

Appendix D – Community-based mapping activity cards

The mapping activity instructions were to identify any place along the coast that is particularly important to that individual, their community, or to the broader region; identify the location of the place on map printed on the backside of the card; and answer the questions below.

- 1) Name or Description of a place
- 2) Why is this place special to you or your community?
- 3) How might sea otters affect the connections or benefits you identified above?

Results were sorted by community where the comment was received. We did our best to transcribe every comment card. We used the text “[...]” to indicate either illegible penmanship and/or to remove of personally identifiable information.

Table 1 Mapping comments received from Astoria, OR on June 20, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Astoria, OR	Hometown; environmental industry community; logging and fishing; outdoor recreation, food harvesting=razor clams, salmon fishing, hiking Saddle Mountain- met husband while hiking there	Sea otters eating clams, or just urchins? Rebalance kelp forest-urchin-sea otter dynamic off the coast. Important to restore sea otters within their native/historic range. Our responsibility to do so after humans harvested
Cascade Head; Salmon River Estuary	Cascade Head is special because it is a unique (or nearby) coastal environment that supports the endangered silver spot butterfly and it is protected. The salmon river estuary has been undergoing restoration.	Lincoln City (nearby) is a major touristy city and I think sea otters would add to the attractiveness of the city. Also the connection with the protected Cascade Head area and the salmon river estuary restoration would provide a synergy of preservation.
Oswald West State Park	As a PSU college student, many years ago, I spent as much time as I could on the coast. I adored hiking and camping. I would like to see that continue for the future generations.	I think the kelp forests the otter encourages will benefit us through returning the safety of cover to juvenile fish.
Arcadia Beach	Tide pools; easy access to beaches	They can be observed by tourists from shore
Astoria OR + OR Pacific Coast	Commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, subsistence uses	Sea otters are voracious predators-reintroducing them with no way to control the population would completely devalue and decimate the benefits that I've identified. It would destroy our crab and shellfish fisheries.
Astoria, OR; Mendocino, CA	I live in Astoria; and I used to dive in Mendocino, CA	It would be fun to see them swimming around. Also, I would appreciate any environmental benefit that they could bring. I also wonder how the sea otters will affect the environment and the fishing industry.
Entire coastline as it may support fisheries	Fishery industry; unintended consequences. Consider impact of Columbia River, only major river its size on W. Coast- significant flow, tides, robust water	The vast network of federal regulations which will follow. Enforcement policies which will impact fisheries.
Astoria, Oregon	All of the above reasons	I feel like sea otters would devastate the fisheries that support my family and community, much like it has in all of Southeast Alaska
West Coast WA, OR and Northern CA	Our business has store from Westport, WA to Eureka, CA that are heavily dependent on commercial and recreational fishing	The potential for them to negatively impact our fisheries is real. It's already happened in Alaska. It will hurt our coastal communities if our fisheries are impacted.
West Coast	Livelihood-shellfishing	Sea otters will ruin shell fisheries support industries, communities. This has happened to other industries when feds come up with similar ideas. It doesn't work.

Table 2 Mapping comments received from Garibaldi, OR on June 21, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Seaside, OR	Seaside is important to me personally because it was the first place on the Oregon Coast that I visited. I was taken here by the person I would later fall in love with. :)	Bringing the sea otters to the coast would add the benefit of a robust onshore/offshore ecosystem. It would restore what humanity and trapping took from the Oregon shore and it would create yet another reason to visit the coast and support the coastal economy.
Netarts Bay	Natural beauty, quiet, peacefulness. Little marine traffic. Supports wildlife. Wildlife viewing.	It would be beneficial for otters to be released in Netarts Bay for the otter themselves. Less marine traffic and pollution, bigger mouth to the ocean, cockle clams in abundance because harvest of cockles aren't permitted for humans, and a state park offering a better haven. Better than Tillamook Bay, there's too much oil, gas, and noise from the constant human activity. And half of Tillamook Bay is freshwater unlike Netarts Bay.
Tillamook	I love hiking and watching wildlife here.	Sea otters would bring more tourism to Tillamook and help restore healthy kelp forests, which would increase rock fish population and help sequester carbon.
