

3.5.2 Land Use and Recreation on the Channel Islands***Northern Channel Islands***

The Northern Channel Islands—San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Anacapa—include four of the five islands in the Channel Islands National Park, which is operated by the NPS. The Nature Conservancy owns 76 percent of Santa Cruz Island, the largest of the Channel Islands; however, this island is under the jurisdiction of the NPS. The fifth island in the Channel Islands National Park, Santa Barbara, is located further south and is grouped with the Southern Channel Islands in this document. The Channel Islands National Park is the only national park in the study area. It includes the five islands and 1 nautical mile of marine waters surrounding the islands. In 1980, the U.S. Congress designated the islands and 50,000 hectares (125,000 acres) of the surrounding waters as a national park because of their unique natural and cultural resources. For this reason, the NPS has jurisdiction over the islands and surrounding waters. The parkland holds an Open Space land use designation as well as a National Marine Sanctuaries jurisdictional designation. The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary extends for 6 nautical miles surrounding these same islands.

For each of the Northern Channel Islands, the following discussion lists the island's relevant management agency, size, and available recreational opportunities. Opportunities for kayaking, ranger-led hikes, and educational programs are available on the park's islands. Some restrictions and closures are in force to protect sensitive species. Two popular dive sites—Wilson Rock and Richardson Rock—are located in the vicinity of the Northern Channel Islands but are not connected to one island. Figure 3.5-5 shows the dive sites and recreational sites on the Northern Channel Islands.

- Anacapa Island (NPS)
 - 283 hectares (699 acres)
 - Hiking trails, visitor center, lighthouse exhibits, primitive campground, and picnic areas
 - Opportunities for scuba diving, snorkeling, bird-watching, fishing, and observing marine mammals
 - Recreational areas: Frenchy's Cove, Winifield Scott Wreck, and East Fish Camp.
- San Miguel Island (NPS)
 - 3,774 hectares (9,325 acres)
 - Primitive campground, miles of hiking, and beaches
 - Ranger-led hikes, marine-mammal observation, beach exploration, and bird-watching
 - Recreational areas: Crook Point, Tyler Bight, Judith Rock, Adams Cove, Point Bennett, Harris Point, Cuyler Harbor, and Nifty Rock
- Santa Rosa Island (NPS)
 - 21,118 hectares (52,794 acres)
 - Hiking trails and primitive campground

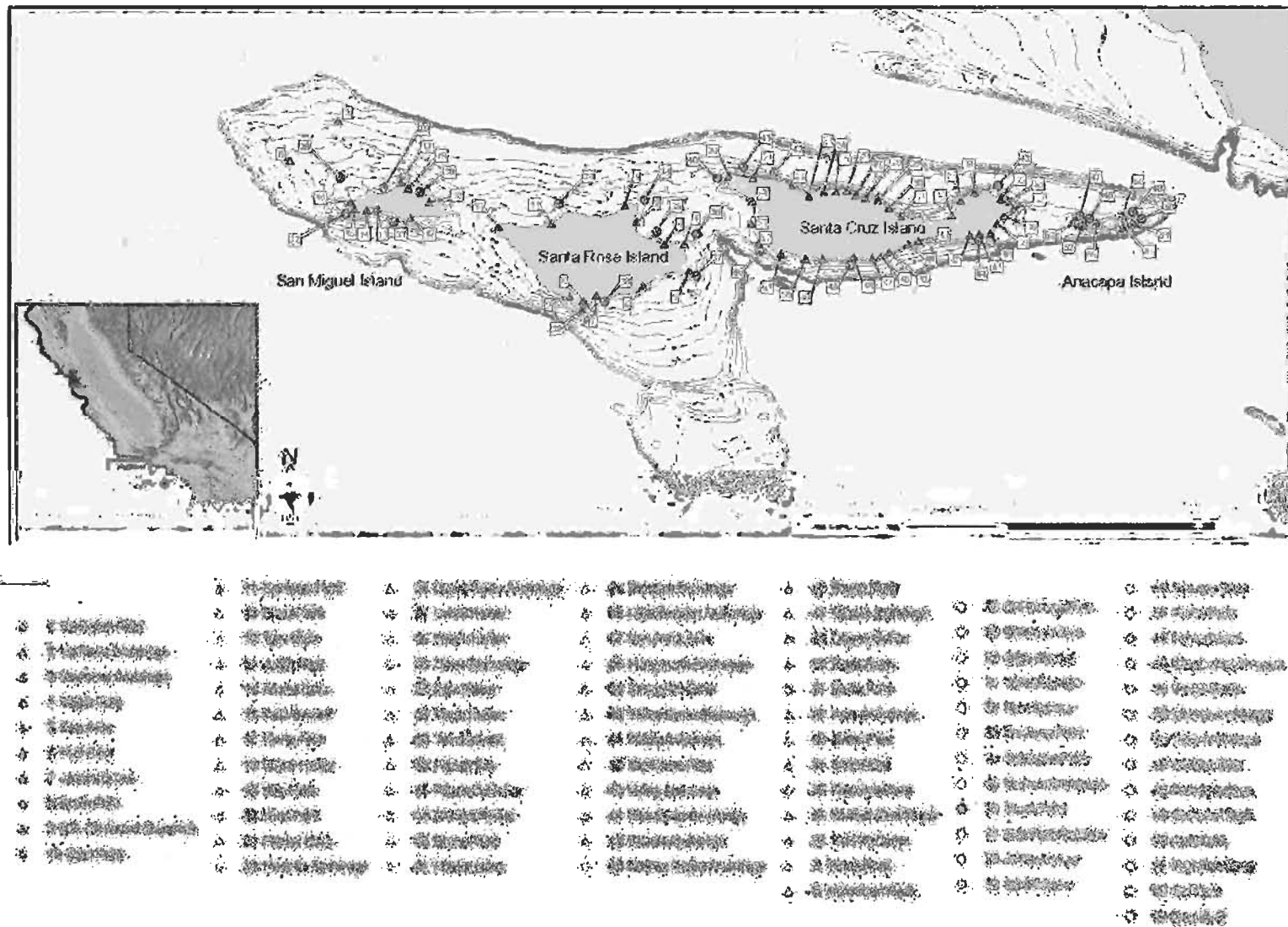


Figure 3.5-5. Dive sites and recreational sites, Northern Channel Islands.

