

Marine Activity Level of Protection Classification Guide

ProtectedSeas has added 27 categories to their MPA/MMA database to help users identify certain types of activity and fishing restrictions at the click of a button. These 27 categories have been coded in several different ways.

- ❑ ProtectedSeas has developed a special coding scheme for the category *Removal of Marine Life* to indicate the level of fishing restrictions in each area:

1 = Least restrictive: No known fishing restrictions

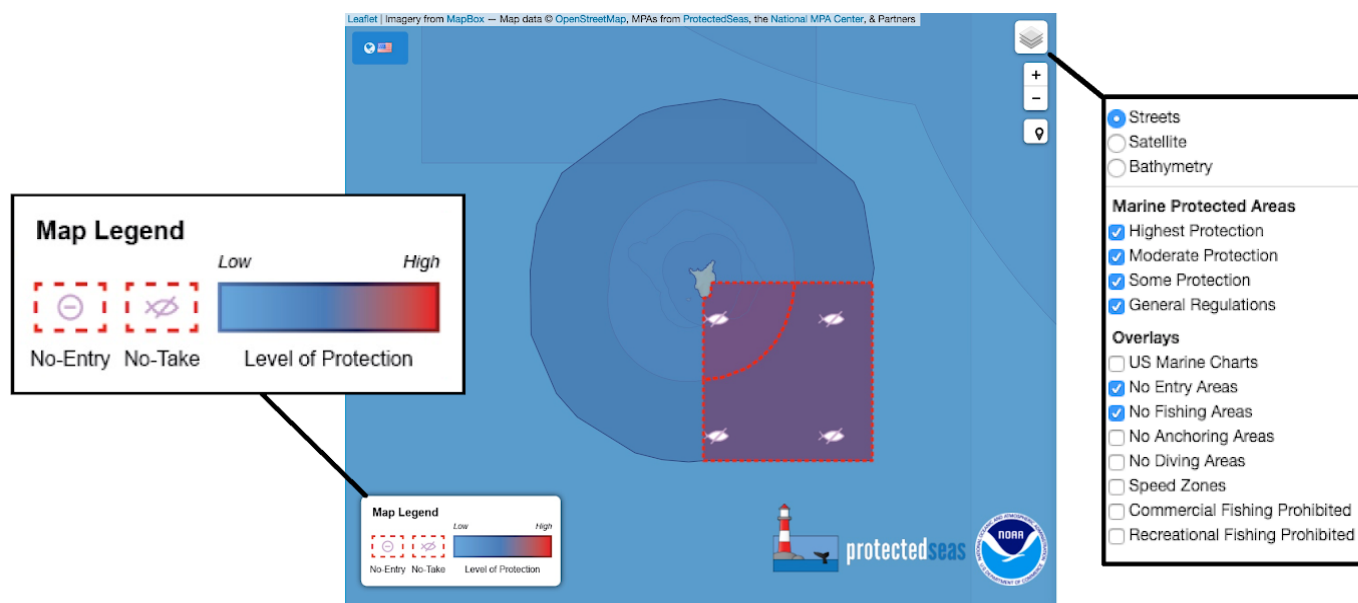
2 = Less restrictive: Few species- or gear-specific restrictions apply.

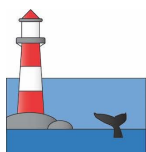
3 = Moderately restrictive: Several species- or gear-specific restrictions apply; or either commercial fishing or recreational fishing is entirely prohibited.

4 = Heavily restrictive: Fishing is mostly prohibited, with few exceptions.