Nehalem Bay	We have spend countless hours walking along the bay, just enjoying the beauty and the chance to view diverse wildlife.	As a previously important piece of the environmental puzzle of this area, I believe otters could aid us in improvement of our future, given the quickly increasing impact of a changing climate.
Nehalem Bay/Spit; Cape Mears/Oceanside	1. Fishing/crabbing; recreation/beaches; wildlife and beauty; 2. Rock hounding; recreation/beaches, scenic values, solitude	1. reduction of crab and shellfish; enhancement of salmon and other fish; tourists can observe otters from the shore; 2. lessening of wave action reduces sand/rocks agitation
Tillamook Bay/Garibaldi	Commercial clam harvesting	They will directly affect the only west coast clam fishery. The local fish and wildlife department cannot be trusted in giving accurate numbers of clams. Once otters are introduced there will be no recourse for the local clam divers once the clam populations are diminished. The otters will stay/we will be forced to leave.
Oregon Coast-entire	The plight of NW tribes starving from salmon fisheries destroyed by dams on Snake, Columbia, and subsidiaries is a long term damage to PNW environment and cultural NW indigenous. The near extinction of sea otters is typical of white extractive practices.	The UN finally passed a treaty legally binding to protect ocean ecological processes beyond national boundaries. The goal of restoring ocean health in the high seas, as well as highlighting nation's responsibility within their oceanic borders open the need to restore kelp bed and the sea otter is a keystone species of coastal regions in PNW.
Rockaway Beach	Its home; tourism, natural beauty, old growth forest, open coast habitat, seabirds	Would the otters want to live on the rocks? Tours to visit them would bring people; would they help w/ocean health
Blue-Closures of potential estuary or sanctuary- Ocean clams that don't get harvested, need to be assessed; Red-Bays- no clamming; Red-Bays- 7000,000ish pounds of clams; Red-Bays- 22,000 pounds of clams; Blue-Closures of potential estuary or sanctuary	The only thriving clam population- Tillamook Bay clams in other bays have been destroy due to human negligence and lack of research into environmental impacts	Over population could eliminate the last West Coast clam thriving.

Table 3 Mapping comments received from Newport, OR on June 21, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Cape Perpetua	Cape Perpetua is a fantastic cultural and natural resource, featuring a visitors center and old growth forests	The visitors center would benefit by adding sea otter activities and viewing, as well as educational programming. Forests and ocean ecosystems are deeply interconnected, and restoring otter populations will fill a missing niche.
Alsea Bay	Kayaking and crabbing in the bay. Habitat for salmon run support.	Cultivate sea grasses, kelp, and reduce urchin predation. As a popular [...], would attract attention of naturalists.
Cape Foul weather; Boiler Bay; Whale Cove; Otter Rock	Only large kelp bed on the central Oregon Coast. Important to nearshore fish and wildlife. Shoreline has extensive rocky intertidal habitat.	Otters would benefit the kelp beds by keeping the urchin population in check.
Orford Reef	I spent many years diving and conducting research on Orford Reef.	Orford Reef once had the largest kelp bed on the Oregon Coast. The increase in purple sea urchins has severely reduced the kelp. Otters would help restore the balance on the reef and help the kelp beds recover.
Otter Crest- rock tidepools; Arcata, CA	Critical habitat for all animals, pollinators, insects, bats	Otter Rock- reverse urchins in Newport, thus stabilize native populations to pre-modern conditions (maybe pre-colonization?); Arcata- important experiments in water filtration via marsh systems. Also a critical area for marine preservation efforts.
Yaquina Head	Natural beauty, cultural value, recreation	I think it could increase connection by reverse urchin ecological processes. Creates new opportunities [...] more dive tourists
South Beach	Friends, aquarium, seeing otters swimming going here	Almost everyone loves otters
Newport, OR	High tourist area so can add lots of education opportunities. Has whales, sea lions, harbor seals, but missing otters. Help create a healthier ecosystem.	With aquarium in Newport and its otters, would be great for tourists to then see them out in the wild.
Port Orford	Natural beauty, recreation, support wildlife, and healthy ecosystem	Help rejuvenate kelp forests and provide wildlife viewing potential. Also help educate tourists of kelp ecosystems. Support towns.