- Beach exploration, wildlife observation, ranger-led hikes, vehicle tours, and kayak beach-camping
- Recreational areas: Carrington Point, Northeast Anchorage, Southeast Anchorage, Skunk Point, East Point, Ford Point, Johnson’s Lee, South Point, S.S. Chickasaw shipwreck, Sand Point, and Brockway Point
- Santa Cruz Island (The Nature Conservancy: 76% ownership/NPS: 24% ownership)
 - 24,258 hectares (60,645 acres)
 - NPS land: observe wildlife, hike, camp
 - Marine resources: 125,000 acres for sailing, power boating, fishing, SCUBA diving, snorkeling, surfing, wildlife observation and bird watching
 - Recreational areas: West Point, Painted Cave, Hazard’s Anchorage, Cueva Anchorage, Ledy’s Harbor, Baby’s Harbor, Diablo Anchorage, Fry’s Harbor, Platt’s Harbor, Twin Harbors, Pelican Bay, Prisoners’ Harbor, Chinese Harbor, Coche Point, Potato Harbor, Scorpion Anchorage, Little Scorpion Anchorage, San Pedro Point, Hungryman’s Anchorage, Smugglers’ Cove, Yellow Banks Anchorage, Middle Anchorage, Sandstone Point, Valley Anchorage, Blue Banks Anchorage, Albert’s Anchorage, Coches Prietos Anchorage, Bowen Point, Willows Anchorage, Laguna Harbor, Punta Arena, Morse Point, Pozo Anchorage, Kinton Point, and Black Point

Southern Channel Islands

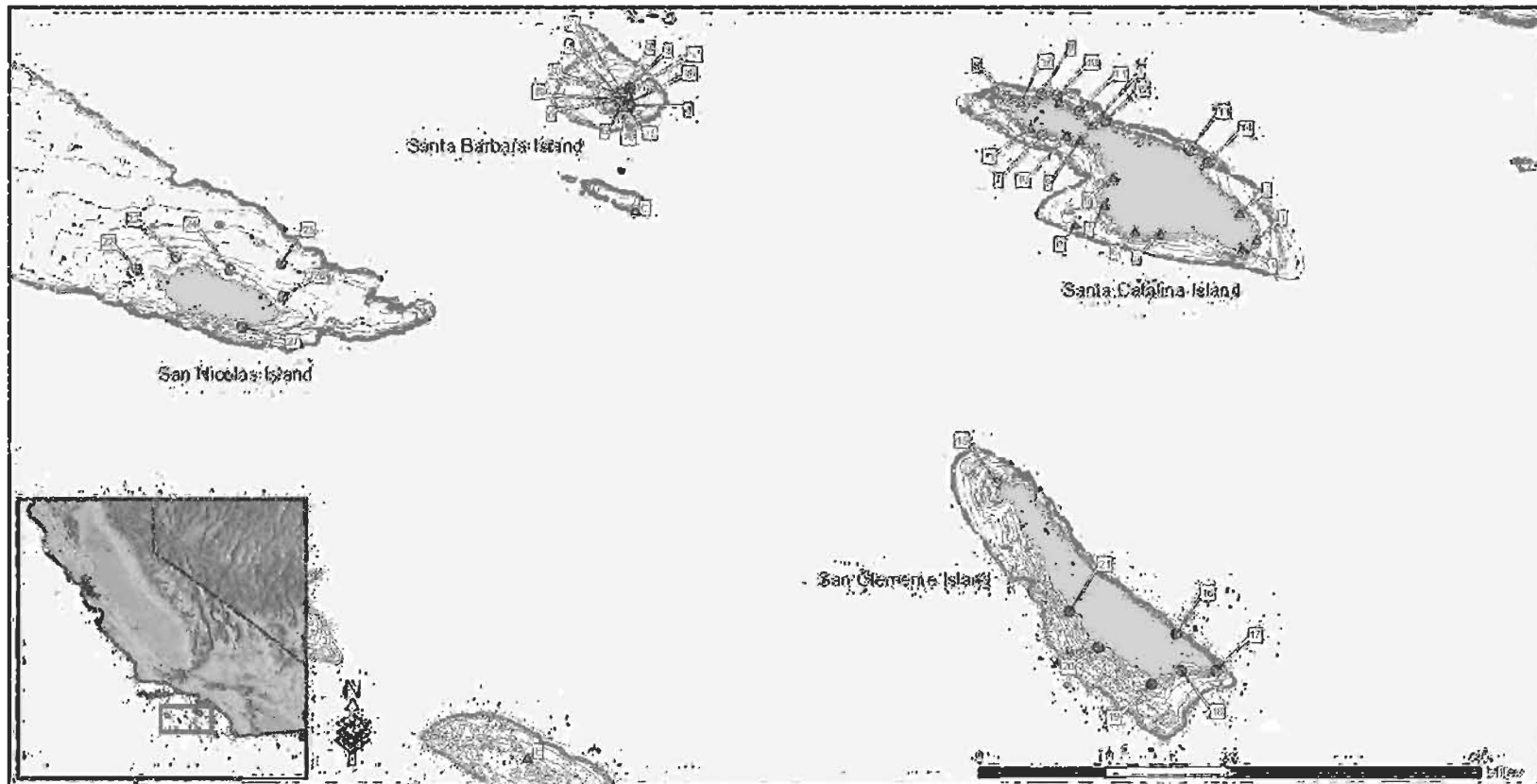
The Southern Channel Islands—Santa Barbara, Santa Catalina, San Nicolas, and San Clemente—all have separate jurisdictions. Santa Barbara Island is the southernmost island in the Channel Islands National Park, and the island and its surrounding waters are under the jurisdiction of the NPS. Santa Catalina Island is owned by the Catalina Island Conservancy, with a small portion still belonging to the previous owner: the Santa Catalina Island Company. The island is also a part of the Los Angeles Park System. Santa Catalina Island is approximately 197 square kilometers (76 square miles). The island is the highest-visited island in California, with visitors coming for both the terrestrial and the marine environments. Both the island and the surrounding waters are under the jurisdiction of the Catalina Island Conservancy and Los Angeles County. Santa Catalina Island includes the City of Avalon, the only city on the Channel Islands. Avalon is the only place in the Channel Islands with permanent residents, excluding the U.S. Navy owned islands of San Nicolas and San Clemente. The land use designation in Avalon is Open Space, Residential, and Commercial. Areas of Special Biological Significance are designated at the east and west ends of the islands.

