

So Cal Ocean Adventures

Trans Catalina Backpack Award
Channel Islands Adventurer Award
Marine Protected Area Eagle Project Award

The Movie ... [Scouting the MPAs](#)



The Eagle Project

Marine Protected Area & Channel Islands Adventurer Award

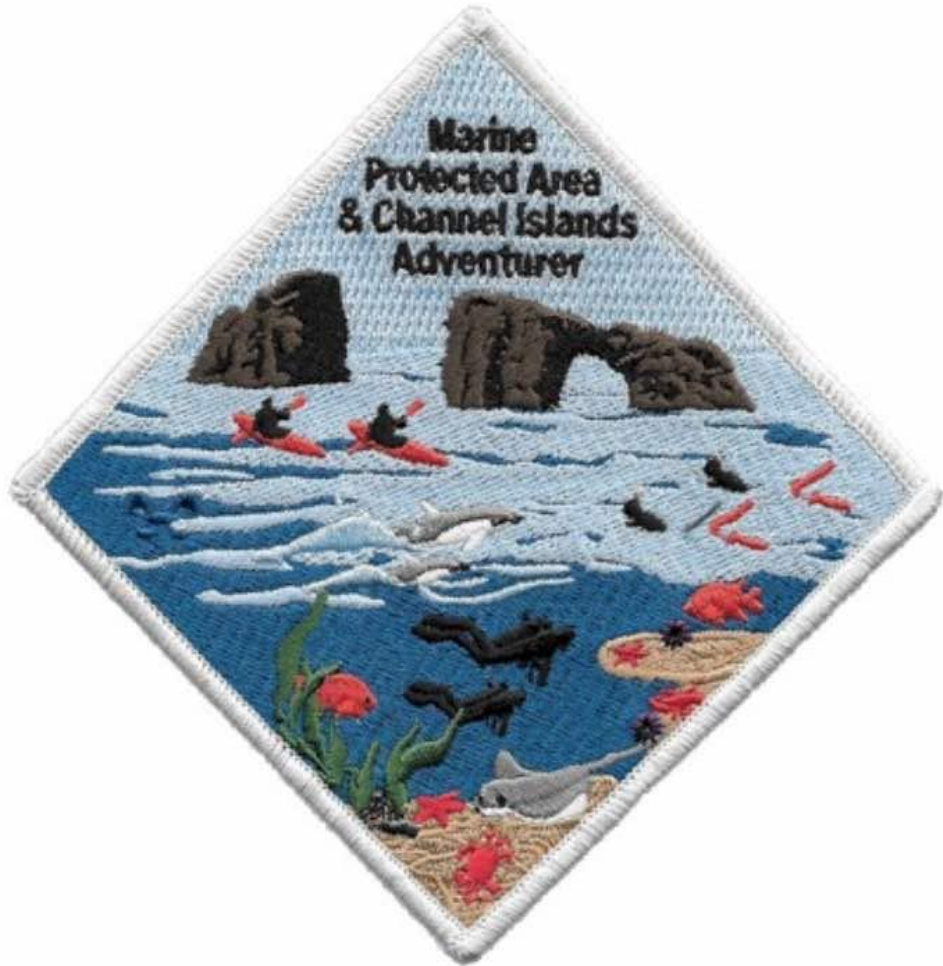


FIG. 1-21
CHANNEL ISLANDS ADVENTURER
4x4

Requirements

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church) in Rancho Santa Margarita, California. It encourages high adventure exploration of the numerous Marine Protected Areas around Southern California and the Channel Islands, broadening scouts' traditional camping and backpacking experiences with the unique coastal adventures Southern California is famous to provide. This award is eligible for both youth and adults in Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Venturing, Crew, Girls Scouts, and other youth groups (e.g. YMCA).

Requirements:

Learn about the environmental purpose of Marine Protected Areas and **complete 2 of the following experiences** in the Southern California Channel Islands and/or a Southern California Marine Protected Area:

- Participate in an overnight adventure.
- Explore via SCUBA diving. Your organization's rules and regulations must be followed pertaining to the act of SCUBA diving.
- Explore via snorkeling. Your organization's rules and regulations must be followed pertaining to the act of snorkeling.
- Explore via kayaking or canoeing. For instance, explore the sea caves of the Scorpion or Painted Cave Marine Protected Areas on Santa Cruz Island. Your organization's rules and regulations must be followed pertaining to the act of kayaking or canoeing.

