

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



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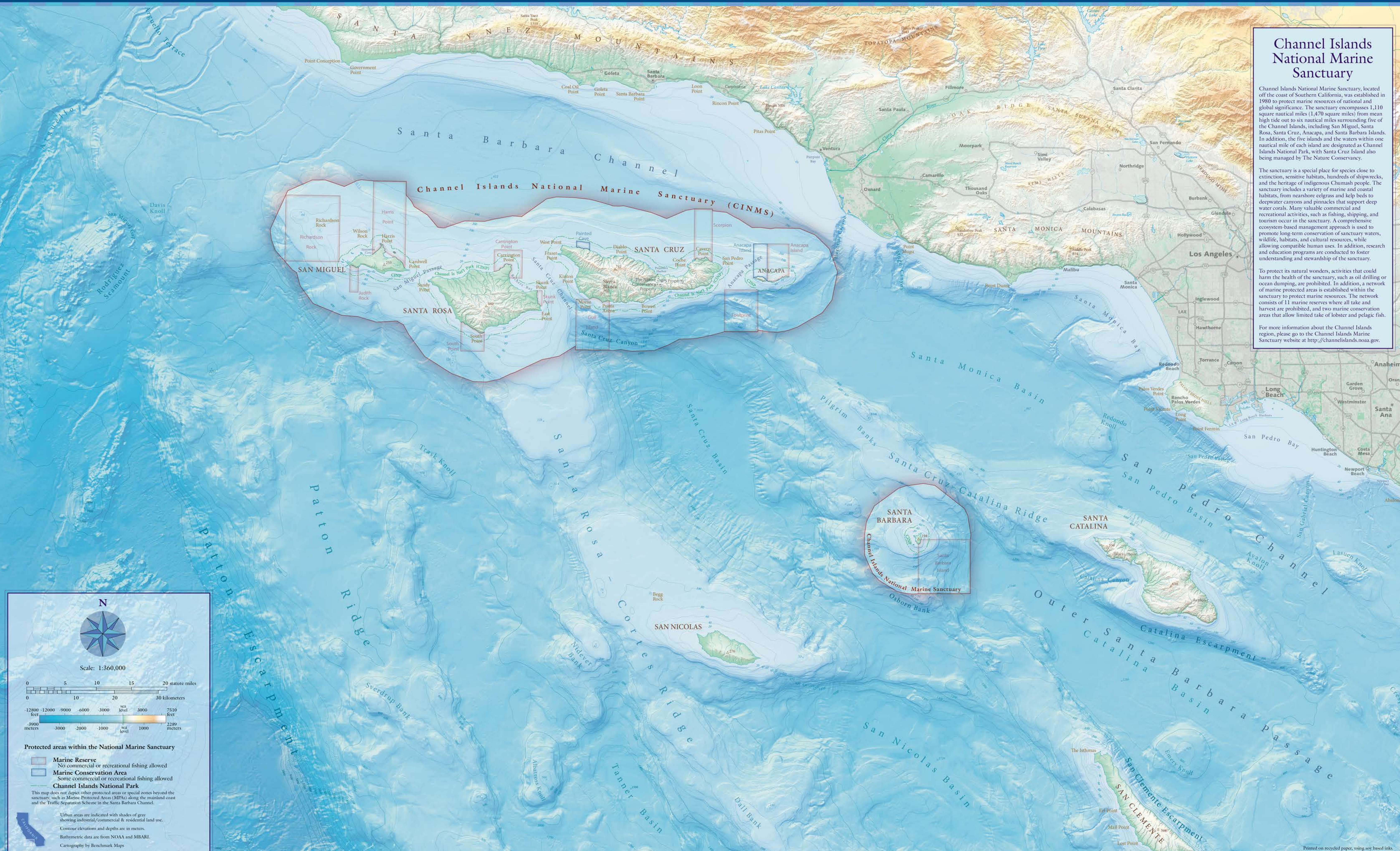
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, located off the coast of Southern California, was established in 1980 to protect marine resources of national and global significance. The sanctuary encompasses 1,110 square nautical miles (1,470 square miles) from mean high tide out to six nautical miles surrounding five of the Channel Islands, including San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands. In addition, the five islands and the waters within one nautical mile of each island are designated as Channel Islands National Park, with Santa Cruz Island also being managed by The Nature Conservancy.

The sanctuary is a special place for species close to extinction, sensitive habitats, hundreds of shipwrecks, and the heritage of indigenous Chumash people. The sanctuary includes a variety of marine and coastal habitats, from nearshore eelgrass and kelp beds to deepwater canyons and pinacles that support deep water corals. Many valuable commercial and recreational activities, such as fishing, shipping, and tourism occur in the sanctuary. A comprehensive ecosystem-based management approach is used to promote long-term conservation of sanctuary waters, wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources while allowing compatible human uses. In addition, research and education programs are conducted to foster understanding and stewardship of the sanctuary.

To protect its natural wonders, activities that could harm the health of the sanctuary, such as oil drilling or ocean dumping, are prohibited. In addition, a network of marine protected areas is established within the sanctuary to protect marine resources. The network consists of 11 marine reserves where all take and harvest are prohibited, and two marine conservation areas that allow limited take of lobster and pelagic fish.

For more information about the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary website at <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.



Scale: 1:360,000

0 5 10 15 20 statute miles
0 10 20 30 kilometers

12800 12000 9000 6000 3000 sea level 3000 7510 feet
-3900 -3000 -2000 -1000 sea level 1000 2280 meters

Protected areas within the National Marine Sanctuary

- Marine Reserve**
No commercial or recreational fishing allowed
- Marine Conservation Area**
Some commercial or recreational fishing allowed
- Channel Islands National Park**

This map does not depict other protected areas or special zones beyond the sanctuary, such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) along the mainland coast and the Traffic Separation Scheme in the Santa Barbara Channel.

Urban areas are indicated with shades of gray showing industrial/commercial & residential land use.
Contour elevations and depths are in meters.
Bathymetric data are from NOAA and MBARI.
Cartography by Benchmark Maps