San Nicolas Island and San Clemente Island are owned and operated by the U.S. Navy. These islands are not open for public visitation; however, the surrounding waters are periodically open for diving expeditions. San Clemente Island has terrestrial amenities for S.E.A.L. operations and Underwater Demolition Team facilities. Other parts of the island are used for artillery storage and other naval activities. The island is included in the County of Los Angeles Land Use Policy and is designated as Open Space. Restoration projects on these islands would require coordination with the U.S. Navy and Los Angeles County.

For each of the Southern Channel Islands, the following discussion lists the agency with jurisdiction over the island, the size of the island, and the recreational opportunities available on

the island. Three major dive sites—Osbourne Bank, Farnsworth Bank, and Tanner Bank—are located in the vicinity of the Southern Channel Islands but are not connected to one island. Figure 3.5-6 shows the dive sites and other recreational sites on the Southern Channel Islands:

- Santa Barbara Island (NPS)
 - 256 hectares (639 acres)
 - Hiking trails, visitor center, primitive campground, and picnic areas
 - Opportunities for scuba diving, snorkeling, bird-watching, fishing, and observing marine mammals
 - Recreational areas: Arch Point, Landing Cove, Canyon View Nature Trail, Sea Lion Rookery, Webster Point, Elephant Seal Cove, and the Santa Barbara Island Light.
- Santa Catalina (Los Angeles County, Catalina Island Conservancy)
 - 19,472 hectares (48,680 acres)
 - Sport fishing, yachting, snorkeling, scuba diving
 - Camping, hiking, biking
 - Recreational areas: Two Harbors, Avalon, Seal Rocks, Church Rock, Salta Verde Point, China Point, Ben Weston Beach, Little Harbor, Catalina Harbor, Lobster Bay, Iron Bound Bay, Starlight Beach, and Parsons Landing
- San Nicolas (U.S. Navy)
 - 5,632 hectares (14,080 acres)
 - Part of Pacific Missile Range
 - Access by special arrangement only
 - Diving areas surround the island, but use is restricted
- San Clemente (U.S. Navy)
 - 14,336 hectares (35,840 acres)
 - Access by special arrangement only
 - Diving areas surround the island, but use is restricted



Legend	
—	Channel Highway
▲	Recreational Sites
●	Dive Sites

▲ 1. The Hillside	▲ 15. Canyon View Nature Trail	▲ 4. Tower Rock	● 15. The Tower	● 21. The Caverns	● 1. Redoubt Cove
▲ 10. White Bay	▲ 17. Sea Lion Roostery	▲ 7. Santa Verónica Point	● 16. Windward Pt.	● 20. The Shelter	● 2. Shovel Point
▲ 11. Iron Bound Bay	▲ 6. Car Camps	▲ 8. China Point	● 17. The Exiles	● 23. Alpha Beaches	● 5. Point Ledge Reef
▲ 12. Starlight Beach	▲ 19. Webster Point	▲ 7. San Wilson Beach	● 18. Pyramid Cove	● 24. Alpha Reef Area	● 6. Webber Point
▲ 13. Parkers Landing	▲ 2. Avalon	▲ 3. Little Harbor	● 19. China Point	● 25. Three Little Reef	● 7. Calappa
▲ 14. Air & Boat	▲ 20. Elephant Seal Cove	▲ 2. Catalina Harbor	● 13. Red Hot & Casino Cove	● 26. Chumbe Rock Sandbar	● 8. Johnsons Rock
▲ 16. Lavender Cove	▲ 21. Santa Barbara Island Light	▲ 1. Chubbie Bank	● 14. Little Farallone	● 27. Hail Point	● 9. Lion Head
	▲ 3. Seal Rocks	▲ 6. Farallone Bank		● 21. Church Harbor	
		▲ 5. Travers Bank			

Figure 3.5-6. Dive sites and recreational sites, Southern Channel Islands.