Marine Protected Area & Channel Islands Adventurer Award



FIG. 1-22
MARINE AREA EAGLE PROJECT
4x3

Requirements

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 1210 (Foothills Church) in Rancho Santa Margarita, California. This award is eligible for both youth and adult participants.

Requirements:

- Participate in an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project in the Southern California Marine Protected Area network.

NOTE: Service Project does not need to be an Eagle project specifically, but may be any type of service project performed by the scout or troop.

Trans Catalina Backpack Award

Requirements

This award was developed and sponsored by Troop 93, Fullerton, CA. The Trans Catalina Trail has been a spring break tradition in Troop 93 for our high adventure Scouts. Spending 4-5 days backpacking the entire Trans Catalina Trail is both challenging and rewarding. It's truly an adventure that all participants talk about for years.



Requirements:

- Comply with the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.
- At least one adult going on the trip must have completed the Council Basic Backpack Awareness Course and one adult going on the trip must hold a current Wilderness First Aid Training certification.
- All individuals must complete two overnight training hikes and at least one 3-4 day backpack trek prior to attempting this hike.
- Backpack the entire Trans Catalina Trail, covering the 37.2 miles over a minimum of 4 days. The typical route starts in Avalon and ends at Starlight Beach. For logistics, this trek then includes an additional 9 mile hike back to Two Harbors through Emerald Bay to catch the return boat ride back to the mainland. This trip will include at least 37.2 miles and up to 46 miles with a total accumulated elevation gain of 9,600'. (The opposite route starting in Two Harbors and ending in Avalon is also acceptable.)
- **OPTIONAL REQUIREMENT** – Earn the Service Project Rocker Patch after completing a service project working with the Catalina Island Conservancy, spending a minimum 3 hours. (Contact the Catalina Island Conservancy to make arrangements for a service project (562) 437-8555 or on the website at www.catalinaconservancy.org to download the Group Volunteer Application Form)

FIG 1-25
TRANS CATALINA BACKPACK AWARD

Trek Ideas



❑ Camp & Kayak Santa Cruz Island ([Channel Island National Park](#))

- Popular excursion to the Channel Island National Park
- Leave on the Island Packers ferry from Ventura Harbor
- Overnight camp on Santa Cruz Island @ Scorpion Canyon Campground
- Day hike across the island
- Take a guided kayak tour through sea caves
- Snorkel in kelp beds accessible via the shore
- Other island camping options exist – see NPS site



❑ Snorkel Day Trip to Catalina

- Day trek to Catalina – Avalon
- Ocean entry immediately next to famous casino is a direct stairwell into a Marine Protected Area – VERY popular with SCUBA enthusiasts
- Snorkel or SCUBA around the point

Trek Ideas



☐ Snorkel @ Shaw's Cove in Laguna Beach

- Popular local “shore” dive site for SCUBA
- Park in residential area and walk down stairs to Shaw's Cove – an official Marine Protected Area
- Snorkel & kayak the Cove (bring your own kayaks!)



☐ Earn the SCUBA Merit Badge

- Contact Bill Cain @ Costa Mesa's **Dive & Photo** dive company
- Bill is a certified PADI Dive Instructor, an Assistant Scout Master for Troop 1210 in Rancho Santa Margarita, and a SCUBA Merit Badge Counselor. Bill has certified many scouts over the years, and loves working with them to get them into SCUBA. He's excellent at it!

