









Organización de las Naciones Unidas del Golfo de California para la Educación de la Ciencia y la Cultura Patrimonio Mundial en 2005

ZONING PARQUE NACIONAL BAHÍA DE LORETO

No Fishing Areas

ESTERO NOPOLÓ-LOS NIDOS

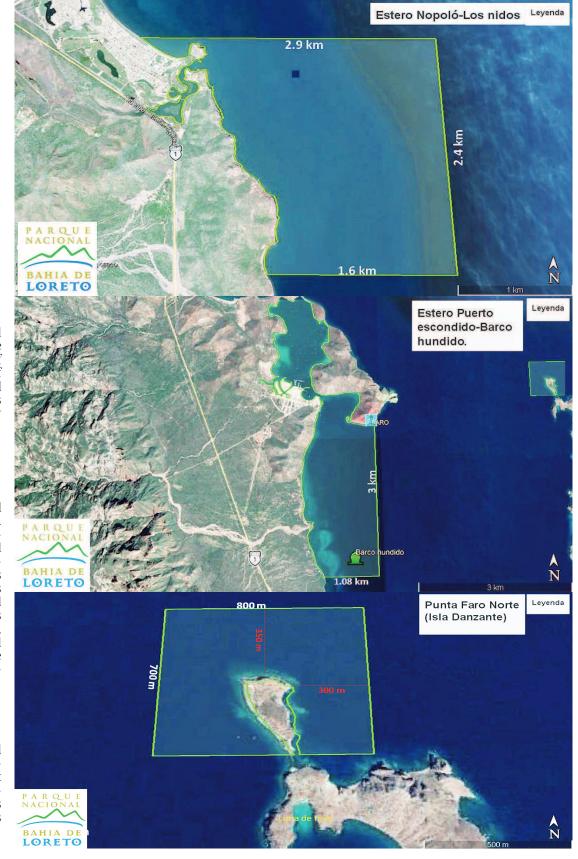
Covers an area of 460.20 hectares, located south of the city of Loreto and adjacent to the tourist complex of Nopoló. It includes a set of intertidal and subtidal coastal ecosystems of great ecological and economic importance, and a small estuary with three mangrove species that characterize Loreto wetlands. The rocky reef called Los Nidos is also located there.

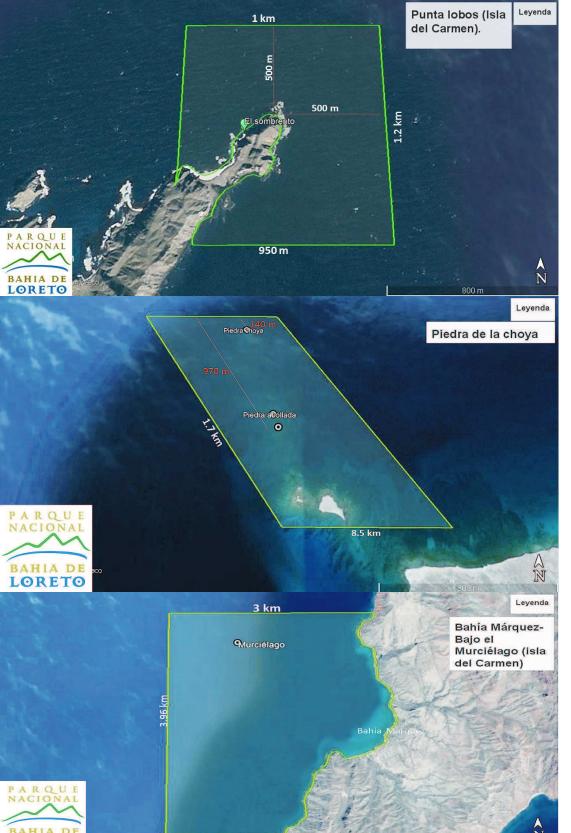
ESTERO PUERTO ESCONDIDO - BARCO HUNDIDO

Covers an area of 613.20 hectares, located approximately 17 km south of the city of Loreto. It represents one of the largest and best preserved estuaries of the Loreto Bay National Park. Due to its size, this area plays a very important role as a breeding habitat for numerous marine species. It is the habitat of numerous species of fish and invertebrates of commercial interest in their juvenile and larval states which take refuge in the mantles of rhodoliths, sargassum and mangroves. It should be noted that this area includes an artificial reef, made up of a navy ship that was sunk at the beginning of the century.