3.6 AESTHETICS AND VISUAL RESOURCES

3.6.1 Coastal Aesthetics and Visual Resources

The coastline from the Ventura County line to the San Diego County line is a scenic stretch of Southern California; the terrain ranges from rocky cliffs to sandy beaches. Picturesque views from the coast include the Pacific Ocean and, in clear weather, many of the Channel Islands. The islands are known for their gorgeous land views and diversity as well as their striking underwater variety and abundance of life.

California state scenic routes are designated and managed by the California Department of Transportation Office of State Landscape Architecture. A scenic highway includes the road and the right-of-way as well as a scenic corridor. The scenic corridor is the area visible from the road and generally adjacent to the right-of-way with scenic, historical, or aesthetic characteristics. The California Scenic Highway Program designates highways using the following nine categories:

- Officially Designated State Scenic Highway
- Officially Designated County Scenic Highway
- Officially Designated State Scenic Highway and National Scenic Byway
- Officially Designated State Scenic Highway and All American Road
- Eligible State Scenic Highway—Not Officially Designated
- Unconstructed State Highway Eligible for Scenic Designation
- Historic Parkway
- Connecting Federal Highway
- Connecting Federal Highway and National Scenic Byway

State goals for scenic highways include preserving the visual, biological, and ecological resources; preventing conditions that compromise aesthetic resources; encouraging development that contributes to aesthetic qualities; encouraging historical preservation; and encouraging community civic groups to create programs that increase local interest in the visual resources.

This section describes the varying coastline visual characteristics from Point Dume to Dana Point. Figure 3.6-1 shows representative photographs of the various types of scenic views in the study area, including undeveloped coastline, sandy beach, pier and boardwalk, mixed-use residential/commercial, rugged cliffs, marina, and port/harbor.

3.6.2 Channel Islands Aesthetics and Visual Resources

Figure 3.6-2 shows representative photographs of the Channel Islands.

Northern Channel Islands

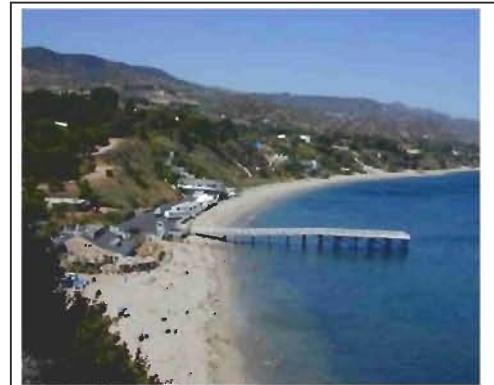
The coastlines of the Northern Channel Islands include sandy and rocky beaches, cliffs, tide pools, and sandy and rocky sea caves. Inland, the islands are home to rugged mountains, scenic fields, deep canyons, and year-round streams. The land and underwater diversity of these islands



Undeveloped Coastline/Sandy Beach
Photo taken in Malibu Beach. Source: City of Malibu



Pier/Boardwalk
Photo of Santa Monica Pier. Source:
<http://www.schoniaweb.com/images/smsshore.jpg>



Mixed Use Residential/Commercial
Photo of Malibu Pier. Source: City of Malibu



Rocky Cliffs
Photo taken in Rancho Palos Verdes. Photo taken by: Mary Donovan



Marina
Photo taken at Manna del Rey marina. Photo taken by Nitsa.



Port/Harbor
Photo of Port of Long Beach. Source: Port of Long Beach

Figure 3.6-1. Representative photographs of the Los Angeles and Orange County coastline environment.

Figure 3.6-1 BACK



Figure 3.6-2. Representative photographs of the Channel Islands.

Figure 3.6-2 BACK

creates an aesthetically stimulating experience that is vastly different than the nearby California coast. The pristine natural beauty of the Channel Islands is visually pleasing to visitors.

No Eligible State Scenic Highways or Officially Designated State Scenic Highways are located on the Northern Channel Islands.

Southern Channel Islands

The Southern Channel Islands also provide diverse and beautiful underwater scenery. The land forms and diversity of Santa Catalina Island are similar to those of the Northern Channel Islands. The land forms of San Clemente and San Nicolas Islands are relatively flat, and do not exhibit the rugged hills and cliffs of the other islands. The land forms of Santa Barbara Island include both flat areas and rugged cliffs.

No Eligible State Scenic Highways or Officially Designated State Highways are located on the Southern Channel Islands.

3.7 TRANSPORTATION

3.7.1 Coastal Transportation

Coastal access is readily available along most of the coastline of Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The beach can be accessed via a variety of major highways, roads, paths, and sandy trails. Much of the coastline is lined with roadways, boardwalks, and trails. Several ports offer transportation to the Channel Islands. Once on the islands, developed roadways allow car traffic around many of the islands, and dirt trails allow hiking and biking.

The counties or cities with jurisdiction along the coastline areas each have general plans that include a circulation element. This element identifies the roads and highways within the jurisdictional boundaries as well as the programs and policies in place to provide an effective transportation network. Any restoration project that would affect transportation or involve roadways would need to consider the land use and circulation elements of the applicable general plans.

3.7.2 Channel Islands Transportation

The Channel Islands do not have extensive roadway networks.

Santa Catalina Island has the most developed roadway system of all of the Channel Islands. The island has primary and secondary roadways that traverse the length of the island and several maintenance roads/trails that increase the accessible areas of the island.

Santa Rosa, Anacapa, San Miguel, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz Islands do not have primary or secondary roadways but have dirt roads and/or trails. These islands are owned by the NPS and are accessible to the public for recreational purposes.