Otter Rock Marine Reserve	Otter Rock is special because it's a marine reserve that supports wildlife and preserves the natural beauty of the Oregon Coast. It is important habitat and a place both locals and tourists appreciate.	Sea otters are a keystone species and would help restore kelp and sea grass by feeding on urchins. Kelp is critical habitat for many species and sequesters carbon. Sea otters would greatly benefit our coast.
Otter Rock	Natural beauty, great site for tourism, great ocean/coast views	Bring more people, help with fueling economy, restore kelp to help coastal erosion. Plus the name helps too!
Newport, OR	Being able to see the wildlife and them having a support system to be protected. Also, the natural beauty it holds.	Seeing the sea otter live a natural life within our beautiful coasts.
Yachats, OR	Natural beauty, community, sense of place and the value of its beauty. We enjoy the benefits of a shellfishing as food for ourselves but believe there needs to be a balance.	Sea otters belong here this was their home at one time. I can understand the challenges this project would entail. Now understanding the loss of kelp forest is an important reason to reintroduce this species.
Depoe Bay; Otter Rock	I live in Depoe Bay. My mental health is dependent in large to the well-being of our coast and the wildlife that depend on it.	Sea otters being present means more kelp, which means a healthier marine ecosystem. I also worry a lot about the climate crisis and my understanding is that kelp can be an effective mechanism to store carbon.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Cape Falcon Marine Reserve; Ecola SP; Nehalem Bay; Tillamook Bay; Netarts Bay; Cape Lookout; Nestucca Bay and the entire outer coast	These areas are important for fish, wildlife, bird, plant, and marine algae habitat, associated tourism, recreation, harvest (commercial and recreational fishing, clamming, crabbing). They are also the traditional homelands for several indigenous cultures. Opportunities for research and living laboratories.	Sea otters would benefit marine algae (kelp) habitat, fish populations, and tidepool organisms. Recovery of sea stars is also essential to this effort. Conversely sea otter reintro may create additional polarization and conflict with fishermen, aquacultural, particularly in Tillamook Bay if their concerns are not taken seriously. Outdoor recreational tourism (wildlife viewing) could benefit. Local tribes must also be included in this process and their wishes respected.
Siletz Bay NWR; Depoe Bay; Otter Rock MR; Yaquina Head	Natural beauty, wildlife, fish and bird habitat, commercial and recreational fishing, crabbing, clamming, outdoor recreation, research	I support the idea of sea otter reintroduction, especially with otters being keystone species. However, I think it is incredibly important to take seriously the concerns of the commercial and recreational fishing fleets. Without their support reintroduction will not be successful. I think its is also incredibly important to ensure fish, clam and crab populations are robust enough to support otters and human needs in the face of change climate. Finally, with limited conservation dollars, any effort to reintroduce otters should not take away from needed research, monitoring, and recovery efforts for sea stars.
Siletz Bay	Natural beauty, recreation, supports wildlife	As far as other places on the coast, I feel like Lincoln City is disconnected from the marine life on the coast. I think the reintroduction of otters could rejuvenate Lincoln City's passion for the coast's marine life.
Sisters Rocks	Cultural history to the indigenous peoples of southern Oregon. Natural beauty and habitat for seabirds	Reduction in sea urchin populations increasing kelp forest habitat around the rocks and restoration of the ecology around the site. Return of culturally significant sea otters to the lands of the Tolowa Dee-Ni peoples
The OR and WA Coast	Natural beauty, connection to nature, wildlife	Sea otters are my favorite animal. Seeing them back in OR would bring so much joy to my life. They're essential to keeping our coast alive.
Newport Bay Jetty	This is the spot that almost all of Newport relies on. Anyone you ask has work related to the area, from fishing to research, to working in a seafood plant. This place offers so much to Newport.	Sea otters could better regulate the urchin populations and rejuvenate the kelp forests, which will lead to having better patches of krill for whales and can lead to more abundance in fish populations. People will also want to see the otter, which will create tourism.