PUNTA FARO NORTE, DANZANTE

Comprises an area of 52.23 hectares, located in the north end of Danzante Island. It represents one of the areas with the most complex habitat in the region. Due to its steep formations and rapid bathymetric inclination, this tip has one of the most important populations of black coral (Antiphates galapagensis).





LORETO

No Fishing Areas

PUNTA LOBOS (CARMEN ISLAND)

Covers an area of 102.40 hectares. It comprises one of the sites with the greatest populations of Gulf Grouper (Mycteroperca jordani), a species whose reproductive populations are located in the rocks at depths greater than 30 meters. This site has the potential to help this endangered species to recover and migrate into the surrounding area. This area comprises an exceptionally rich site for reef fish, and it is also one of the most important colonies of the California sea lion (Zalophus californianus).

PIEDRA DE LA CHOYA

Covers an area of 121.99 hectares, located on the northeast tip of the Carmen Island, it is one of the most productive underwater formations of the Loreto Bay National Park, with a reef that runs from north to south. It is a site of great importance for species considered vulnerable by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature such as Gulf Grouper (Mycteroperca piordani), the Sawtail Grouper (Mycteroperca prionura) and the Leopard Grouper (Mycteroperca rosacea). It is also an area of great importance for ornamental fish listed as species subject to special protection such as the King Angel (Holacanthus passer), the Blue and Yellow Damsel, and the Mexican Castanet (Chromis limbaughi). This area also includes the islet known as La Choya.

BAHÍA MÁRQUEZ – BAJO EL MURCIÉLAGO

Covers an area of 1,032.77 hectares, located in the southwest portion of the Carmen Island. It includes two unique and important underwater areas in the Loreto Bay National Park: the Picachos and the Bajo del Murciélago. The Picachos area is a site of spectacular beauty for recreational diving activities. Also, in this subzone is Bajo El Murciélago, a surrounding site about 30 meters deep.

No Fishing Areas

BAJO EL CURRIGAN

Comprises an area of 3,146.34 hectares, located to the south of Carmen Island and to the southwest of Danzante Island, also known as the Bajo del Finado Cuco. It is an underwater mountain range of more than six kilometers. On its west side it has a depression more than 800 meters deep that separates Carmen from Danzante Island. These bathymetric characteristics result in a site of important nutrient blooms, an important food source for species that visit the site. Large families of Common Dolphins (Delphinus delphis), Blue Whales (Balaenopotera musculus), Fin Whales (Balaenoptera physalus), Bryde Whales (B. edeni), Humpback Whales (Megaptera novaengliae), among others, are frequently found feeding in the area.

BLANQUIZAL (MONTSERRAT ISLAND)

Covers an area of 103.98 hectares, located west of Montserrat Island. It is a sandy area that represents one of the last refuges of the Queen Clam (Megapitaria aurantiaca) and the Donkey Snail (Strombus galeatus). Both species are reported in studies of regional environmental history as abundant in the past and very scarce in the present.

ZONA OESTE ISLA SANTA CATALINA

Covers an area of 542.43 hectares, located west of Catalina Island. It represents the only site in the region where the Solitary Coral (Fungia distorta) belonging to the genus Fungia is found.

LA LOBERA, ISLA CATALINA

Covers an area of 3.83 hectares, located at the northeast end of the Catalana Island. It is the second important colony of California Sea Lions (Zalophus californianus) in the Park.

