

FISH & SHELLFISH CONSUMPTION: Fishing, shellfish harvesting, aquaculture

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San Diego Water Board

FISH & SHELLFISH CONSUMPTION IS A KEY BENEFICIAL USE

Beneficial uses are the uses of water necessary for the survival or well-being of humans, plants and wildlife. These uses of water serve to promote our tangible and intangible economic, social and environmental goals. Human health is the primary concern with regard to the key beneficial use of fish and shellfish consumption.

1. KEY BENEFICIAL USES

Key beneficial uses are the beneficial uses that are most critical to protecting human and environmental health.

2. KEY AREAS

Key areas are the places where protection and restoration of the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of waters is most important for a key beneficial use.

3. APPLYING KEY BENEFICIAL USES AND KEY AREAS

Where the Board has flexibility, such as efforts to restore degraded waters, the key beneficial uses / key areas concept can help the Board decide which work to undertake. In programs with less flexibility, such as permitting, the concept can help the Board decide which aspects of that work warrant greater attention.

KEY BENEFICIAL USES OF WATERS IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION

Drinking Water Supply

FISH & SHELLFISH CONSUMPTION

Recreation

Habitats & Ecosystems

KEY AREAS in the San Diego Region for FISH & SHELLFISH CONSUMPTION

KEY WATER BODIES	First (highest) Rank	Ocean	
	Second Rank	San Diego Bay Mission Bay	
	Third Rank	Dana Point Harbor Oceanside Harbor Lagoons & Estuaries	
AREAS OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE		Areas intensively used for subsistence fishing and/or shellfish harvesting (or with potential for such use)	Areas for which fish & shellfish consumption advisories have been issued because of persistent bioaccumulative toxic substances
		<i>Such as shoreline areas & structures (piers, wharfs, docks, jetties, breakwaters, etc.) accessible to the public for fishing & shellfish harvesting</i>	
		<i>e.g., near</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dana Point Harbor breakwater & jetty • Dana Point Pier (Dana Point Harbor) • San Clemente Pier • Oceanside Harbor fishing pier • Agua Hedionda Lagoon jetties & shoreline • Batiquitos Lagoon jetties • Crystal Pier (Pacific Beach) • Mission Bay shoreline and jetties • San Diego River jetty • Ocean Beach Pier • Imperial Beach Pier 	

Identifying key beneficial uses and key areas is the beginning of helping the Board focus on what is most important.

For more information see: • [Practical Vision](#): Healthy Waters, Healthy People (2013)

• [Key Beneficial Uses and Key Areas](#): Focusing on What is Most Important (2017)