The remaining two Channel Islands, San Nicolas and San Clemente, are owned and operated by the U.S. Navy. These islands have roadways that are maintained by the Navy, but the roadways are not open to the public.

Access to the Channel Islands is available through various transport companies leaving from the California coast. Air travel to Santa Rosa and Santa Catalina Islands is also available.

3.8 AIR QUALITY

“Air pollution” is a general term that refers to one or more chemical substances that degrade the quality of the atmosphere. Individual air pollutants may adversely affect human or animal health, reduce visibility, damage property, or reduce the productivity or vigor of crops and natural vegetation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified seven air pollutants of nationwide concern: carbon monoxide (CO); ozone (O₃); nitrogen dioxide (NO₂); particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in size (PM₁₀), which is also called respirable particulate and suspended particulate; fine particulate matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}); sulfur dioxide (SO₂); and lead (Pb). These pollutants are collectively referred to as criteria pollutants.

The federal Clean Air Act (Title 42 United States Code Sections 7401–7671q) requires the adoption of national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) to protect the public health and welfare from the effects of air pollution. The NAAQS have been updated as needed. Current standards are set for CO, NO₂, SO₂, O₃, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and Pb. Areas are classified under the federal Clean Air Act as either “attainment” or “nonattainment” areas for each criteria pollutant based on whether or not the NAAQS have been achieved. In 2004, the Santa Barbara County remained unclassified for all criteria pollutants. Ventura County was classified as a nonattainment area for O₃, unclassified for PM₁₀, CO, and NO₂, and as an attainment area for SO₂. Los Angeles and Orange Counties were classified as nonattainment areas for O₃, PM₁₀, and CO, unclassified for NO₂, and as attainment areas for SO₂. San Diego County was classified as a nonattainment area for O₃, unclassified for PM₁₀, CO and NO₂, and as an attainment area for SO₂ (CARB 2005).

The State of California Air Resources Board (CARB) has established additional standards, which are generally more stringent than the NAAQS; CARB has also set standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, and “visibility-reducing particles.” In 2004, the areas from Santa Barbara to San Diego remained unclassified for CO, NO₂, SO₂, sulfates, Pb, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility-reducing particles. These areas were classified as nonattainment areas for O₃, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}, except for Santa Barbara County, which was unclassified for PM_{2.5} (CARB 2005).

3.9 NOISE

3.9.1 Overview and Noise Standards

Noise is defined as unwanted or objectionable sound. The effects of noise on people can include general annoyance, interference with speech communication, sleep disturbance, and, in the extreme, hearing impairment. The A-weighted noise scale, which measures noise levels in decibels (dBA), weighs the frequencies to which humans are sensitive. Because decibels are measured on a logarithmic scale, a doubling of the energy of a noise source equates to a 3 dBA increase in noise level.

People tend to compare an intruding noise with the existing background noise. If the new noise is readily identifiable or considerably louder than the background or ambient noise levels, it usually becomes objectionable. An aircraft flying over a residential area is an example. In the presence of normal environmental background noise, an average healthy ear can readily detect a 5 dBA

change in noise level. A 10 dBA change is usually perceived as a doubling, or halving, of the noise level.

3.9.2 Coastal Noise Generators and Sensitive Receptors

The existing noise environment and additional noise sources associated with the six coastal reaches are summarized in Table 3.9-1 (MSRP 2003).

**Table 3.9-1
Baseline Noise Environment, Noise Generators, and Sensitive Noise Receptors
in the Study Area**

Coastal Reach	Baseline Noise Environment	Noise Generators	Sensitive Receptors
1	Surf, Residential, Commercial	No major noise generators	Malibu Pier and beaches Surfrider beach Coastline recreation
2	Residential, Commercial	Santa Monica Municipal Airport Los Angeles International Airport Traffic and roadways	Recreational beaches Boardwalks and piers
3	Residential, Commercial	No major noise generators	Residential development Point Fermin Park Abalone Cove Beach Park Portuguese Bend Co-op Preschool Long Point Resort Hotel
4	Commercial	Port of Los Angeles Port of Long Beach	Residential development Long Beach Pier
5	Surf, Residential, Commercial	Naval Weapons Stations Huntington Harbor Traffic and roadways	Seal Beach NWR Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve
6	Residential, Commercial	Harbor at Dana Point Amtrak trains	Crystal Cove State Park Laguna Coast Wilderness Park

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

3.9.3 Noise Generators and Sensitive Receptors on the Channel Islands

Six of the eight Channel Islands are protected ecologically sensitive areas: Santa Catalina, San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands. These islands preserve a diverse range of plant and animal species that are noise sensitive. Each of these six islands is available at some level for recreational use to the public, which has expectations of a natural, low-noise environment. The plant and wildlife species on these islands are all sensitive receptors.

The remaining two Channel Islands, San Nicolas and San Clemente, are owned and operated by the U.S. Navy and are used for training. Naval operations such as bombing and target practice can generate high noise levels. The underwater areas surrounding the islands are periodically used for recreational purposes, including whale watching and diving, and host many species that are noise sensitive.

3.10 CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section presents an overview of the historical and cultural resources that are likely to be found in the coastal areas of Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Future restoration projects must be aware of potentially significant cultural resources that may be located within these coastal and offshore areas. These resources include archaeological sites and historic sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places that are near the coast.

3.10.1 Prehistoric Overview

The initial occupation of the Southern California coast appears to have occurred as early as 10,000 years ago (Jones 1992).

