

NEW National Marine Sanctuary Regulations For Motorized Personal Watercraft (Jet-skis® etc.)



New MPWC Definition 15CFR922.131:

The term **Motorized Personal Watercraft (MPWC)** has been clarified and updated to include all modern jet-ski type and similar craft

“Motorized personal watercraft (MPWC) means:

Any vessel, propelled by machinery, that is designed to be operated by standing, sitting, or kneeling on, astride, or behind the vessel, in contrast to the conventional manner, where the operator stands or sits inside the vessel;

Any vessel less than 20 feet in length overall as manufactured and propelled by machinery and that has been exempted from compliance with the U.S. Coast Guard’s Maximum Capacities Marking for Load Capacity regulation found at 33 CFR Parts 181 and 183, except submarines; or

Any other vessel that is less than 20 feet in length overall as manufactured, and is propelled by a water jet pump or drive.”

NOTE: These federal regulations apply throughout Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in effect as of March 9, 2009

Newly Created MPWC Zone 5 15CFR922.132(a)(7):

NOAA has created a new zone for seasonal, conditional MPWC use at Mavericks

Zone Five (at Mavericks) exists only when a National Weather Service-issued High Surf Warning is in effect for San Mateo County and only during December, January, and February.

High Surf Warning (HSW) – National Weather Service

High Surf Warnings are NOT High Surf Advisories. High Surf Warnings predict the most severe surf conditions.

NOAA Weather Radio announcements for a HSW cycle about every 15 minutes and include a tone alert

HSWs are posted on the Internet 24/7 at: <http://www.weather.gov>

See Zone 5 map on reverse

For questions on MPWC use in San Mateo County contact:





Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary at Farallones@noaa.gov or 415-561-6622

For questions on MPWC use throughout **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary** see: <http://montereybay.noaa.gov> or contact 831-647-4201

Among the common types of MPWC are: Jet-skis® (any passenger capacity), jet bikes, hovercraft, air boats, race boats; some remotely operated craft are also included.



Motorized Personal Water Craft Zones in San Mateo County, March, 2009

-  New MPWC Zone 5
-  Access Route
-  Existing MPWC Zone
-  James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

***Zone 5 is accessible December-February only during high surf warnings (not advisories) issued by the National Weather Service for San Mateo County. See www.weather.gov**

ZONE 5
Limited seasonal access*

ZONE 1
Year-round access

Access route is designed to help boaters avoid sensitive wildlife areas, submerged rock hazards and entanglement in kelp beds.

G "1"
FI G 2.5s GONG

G "3"
FI G 4s BELL