Very nearshore region between Waldport and Boiler Bay; Port Orford	I live, work, and play here. I study gray whales that depend on the nearshore reef and kelp habitats. I walk/run the beaches. I love the beauty that fills and rejuvenates my soul. The wildlife and ocean make this place home.	Sea otters are a missing part of this ecosystem. With sea otters back in these nearshore ecosystems, ecological balance and health can be regained. They will help our oceans become resilient, which will support many other marine taxa and functions we enjoy.
Alsea Bay; Bobs Creek	Alsea-supports wildlife/relatively undeveloped/rejuvenation. Bobs Creek-recreation/tide pooling	Increase wildlife viewing, balance ecosystems
Heceta Head Lighthouse	Remote seeming and wild seeming- this wild shore and historic location is uniquely beautiful. The whole coastline is beautiful and deserving of the restoration of this species.	Seeing sea otters here would make the experience more complete and I would know the offshore ecosystem was healing from extirpation of a keystone species. I would be joyful! :)
Nellie's Cove	One of the last places that has red abalone and they are starving and out on the rocks instead of hiding in crevices.	If otters were reintroduced I think they would absolutely eliminate this crucial population of an endangered shellfish species. We can't control what or how much these otters eat once they are reintroduced.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Yaquina Head, O.N.A	This protected BLM land preserves the natural beauty and ecology of the area, as well as raises awareness and call to action for preservation, climate issues, etc.	Sea otters would enhance the health of the natural area and create more balance among the wildlife and ecological species. They would also allow for more in-person educational opportunities.
Otter Rock (esp. Marine Reserve)	My uncle sacrificed these fishing grounds to become a marine reserve so we wouldn't lose more areas of the ocean.	I would love it. Especially if they stayed here!
Fort Ross Cove	I took a scientific diving class there when I was in college. It was beautiful and full of marine diversity.	Sea otters as a keystone species can help to increase kelp forests and in turn help to increase biodiversity. Being able to dive in lush, rich kelp forests is one of the most beautiful things on this planet.
Seal Rock has a little bit of kelp	Rocky, has a little bit of kelp. It has good tide pooling and different types of seaweed and good rock big and small rocks.	I think we see sea otter there because it has some sea urchins
Otter Rock- A translation of the Tillamook language name	Our Siletz elders of Tillamook ancestry passed that name down to us. Talked about Sea otter relationships to places, people, and resources. I can't wait till there are sea otters again at Otter Rock.	It's a natural haven for them. We need them for kelp forest habitat, conservation, and restoration. All of the food chain and habitat values will hopefully quickly turn our environment into a place of a balance and plenty again.
Otter Point, N. of mouth of the Rogue River	Our TutuTui ancestors of the Siletz Tribe managed this spot and the sea otters population there only one person by right could hunt otters there in the 1850's or before.	We need sea otters back there in its name-sake place to restore kelp forest habitat, food chain, and sense of place.
Depoe Bay	Heritage- my family lived here for 5 generations before me. We have so much knowledge of the area. Home- I live here! I've tried living elsewhere and only this place fits. Subsistence- I fish and shellfish here. 80% of my protein intake is harvested here. It helps me feel connected to the place and part of my family's heritage.	Heritage-it would simultaneously recreate lost historical connections but also disrupt others. Home- a large part of me wants to cohabitate with otters like generations of my family did. However, I'm apprehensive of the ecological impacts on shellfish and also social conflict otter reintroductions will cause. Subsistence- I'm concerned about my ability to harvest shellfish. I do understand, however, the eventual benefits otters may have for fin-fisheries, which I appreciate.
Yaquina Head Lighthouse	There is no better place to sit and watch the waves and the whales	I can't even imagine sitting on a beach in Quarry Cove and seeing otters... Except I can! It's a magical thought.
Tokatee Klootchman State Natural Site	Tide pooling, ecological value and biodiversity, beautiful stretch of coastline	Positive impact biodiversity, likely prey source to support sea otter population.
Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve; Winchester Bay	These areas are essential habitat for fish, wildlife, birds, plants and marine algae, and tidepool organisms. They are also culturally important to indigenous people. From an economic standpoint these areas are important for tourism, recreation, and harvest	I feel strongly that any effort to reintroduce sea otters respect various communities' interests, harvesters' needs, and indigenous groups needs. Sea otters present opportunities for research, tourism, habitat restoration. They also may cause resource conflict.
