Program Highlights

>1,700 Volunteer Anglers

32 MPAs and associated reference areas were sampled statewide

175,000 fish were caught and released from 93 different species

>600 sampling trips

14 years monitoring in Central Coast, 4 years statewide

7 stock assessments were informed by CCFRP data
**Key Findings from MPA Monitoring**

**California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program**

1. **More & Larger Fish**
   - Fish are larger and more abundant inside MPAs across the state compared to reference areas open to fishing. **79%** of species were larger inside MPAs and **71%** of species saw a higher catch per unit effort (CPUE) inside MPAs.

2. **Bigger Fish Faster**
   - Over 14 years on the Central Coast, fish abundance and biomass increased more rapidly inside MPAs.

3. **More Resilient Communities**
   - MPAs appeared more resilient to the 2014-2015 marine heatwave. Fish diversity recovered more quickly in MPAs following the heatwave, despite an initial decrease in diversity both inside and out of MPAs. Similar resilience results were found in the rocky intertidal habitats report.

4. **Positive Opinions**
   - Angler opinions of MPAs became significantly more positive after participating with CCFRP. Anglers reported that they caught more fish, bigger fish, and a higher diversity of fishes inside MPAs on CCFRP sampling trips. More positive responses occurred in anglers that participated more frequently in MPA monitoring.

For more information about MPA long-term monitoring and the Decadal Management Review, please visit:

- California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program technical report
- California Sea Grant website to access all 7 MPA long-term technical reports
- CDFW’s MPA Decadal Management Review webpage