Southern California coastal archaeological sites increase dramatically in number after about 8,000 years ago, a period when sites associated with the Milling Stone Horizon appear (Wallace 1955). Research in Southern California demonstrates that this period was marked by regional differentiation, adaptation to local conditions, and more permanent habitation.

The Late Prehistoric period, spanning from approximately 1,500 years ago to the mission era, is the period associated with contemporary Native American groups known as the Chumash and the Gabrieliño (Wallace 1955). Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo was the first documented European to make contact with these groups in 1542.

3.10.2 Historic Overview

The Chumash and Gabrieliño were virtually ignored between Cabrillo's visit and the Spanish Period, which began in 1769. Missions were established at San Gabriel in 1771, San Juan Capistrano in 1776, and San Fernando in 1797. By the 1800s, the majority of the Chumash and Gabrieliño mainland population had entered the Spanish mission system (Jackson 1999), with the island populations entering somewhat later.

The pueblo Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de Prociuncula (Los Angeles) was founded in 1781, and grew slowly based primarily on cattle ranching. The first civilian land grants in the Los Angeles area were awarded in 1784 to Manuel Nieto (Rancho Los Alamitos) and Jose Maria Verdugo (Rancho San Rafael). By the mid-1800s, hunters, settlers, and ranchers, made their way to the area, and ranching became an economic mainstay.

In 1821, colonial New Spain became the independent Republic of Mexico. Economic competition and political tension between the new Mexican republic and the Catholic Church became intense, and the missions were secularized beginning in 1831 (Rolle 1998). In 1845, Governor Pio Pico moved the capital of California to Los Angeles, and in 1850 California gained statehood.

Attracting settlers during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the beautiful California coastline became accessible by rail and quickly became a mecca for industrial, commercial, residential, and recreational uses. The coastline continues to serve these uses into the twenty-first century.

3.10.3 Archaeological Resources

Onshore Sites

Archaeological surveys and excavations over the past century have revealed a diverse and extensive cultural landscape. Hundreds of archaeological sites have been identified along the Southern California coast; the major concentrations are in the vicinity of bays, estuaries, lakes, streams, marshes, and at the mouths of canyons (Altschul and Grenda 2002). Four key locations in Los Angeles and Orange Counties have been identified: (1) from the vicinity of Malibu Lagoon, south to Malibu Point, and north to the Ventura County line; (2) Santa Monica Bay, in the vicinity of Marina del Rey and the Ballona Lagoon; (3) the southern portion of San Pedro Bay, in and around Seal Beach, Long Beach, and Huntington Beach and the Bolsa Chica Lagoon; and (4) the vicinity of Newport Bay (Jones 1992).

Thousands of archaeological sites have been identified on the Channel Islands. Due to the lack of abundant terrestrial resources, island sites tend to concentrate along the island fringes, particularly on the shores of the islands' small, protected inlets (Jones 1992).

Offshore Sites

Over 100 prehistoric underwater archaeological sites have been identified off the coast of Southern California (Masters and Schneider 2000). Although the majority of underwater sites identified are located offshore of San Diego County, underwater sites are also likely to occur in the waters offshore of Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

Shipwrecks

As of June 2001, the California State Lands Commission listed 156 shipwrecks off the Los Angeles County coast (ships built between 1853 and 1945) and 37 shipwrecks off the Orange County coast (ships built between 1837 and 1944). Shipwrecks tend to cluster in Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay, and Newport Bay; the shipwrecks involve schooners, oil screws, steamboats, barges, masted ships, ferries, military craft, tankers, submarines, and sailboats. The general locations of these shipwrecks can be seen on Figure 3.10-1.

3.10.4 Historic Resources

The area encompassing the Los Angeles and Orange County coastlines and the Channel Islands contains a variety of historic resources, including an assortment of structures, features, and cultural landscapes, most associated with late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century shipping and rail industry, early-twentieth-century residential and commercial development, and coastal tourism and recreation. Many of these resources are likely to have historic significance, but have yet to be evaluated.

3.11 SOCIOECONOMICS

The section provides a summary of the socioeconomic state of the coastal cities within the study area. This information is largely presented in tables, which present the demographic and economic data from the 2000 Census (<http://factfinder.census.gov>) that pertain to the 19 coastal cities within Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The study area includes cities along the coast of both counties and extends inland for approximately 3.2 kilometers (2 miles). Communities such



Source: California State Lands Commission 2005.

Figure 3.10-1. Generalized locations of known shipwrecks.

as Venice and Playa del Rey are within 3.2 kilometers (2 miles) of the coastline yet are part of the larger City of Los Angeles. Accordingly, the tables in this section include the City of Los Angeles as a line item. This jurisdiction encompasses a substantially larger area and population than any of the other 80+ cities in Los Angeles County and dwarfs the areas and populations of the other coastal cities.

Avalon City, on the island of Santa Catalina, is also included under Los Angeles County data. It is the only portion of the Channel Islands for which demographic data are available; the remaining islands have small populations because they are parklands or are limited to military personnel.

3.11.1 Population and Age

Table 3.11-1 shows the total population and median age of the cities within the study area. Most of the cities within the study area have relatively small populations, with many having significantly less than 20,000 residents. The obvious exception is Los Angeles, which extends many kilometers (miles) inland from the coast. The smallest city, Rolling Hills, with 1,871 residents, accounts for only 0.02 percent of the total population of Los Angeles County. Only a few cities show larger populations. Long Beach, the largest city within the study area, forms 4.85 percent of the population of Los Angeles County and significantly exceeds the population of Huntington Beach, the second largest city, which forms 1.99 percent of the total population of Orange County.

