Cultural Resources Analysis on the West Coast (WA, OR, CA)

MPA Federal Advisory Committee
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WC Cultural Resources by Maritime Zone

Breakdown of Cultural Resources by Distinct Maritime Zone (without overlap)

- **State Waters**: 72%
- **3-12 nmi**: 10%
- **12-24 nmi**: 7%
- **24-200 nmi**: 7%
- **>200 nmi**: 4%

OR

- **CA**: 62%
- **0-3 nmi**: 72%
- **12-24 nmi**: 7%
- **3-12 nmi**: 10%
- **>200 nmi**: 4%
- **WA**: 5%
- **OR**: 5%

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Federal Laws Related to UCH

- Antiquities Act (1906) and Archaeological Resource Protection Act (1979)
- National Marine Sanctuary Act
- National Historic Preservation Act (1966)
- Sunken Military Craft Act (2005)
- Abandoned Shipwreck Act (1987)
State
Laws protecting UCH

- State submerged lands
  - California: §6313 – Vests title in the state to all abandoned shipwrecks and all archaeological sites and historic resources on or in the tide and submerged lands of the state.
  - Oregon: §358.920 - Prohibited conduct; exception; penalty. (1)(a) A person may not excavate, injure, destroy or alter an archaeological site or object or remove an archaeological object located on public or private lands in Oregon unless that activity is authorized by a permit issued under ORS 390.235.
  - Washington: §43.51.436 - Declares to be the public property of the state all historic archeological resources abandoned for thirty years or more in, on or under the surface of any public lands or waters, owned by or under the possession, custody or control of the state, including all ships or aircraft and any part of the contents thereof, and all treasure trove.
State Managed Areas protecting UCH

- California:
  - State Marine Reserves, State Marine Conservation Areas, State Parks and Seashores
  - State Marine Parks (?)

- Oregon:
  - No MMAs that focus on Cultural Resources

- Washington:
  - Underwater Parks, Natural Resources Conservation Areas
  - Aquatic Reserves (?)
West Coast MMAs with Cultural Heritage Focus (34)
MMAs with Cultural Resources

- **Number of Cultural Resources**: 40

- **Cultural Resources Outside MMAs**: 65%

- **Cultural Resources Inside MMAs**: 35%

- **MPA Grouping**: CASBS, CMAR, CMCA, CSPC, NMF, NMS, NPS, NRA, NSS, WMBP

- **Number of Cultural Resources**:
  - CASBS: 23
  - CMAR: 2
  - CMCA: 2
  - CSPC: 2
  - NMF: 28
  - NMS: 38
  - NPS: 24
  - NRA: 13
  - NSS: 3
  - WMBP: 2

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MMAs that Focus on Cultural Heritage with Cultural Resources

- Anacapa Island State Marine Reserve
- Harris Point (San Miguel Island) State Marine Reserve
- Fort Ross State Marine Conservation Area
- Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
- Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
- Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- Channel Islands National Park
- Redwood National Park
- Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Point Reyes National Seashore

**Number of Cultural Resources**

- **NH/SP Focus 40%**
- **CH Focus 60%**

**Cultural Resources within MMAs**

- **17** at Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- **13** at Channel Islands National Park
- **9** at Redwood National Park
- **6** at Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- **6** at Channel Islands National Park
- **5** at Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- **10** at Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
- **6** at Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
- **1** at Anacapa Island State Marine Reserve
- **1** at Harris Point (San Miguel Island) State Marine Reserve
- **1** at Fort Ross State Marine Conservation Area

**MPAs and Groups**

- MAR
- MCA
- NMS
- NPS
- NRA
- NSS
Next Steps

- Work with Federal/State/Tribal partners to QA/QC the data set and add pertinent information
- Utilize the database to begin looking at maritime landscapes and thematic connectivity of sites
- Look at how to protect those significant sites that are not currently protected, either by expanding protection in an existing MMA, or by designating new MMAs (Federal/State/Tribal or through partnerships)
- Provide a tool for all site managers to understand the cultural resources within and near their MMA boundaries, as well as the threats to these resources and potential threats from these resources
### Humboldt County, CA

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Contact Information

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Cultural Resource Definition

- **Cultural Heritage [National System theme]** - the cultural resources that reflect the nation's maritime history and traditional cultural connections to the sea, as well as the uses and values they provide to this and future generations.

- **[marine] Cultural resource** - An aspect of a cultural system that is valued by or significantly representative of a culture, or that contains significant information about a culture. Cultural resources for purposes of the MPA Executive Order are tangible entities at least 50 years in age that reflect the nation’s maritime history and traditional cultural connections to the sea, such as archaeological sites, historic structures, shipwrecks, artifacts, and traditional cultural properties. Cultural resources are categorized as districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects for the National Register of Historic Places, and as archaeological resources, cultural landscapes, structures, and ethnographic resources for MPA management purposes.
Key Criteria for CR MPAs

- In addition, given the cultural resource management community’s widespread acknowledgment of the standards developed by the National Park Service for inclusion of a cultural resource in the National Register of Historic Places, the National System will integrate core elements of those standards into its criteria for MPAs with cultural marine resources. As such, MPAs whose protections are solely focused on cultural marine resources must also meet the following criteria:
  - **Age:** To qualify, the age of the protected cultural resource must be at least 50 years of age, unless otherwise determined to be unique to the nation’s maritime history or traditional connections to the sea as defined by the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (NRCE).
  - **Significance and Context:** A cultural resource must represent a significant part of the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture of an area, and it must have the characteristics that make it a representative example of resources associated with that aspect of the past. The resource must be associated with one or more important historic contexts, as defined by the NRCE. Historic contexts are historical patterns that can be identified through consideration of the history of the resource and the history of the surrounding area. In addition, the historic context of a cultural resource must be relevant on a regional or national geographic scale (i.e., resources must be significant to the history of the state, region, or nation as a whole).
  - **Integrity:** A cultural resource’s physical features must have the ability to convey its significance by retaining the identity for which it is significant.

- The Order’s definition of MPA, when taken together with the definitions of the five key terms of “area,” “marine,” “reserved,” “lasting,” and “protection,” and the additional National System MPA criteria listed above represent the complete set of criteria for determining eligibility for a site or system’s inclusion in the National System.