Yaquina Bay	I see it outside my front window everyday. I really enjoy the seasonal ebb and flow of the wildlife and am interested in seeing the bay preserved and restored	I think having otters in the bay, like in Monterrey Bay would be spectacular and captivate tourists like the sea lions currently do!
Fort Stevens State Park, Astoria	Memory of engagement, views, wildlife (puffins)	Increase tourism, add to wildlife and all other ocean species to thrive (kelp forests)
Lincoln City	Home; wide variety of beaches, parks, trails, open spaces. Great community and culture, stunning views	Increase tourism to the beaches and beach towns, increase joy in seeing otters, may restrict access to areas to protect otters

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Otter Crest/Rock; Port Orford; Shelter Cove, CA	All 3 locations hold special memories related to natural beauty, recreation. I have done studies in the marine reserve and tide pooled and meditated. At all locations, I have imaged sea otters living in the kelp	Sea otters would have a positive impact on the near shore ecosystems. So many positives to slow down climate change with sequestering carbon.
Point Reyes Station	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife	Increase all of the above! This national seashore will benefit from sea otters.
Yaquina Bay Lighthouse	Natural beauty, supports wildlife, wildlife viewing. This place feels like home. Fishing	All of the above would improve, more wildlife to view overall. If sea otters were present, kelp forest would improve=better fishing for future generations.
Yaquina Head O.N.A	Natural beauty, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife, environmental interpretation, resources of critical concern (seabird nesting habitat)	They would help restore the kelp forests that so many marine animals rely on for food, shelter, and refuge.
Depoe Bay	Home, recreation, teach others about nature, natural beauty, tourism, wildlife watching	Depoe Bay could be more than just the whale watching capital- we could have sea otter watching too! And our kelp forest could become even healthier. People could come to see the sea otters and people who live here could know that we were helping to restore the ocean's health by hosting them.
Tenmile [Creek]	A place we have gathered since I was a child to celebrate nature and the love of the great circle.	Restoring nature to a place it once was is the least we can try to do. People need purpose and taking care of the planet makes us feel good.
Shelter Cove	It's a place to feel peace and quiet. Rugged remote with few people. My family lives there and it's full of love and healthy natural beauty.	They would beat back the urchin population restoring kelp forests and all the animals that live there. I would be able to dive there again and nourish my need to visit another world.
Cascade Head/Westwind	This is an incredibly beautiful area with some of the best tide pools I've ever seen in Oregon. Wonderful place for recreation and rejuvenation.	Enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. Plus, I would love to see them!
Gleneden Beach	I live here	I would love to see an otter from my beach walks. That would make living here very special.
Beverly Beach	When my husband was hang gliding near Yaquina Head, I would go to Beverly Beach to hunt for fossils. Many hours and many miles of pleasure in my youth.	I don't know how otters would affect this area- but in the face of climate change, I cannot see how they could hurt.

Table 4 Mapping comments received from Florence, OR on June 22, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Heceta Head; Hobbit Beach	Beautiful visits, hiking (recreation) beach walking, good memories of major life events shared with friends and family, wild, natural benefits, therapeutic.	If we could see sea otters near Heceta that would be awe inspiring, beyond beautiful also impactful for balance restored to this ecosystem.
Yachats River mouth + ocean	Natural beauty, wildlife viewing.	Restoration of natural kelp beds (often reduction of sea urchin population) can increase fish, + whale sites.
North Jetty Beach	Walking distance from home and access to view variety of wildlife (seals, eagles, osprey, heron, egret, sandpiper); natural beauty.	Help keep the estuary and seashore alive and viable.
Cape Perpetua	Natural beauty, unique shore formations, Thor's well.	The area might not have a large enough area as of shallows, but it appears to be a "desert" as described.
Newport	Tourism, wildlife viewing, conservation education.	Gray whale viewing is already big, so the draw of sea otters would hopefully increase tourism for wildlife viewing. If Oregon Coast Aquarium participates in reintroduction there is a direct conservation connection for both the town and aquarium to use as an example to educate and connect the public with wildlife issues.