The median ages within the study area are substantially higher than the respective county averages. In Los Angeles County, the median age is 32 years. In comparison, the median age in the Cities of Palos Verdes Estates (46.7 years), Rancho Palos Verdes (44.7 years), and Rolling Hills (47.7 years) is significantly higher. In Orange County, with an average median age of 33.3 years, the tendency of median ages to be higher in the study area is most pronounced in the Cities of Laguna Beach (43.4 years) and Seal Beach (54.1 years).

**Table 3.11-1
Los Angeles and Orange Counties: Population and Age (2000)**

Jurisdiction	Total Population	% Total County Population	Median Age
Los Angeles County	9,519,338	100%	32
Avalon *	3,127	0.03%	33.7
El Segundo	16,033	0.17%	36.4
Hermosa Beach	18,566	0.20%	34.2
Long Beach	461,522	4.85%	30.8
Los Angeles	3,694,820	38.81%	31.6
Malibu	12,575	0.13%	42.9
Manhattan Beach	33,852	0.36%	37.7
Palos Verde Estates	13,340	0.14%	46.7
Rancho Palos Verdes	41,145	0.43%	44.7
Redondo Beach	63,261	0.66%	36.7
Rolling Hills	1,871	0.02%	47.7
Santa Monica	84,084	0.88%	39.3
Signal Hill	9,333	0.10%	33.4
Torrance	137,946	1.45%	38.7
Orange County	2,846,289	100%	33.3
Costa Mesa	108,724	1.14%	32.0
Dana Point	35,110	0.37%	39.8
Huntington Beach	189,594	1.99%	36.0
Laguna Beach	23,727	0.25%	43.4
Newport Beach	70,032	0.74%	41.6
San Clemente	49,936	0.52%	38.0
Seal Beach	24,157	0.25%	54.1

*Located on Santa Catalina Island in the Channel Islands. The remaining islands in the Channel Islands group are either Naval Stations or National Parks.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000 information accessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov>

3.11.2 Race and Ethnicity

Table 3.11-2 shows the racial and ethnic characteristics of the study area. The majority of the population within the coastal cities is white, with much smaller proportions of other racial or ethnic minorities. Apart from the Cities of Long Beach, Signal Hill, and Avalon, all of the cities within the study area showed white populations much greater than that of the respective county averages, ranging from 59.2 percent (Torrance) to as high as 92.2 percent (Newport Beach).

It should be noted that “Hispanic” refers to ethnicity and is not a racial category. Thus, persons can be considered Hispanic regardless of race. Due to this overlap, racial and ethnic categories total in excess of 100 percent. With regard to Hispanic populations, apart from the Cities of Los Angeles, Avalon, Long Beach, Signal Hill and Costa Mesa, all of the cities within the study area showed much lower levels than that of the respective county averages, ranging from 15.9 percent (San Clemente) to as low as 4.5 percent (Rolling Hills).

3.11.3 Income, Household Size, and Poverty Status

Table 3.11-3 shows the income, household size, and poverty status within the coastal study area. The majority of cities in the study area show median household income levels that are significantly above their respective county averages, with some cities such as Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes Estates, and Malibu showing extremely high income levels. Within the study area, only Avalon City, Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Seal Beach show median household income

levels that are below their respective county averages. Although the average household sizes of all of the cities within the study area were below their respective county average household sizes, within the Cities of Hermosa Beach (1.95 persons), Santa Monica (1.83 persons), and Seal Beach (1.83 persons) the average household sizes were substantially below the respective county averages.

The majority of the cities in the study area show poverty levels that are substantially below their respective county averages, dramatically lower in the case of Rolling Hills (0.0 percent) Palos Verdes Estates (1.1 percent), and Rancho Palos Verdes (2.0 percent). The Cities of Long Beach, Los Angeles, and Costa Mesa, at 19.3 percent, 18.3 percent, and 8.2 percent, respectively, are the only cities within the study area that showed poverty levels that were above their respective county averages. The City of Signal Hill, at 13.6 percent, is only marginally below its county average.