Trek Ideas



☐ Kayak the Back Bay @ Newport Beach

- Back Bay is a Marine Protected Area, and an excellent location to do a kayaking or stand up paddling day trip



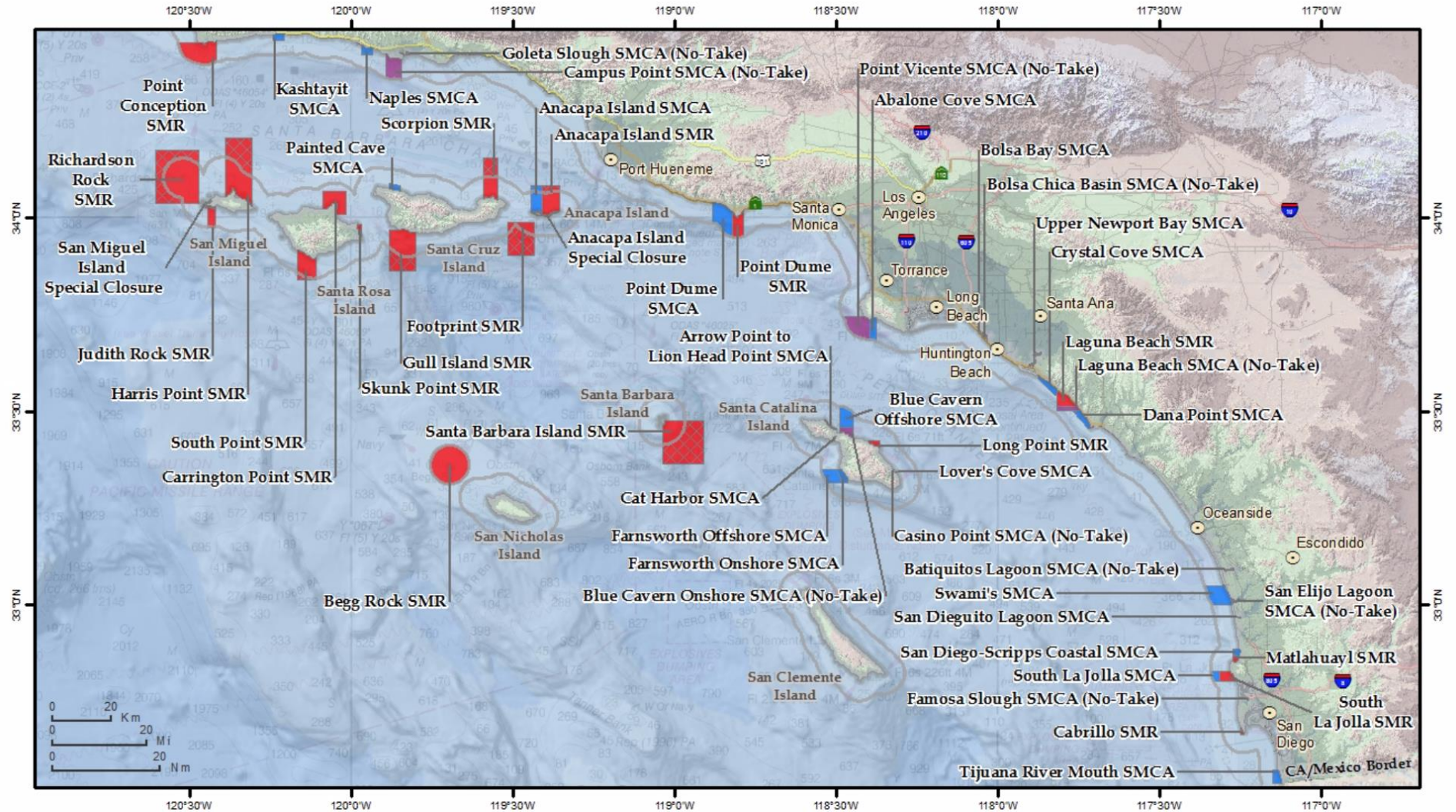
☐ Camp in Crystal Cove & Snorkel/Kayak

- Crystal Cove is a Marine Protected Area
- Backpack or car camp in Crystal Cove State Park
- Spend the day enjoying the sea shore!

California South Coast MPAs

Check out wildlife.ca.gov for information and a set of maps to California's Marine Protected Areas.

[Link](#)



THIS CHART DOES NOT REPLACE THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOUND IN TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

State Marine Reserve (SMR)	State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)	Federal Marine Conservation Area (FMCA)	Three Nautical Mile Maritime Limit (State Water Jurisdiction)
State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA - No Take)	Special Closure	Federal Marine Reserve (FMR)	1:1,800,000 (@ print size 8.5" x 11")