Florence; Coastal OR	Food, clear water, fix the ecosystems. Back to pre-contact! It's a great place to be, live, and help bring back Sea otters to Oregon! Surf, sailboarding, fishing, and many more.	Our ecosystems needs to fixed yesterday and not tomorrow! Sea otters is one missing link that has disappeared from our systems! The Tribes might someday be able to use the pelts again for
Cape Perpetua	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife.	Economic and wildlife sustainability.
Crescent City	Me and my family hunt for sand dollars when we go there.	Sea otters will not affect much except for less seaweed on the beach.
Yachats, OR	I live at Yachats on the coast.	Erosion of the coast directly affects me. Sea otters can help prevent erosion of the coastline and would keep me from losing my home. The biodiversity, ecology and climate of the coast need to be protected. Sea Otters would help.
Searose Beach	We live here and we love the Oregon Coast! I love the natural beauty and I believe the sea otters will greatly benefit the ecological wildlife in the area.	Sea erosion effects me! We live on the coast and we have noticed a huge difference in erosion over the past few years. Sea otters would help prevent erosion by eating the sea urchins that are decimating the huge kelp forests! Kelp forest help limit the coastal erosion.
Searose Beach	I live in Yachats at [...]. Sea otter reintroduction would greatly help with the sea coast erosion that is eating away our coastline. Plus sea otters are adorable creatures. Definitely mental rejuvenation	Erosion directly affects me. Sea otters would help prevent erosion and keep me from losing my home! The biodiversity, ecology, and climate of the coast needs to be protected! Sea otters would greatly help bring balance to the coast.
Strawberry Hill	Natural beauty, wildlife, tidepools.	Sea otters would add to the natural beauty of Strawberry Hill. The sight of them in their rightful range would be a thrilling experience.
Siuslaw - Coos Bay and nearby rock areas; Cape Perpetua	Overall spiritual-heritage (traditional stories and creation, ceremony); subsistence- first foods; kelp, eelgrass, shellfish + crabs, fish; relationships w/ places over generations	Reintroduction would be healing and beautiful
Yachats, OR	Natural beauty, whale watching, relaxing rejuvenation	I moved to Yachats from the Monterey Bay area. I miss seeing the otters I did in Monterey Bay in the mid-60s and don't remember kelp forest. Otters help their environment as an apex

Table 5 Mapping comments received from Coos Bay, OR on June 22, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Cape Arago; South Slough; Blacklock Point; Cape Blanco	Beauty, supports wildlife, room for solitude, relatively sparsely populated	Being a symbol of an intact coastal ecosystem, seeing otters in the wild contributes to my sense of well-being (I've been in SE AK many times). So much habitat waiting for them to return!
Coos Bay	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife, subsistence; All the above except livelihood and it's the land of my Tribe	Just seeing them brings joy! Saving the kelp and eel grass
Shore Acres	Gardens, ocean viewing, whale watching	Large kelp beds present, otters eat urchins preserving kelp.
South Slough Estuary; Coos Bay Estuary	I live in No. Bend overlooking the bay; this place has spiritual (and tribal) value, potential for increased ecotourism (economic benefits), and supports a valuable ecosystem that enhances our livelihood.	Restoration of sea otters would help bring back kelp forests and reduce sea urchin population that decimates them- would increase ecotourism (thus benefitting our economy), and help restore ecological balance on the Oregon coast.
Cape Arago Area	Natural beauty, access to estuaries	Less urchins -> more kelp -> maybe more salmon and fish nurseries. And they are so CUTE.
Port Orford, OR	It's been home for a number of years and it's beautiful. I'd like to see the ecosystem restored.	It would help to restore the natural habitat.
Crook Point, Curry County	Natural beauty; supports wildlife; Remote area with good subtidal resources and USFWS oversight of offshore island and adjacent mainland.	Ecological improvements of subtidal; quiet place, very little human impact to area.
Bodega Bay/Jenner, CA	A great place to see sea otter in the local area, north of San Francisco Bay and peninsula.	River otters are fairly abundant throughout the Sonoma Co and Russian River, without much negative impact upon sport fishing. Sea otters on the coast would improve tourism distinct form trying to observe secretive river otters.