**Table 3.11-2
Los Angeles and Orange Counties: Race and Ethnicity (2000)**

Jurisdiction	Total Population	White	Black /Af. American	Am. Indian Alaskan Nat.	Asian	Nat. Hawaii /Pacific Is	Some Other Race	Hispanic or Latino (Of any Race)
Los Angeles County	9,519,338	48.7% 4,637,062	9.8% 930,957	0.8% 76,988	11.9% 1,137,500	0.3% 27,053	23.5% 2,239,997	44.6% 4,242,213
Avalon *	3,127	71.6% 2,240	0.7% 23	1.0% 32	0.6% 19	0.2% 7	20.4% 637	46% 1,437
El Segundo	16,033	83.6% 13,405	1.2% 187	0.5% 75	6.4% 1,028	0.3% 47	3.5% 562	11.0% 1765
Hermosa Beach	18,566	89.6% 16,632	.8% 150	.4% 74	4.4% 817	0.2% 41	1.7% 312	6.7% 1253
Los Angeles	3,694,820	46.9% 1,734,036	11.2% 415,195	0.8% 29,412	10.0% 369,254	0.2% 5,915	25.7% 949,720	46.5% 1,719,073
Long Beach	461,522	45.2% 208,410	14.9% 68,618	.5% 3,881	12.0% 55,591	1.2% 5,605	2.06% 95,107	35.8% 165,092
Malibu	12,575	91.9% 11,558	0.9% 113	0.2% 27	2.5% 313	0.1% 12	1.7% 210	5.5% 689
Manhattan Beach	33,852	89.0% 30,124	.6% 208	.2% 70	6.0% 2,043	0.1% 41	1.2% 415	5.2% 1756
Palos Verde Estates	13,340	78.3% 10,488	1.0% 132	0.1% 18	17.1% 2,286	0.1% 16	0.6% 80	2.8% 378
Rancho Palos Verdes	41,145	67.2% 27,660	2.0% 815	0.2% 62	25.9% 10,676	0.1% 41	1.2% 497	5.7% 2339
Redondo Beach	63,261	78.6% 49,735	2.5% 1,592	0.5% 295	9.1% 5,756	0.4% 224	4.4% 2,762	13.5% 8524
Rolling Hills	1,871	79.8% 1,493	2.0% 38	0% 0	14% 262	0.5% 9	1.2% 22	4.5% 85
Santa Monica	84,084	78.3% 65,832	3.8% 3,176	1.5% 396	7.3% 6,100	0.1% 86	6.0% 5,019	13.4% 11,304
Signal Hill	9,333	45.5% 4,245	13.0% 1,212	0.6% 55	16.5% 1,539	2.1% 194	16.2% 1,510	29.0% 2707
Torrance	137,946	59.2% 81,605	2.2% 3,022	0.4% 560	28.6% 39,462	0.3% 481	4.6% 6,307	12.8% 17,637

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000 information accessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov>

**Table 3.11-2
Los Angeles and Orange Counties: Race and Ethnicity (2000)**

Jurisdiction	Total Population	White	Black /Af. American	Am. Indian Alaskan Nat.	Asian	Nat. Hawaii /Pacific Is	Some Other Race	Hispanic or Latino (Of any Race)
Orange County	2,846,289	64.8% 1,844,652	1.7% 47,649	0.7% 19,906	13.6% 386,785	0.3% 8,938	14.8% 421,208	30.8% 875,579
Costa Mesa	108,724	69.5% 75,542	1.4% 1,520	0.8% 845	6.9% 7,501	0.6% 656	16.6% 18,018	31.8% 34,523
Dana Point	35,110	87.2% 30,633	0.8% 288	0.6% 201	2.5% 884	0.1% 36	5.9% 2,080	15.5% 5440
Huntington Beach	189,594	79.2% 150,194	0.8% 1,527	0.6% 1,224	9.3% 17,707	0.2% 456	5.8% 11,019	14.7% 27,798
Laguna Beach	23,727	92.0% 21,826	0.8% 190	0.4% 86	2.1% 494	0.1% 20	2.2% 524	6.6% 1570
Newport Beach	70,032	92.2% 64,583	0.5% 371	0.3% 179	4.0% 2,804	0.1% 83	1.1% 792	4.7% 3,301
San Clemente	49,936	87.9% 43,905	0.8% 385	0.6% 307	2.6% 1,317	0.1% 69	5.1% 2,552	15.9% 7,933
Seal Beach	24,157	88.9% 21,477	1.4% 347	0.3% 73	5.7% 1,386	0.2% 43	1.3% 309	6.4% 1,554

*Located on Santa Catalina Island in the Channel Islands. The remaining islands in the Channel Islands group function as Naval Stations or National Parks.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000 information accessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov>

Table 3.11-3
Los Angeles and Orange Counties: Income, Household Size and Poverty Level (2000)

Jurisdiction	Total Population	Median Household Income (\$)	% Above/Below County Average	Average H'hold Size	Number of Families Below Poverty Level in 1999	% Of Families Below Poverty Level in 1999
Los Angeles County	9,519,338	42,189	0.0	2.98	311,226	14.4
Avalon *	3,127	33,327	-21.0	2.65	66	9.2
El Segundo	16,033	61,341	45.4	2.27	122	3.1
Hermosa Beach	18,566	81,153	92.4	1.95	61	1.7
Los Angeles	3,694,820	36,687	-13.0	2.83	147,516	18.3
Long Beach	461,522	37,270	-11.7	2.77	19,512	19.3
Malibu	12,575	102,031	141.8	2.39	103	3.2
Manhattan Beach	33,852	100,750	138.8	2.34	173	2.0
Palos Verde Estates	13,340	123,534	192.8	2.67	44	1.1
Rancho Palos Verdes	41,145	95,503	126.4	2.66	248	2.0
Redondo Beach	63,261	69,173	64.0	2.21	616	4.0
Rolling Hills	1,871	**200,000	374.1	2.90	0	0.0
Santa Monica	84,084	50,714	20.2	1.83	911	5.4
Signal Hill	9,333	48,938	16.0	2.56	289	13.6
Torrance	137,946	56,489	33.9	2.51	1,642	4.5
Orange County	2,846,289	58,820	39.4	3.00	46,894	7.0
Costa Mesa	108,724	50,732	20.2	2.69	1,892	8.2
Dana Point	35,110	63,043	49.4	2.41	320	3.4
Huntington Beach	189,594	64,824	53.7	2.56	2,081	4.3
Laguna Beach	23,727	75,808	79.7	2.05	164	2.8
Newport Beach	70,032	83,455	97.8	2.09	356	2.1
San Clemente	49,936	63,507	50.5	2.56	604	4.6
Seal Beach	24,157	42,079	0.3	1.83	194	3.2

*Located on Santa Catalina Island in the Channel Islands. The remaining islands in the Channel Islands group function as Naval Stations or National Parks.

** Median Household Income for Rolling Hills city is at least \$200,000 and up.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000 information accessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov>