programs and to foster relevant research.

- Developing a roadmap for an ocean ecosystems data portal: A new roadmap charts a clear path forward towards an achievable, cost-effective content and development strategy for an ocean-themed component of the My Water Quality website. [Read the Roadmap](#)
- Tackling shared monitoring questions: The Bight '13 monitoring program and the South Coast MPA Baseline monitoring program are pursuing opportunities to share data, perform combined data analyses, and collaborate on future monitoring. [Access data products from Bight '13](#)
- Finding the overlap between monitoring projects on the ground: Identifying reciprocal links between water quality monitoring and MPA monitoring is vital to establishing and implementing a sustainable, cost-effective integrated ocean-monitoring program in California. The proximity of Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) to MPAs provides the opportunity to jointly address questions such as the relative effects of discharges and fishing pressure on living marine resources. [ASBS's and associated monitoring](#)
- Developing new research and monitoring tools: The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCOWRP) and the Ocean Science Trust are teaming up to use South Coast MPA Baseline Monitoring Program data, in conjunction with water quality and fishing data, to produce an "index" of ecosystem health and relate it to the history of these ecosystem stressors before MPA implementation.

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Phase 2: Share results in one place

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Imagery Date: 4/13

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- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
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INFORMING DECISION-MAKERS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT WATER QUALITY



Organizations



California Ocean Science Trust



SCOWRP

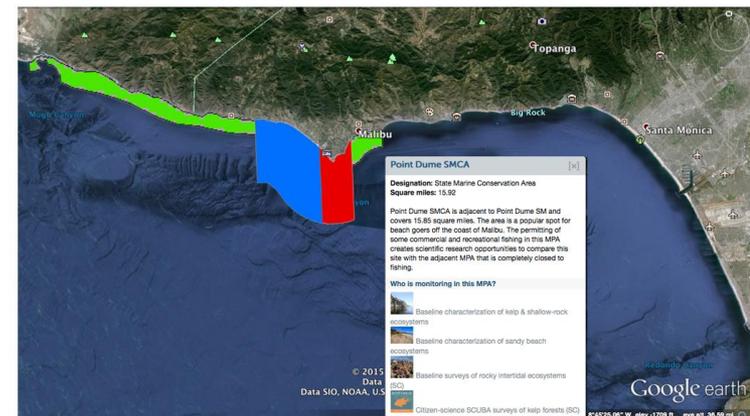
Related Documents

[My Water Quality Ocean Portal Roadmap](#)

The California Water Quality Monitoring Council has identified ocean and coastal ecosystems as key areas for bridging water quality and ocean resource management. Marine Protected Area (MPA) and Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) monitoring programs create a natural nexus where monitoring informs management. The Ocean and Coastal Workgroup has designated linking MPA and ASBS monitoring as the first step in creating an ocean themed data portal.

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Point Dume SMCA
Designation: State Marine Conservation Area
Square miles: 15.92

Point Dume SMCA is adjacent to Point Dume SM and covers 15.92 square miles. The area is a popular spot for beach goers off the coast of Malibu. The permitting of some commercial and recreational fishing in this MPA creates scientific research opportunities to compare this site with the adjacent MPA that is completely closed to fishing.

Who is monitoring in this MPA?

- Baseline characterization of kelp & shallow-rock ecosystems
- Baseline characterization of sandy beach ecosystems
- Baseline surveys of rocky intertidal ecosystems
- Citizen-science SCUBA surveys of kelp forests (SD)

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Phase 3: Share integrated analyses

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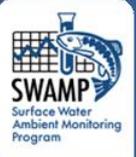
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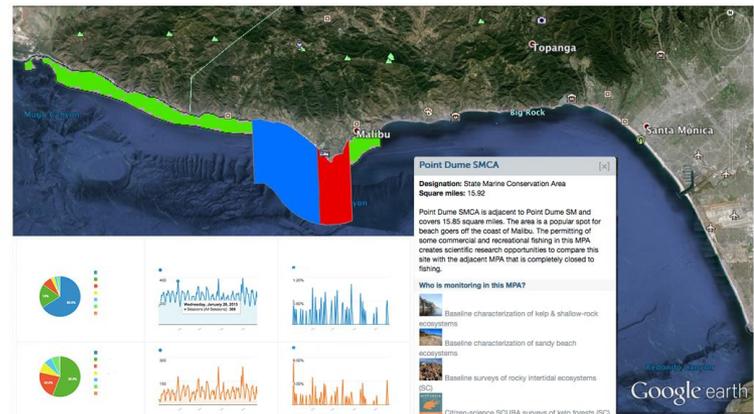
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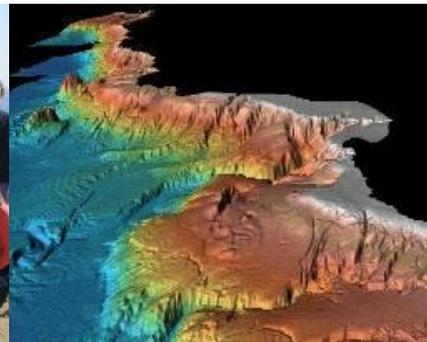
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Technology context

OceanSpaces

- Authoritative MPA monitoring and ocean health info
 - Built-in audience engaged in MPA and ASBS programs
 - Expanded content for water quality as a state priority
 - Flexible platform well suited for leveraging MPA and ASBS assets
- Pacific Rocky Intertidal Monitoring Program
 - Three decades of research at over 200 sites
 - Data ranging from Southeast Alaska to Mexico
 - MARINe
 - Linking state and federal rocky intertidal monitoring