Coos Bay; Bandon	This area to me brings great peace of mind. Is tranquil and the diversity of marine life as well as land animal diversity	The restoration of the sea otter would greatly increase the beauty of my community and the whole PNW. Would love to see the restoration of the kelp forests, to bring back the normality of the ecosystem. Would like humanity to be better educated on the importance of the sea otter.
Coos Bay area	I enjoy the natural features of the area and wish for the region to benefit from an existing healthy population of sea otters.	Presence of sea otters would help support tourism as well as support (enhance) a healthy ecosystem that helps the resource industry (fishing, etc.). I am aware that the presence of sea otters may improve certain populations of ocean based resources, crabbing, etc. (I am at a loss for better words!)
Charleston	Natural beauty; recreation; mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife.	Improve it!
Whiskey Run [Beach]	Natural beauty; shorebirds-harlequin ducks and oyster catcher; mussel harvest; intertidal observation.	by increasing predation on sea urchins, improve health of intertidal ecosystem
Bandon, Oregon	We live here and we enjoy all the natural beauty, we do small raft boating, hiking, beach combing, crabbing, fishing, etc. I teach [...] at our [...] school.	Restoration of the otter will improve kelp beds and heal our rocky shore line. I also believe that would benefit abalone populations and other species that need kelp to thrive.
General area of shore Acres State Park; Coos County	Natural beauty~diversity of wildlife in ocean; seabirds	Restore healthy ecosystems and help recover beneficial fisheries, shellfish; kelp forests are important to health of ecosystem
Port Orford (and whole West Coast)	Native northern California and now several decade Port Orford dweller. Have loved the Pacific Ocean since my earliest memories. Spent many childhood hours/days near Monterey with my mom. Otter is favorite of all animals. (Leatherback turtle second).	Restore kelp forests off Port Orford and other places reintroduced. Benefit fisher folk and tourism- draw the "right" kind who cherish nature and life. Bring harmony back to the near-shore ocean environment. They are so beautiful!

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Cape Blanco; Sebastian Crook Point; The Coos Estuary	Important wild seascape rich rocky shoreline; kelp; public land undeveloped; viewscape; important coastal features driving coastal ocean circulation.	Keystone spp. Role in structuring rocky shore and sandy shore shallow water habitats in the estuary. I am aware that otters may remove small predatory inverts that prey on grazers that clean eelgrass blades. Otters can contribute to eelgrass health!
Bandon Beaches	[Tourism]	People come here for tourism. The town would benefit from the tourism. Having a release event for the sea otters (I think) would increase public's willingness to support.
Shore Acres; Cape Arago; South Jetty Beach; Bullard's Beach	Recreation; rejuvenation; wildlife support and viewing wildlife	Sea otters would enrich those connections and benefits. Reintroduction would be a valuable ecological benefit to habitats of our area!
South Jetty Beach; Bullard's Beach	Contact with ocean, wildlife, native plants, finding peace, Bullard's was my Coast Watch mile until I could no longer physically walk it.	Restoration of a more natural ocean and shoreline habitats.
Cape Arago	So many activities! Fishing, hiking, surfing	Huge benefits to ecosystem and tourism/viewing. Concerns for crab/oysters in the broader area.
South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve	To preserve the natural beauty - aesthetics, heritage, and inspiration.	If we can teach them to eat the invasive green crabs: win win. But overpopulation will be negative to shellfish and salmon.
Lighthouse-> Whiskey Run Creek; Cape Blanco -> Blacklock Point; Port Orford -> Humbug Mountain	Natural beauty, wild coast, fishing, crabbing, balance of nature.	Restore kelp beds.
North Bend; Coos Bay	Beauty and mental relaxation, No particular point selected/hoping that optimization will be part of the study.	I hope there will be a time when I can walk along the shore- or pier- or any point and have a chance to see otters in a healthy kelp forest.
Coos Bay Coastline/SSNEARR	Supports wildlife.	With adequate controls in place regarding their population growth, they will reduce urchin decimation of our kelp beds.
around Shore Acres; Cape Arago	Beautiful place to be outside and enjoy recreational activities. I like to hike and go diving and around this area of the coast is beautiful.	I see it as a positive and will be greatly beneficial in seeing biodiversity within the area. Personally, I would enjoy just being in the environment and observing sea life. I would also feel like this place would have more protections in place in a changing climate.