5 = Most restrictive: Fishing is prohibited

As shown in the following image of the area around Santa Barbara Island, these five levels are color-shaded on the ProtectedSeas map to indicate the *Removal of Marine Life* coding. The map legend in the bottom left corner of the map explains how the shading reflects the level of take restriction:





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❑ The majority of the remaining categories are coded as:

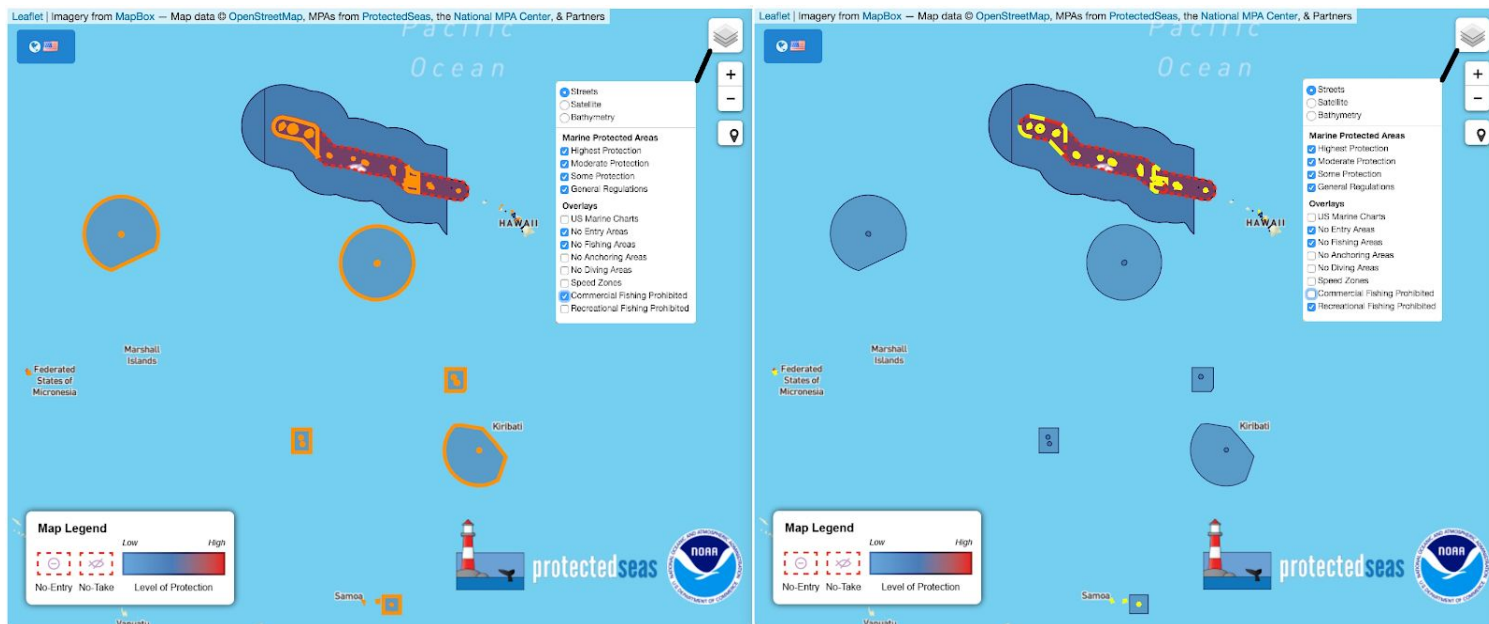
0 = Allowed - 1= Prohibited- 2 = Restricted - 3 = N/A

These categories are:

Discharge, Entry, Diving, Removal of Historic Artifacts, Stopping, Anchoring, Landing, Dragging, Dredging, Industrial or Mineral Exploration, Construction, Drilling, Overflight or Drones, Bottom Trawling, Gillnetting, Hook & Line, Trolling, Nets, Traps & Pots, Spear Fishing, Longlining, Misc. Gear, Recreational Fishing, Commercial Fishing

Speed is coded similarly, but excludes 0=Allowed

These side-by-side images of Hawaii and the Pacific Remote Islands show the ProtectedSeas map with *Commercial Fishing_Prohibited* selected (left) and *Recreational Fishing_Prohibited* selected (right):



❑ Finally, ProtectedSeas is in the process of implementing a simple 1= no / 0= yes coding to indicate any tribal or local/subsistence fishing exemptions.