Simpson Reef; Lighthouse Reef	Beautiful rock structure, wave action, seals, sea lions	Help to return our kelp forests, another fun creature to the see on the water

Table 6 Mapping comments received from Port Orford, OR on June 23, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Pacific Ocean off West Coast (especially Port Orford)	Natural beauty; this town's primary livelihood, kelp barrens now, carbon sequestration, my home for last 30 years, have loved the ocean (and otters) my entire life of 70 years and love living here.	All beneficial in my view- enhance fishing, tourism, erosion control, climate, marine environment and habitats, tribal heritage, beauty of otters themselves, continue Port Orford's habit of preservation and restoration, atone for nearly extinct, southern otters. Realize there will be a negative impact on urchin and crab fisheries, but believe benefits outweigh the negatives.
Southern Oregon Coast	All of the above - Natural beauty; recreation; mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife; subsistence; livelihood	Would help restore the balance of nature!
Arizona Beach	Wildlife viewing; intrinsic; habitat	Unknown
Humbug Mountain	Best myrtle wood groves!	Probably not at all. But I love otters as much as my myrtle trees.
Coos Bay State Parks	As a student at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, I spent a lot of time learning about and exploring the state parks in the area. It provided lots of educational opportunities as well as nice views, excitement, and enjoyment.	I hope the reintroduction of sea otters might strengthen the biodiversity and ecosystems of the area, ideally in conjunction with the return of kelp forests making them more resilient to climate change.
Drake's Point	Natural beauty; recreation; mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife; subsistence; shellfishing; Semi-intact kelp forest threatened by purple urchins; very diverse habitat	Could protect kelp beds- many of the urchins have potential for otter food but not all.
Cape Sebastian; Hunter's Island	Research site- our group is looking at effects of coastal river otters on nesting populations of Leach's storm petrels. Also personally meaningful as a potential site to explore interaction of terrestrial and marine wildlife.	Positively! It would make the coastal system more complex and diverse-making it more interesting site to study and a more beautiful/exciting place to spend time.
Port Orford	Ecological/ economic benefit for the community; especially with the fishing/ diving industry	Reduce harvest for divers
Major seabird colonies in Southern Oregon	Important colonies for global seabird populations, supporting biodiversity, natural beauty, oceanic health.	Hopeful about how otter reintroduction might positively impact the health of the waters around these colonies. A little concerned about increased disturbance/human presence from increased management and potentially otter-driven
Rough Reef; Port Orford Reef; Depoe Bay	urchin diving	Competing for the same food source
Rough Reef; Port Orford Reef; Blanco Reef	Only viable harvestable urchins in Oregon last 4 years in reference to Rouge Reef, Orford Reef, and Blanco Reefs	Dead industry; damage to already strained bivalve populations, damage to possible sea star recovery after wasting disease
Rough Reef; Orford Reef	Livelihood-urchin harvest; (note; only Rogue Reef [...] supplies marketable sea urchins. Orford Reef urchins are not of marketable [...] due to kelp loss.	Sea otters would consume a large amount of healthy sea urchins (they do <u>not</u> consume starved urchins from urchin barrens) which would remove this resource, resulting in the loss of livelihood for urchin divers.
Port Orford/Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve	One of the most beautiful places along the Oregon coast. I love recreating here- hiking, scuba, kayaking	Benefit ecotourism! Also benefit the health of the kelp forest ecosystem. Would be a very positive move
Cape Blanco; Orford Reef; Redfish Rocks	Vital commercial fishing and recreational resources for small fishing communities in Port Orford. Traditional lands and water of Indigenous communities, that have stewarded these resources for 1000s of years. Natural beauty and recreation too!	Potential negatives; 1) Tribes not included in management of otters, 2) loss of income and resources for commercial fishing (crabs, urchin, etc.) due to otters diet/ food source. Positives: potential for a healthier/more balanced marine habitat in the long-term. If the tribes are included in management, restoration of culture, sovereignty, and access to natural resource they don't have currently.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Nellie's Cove	Recovery and restoration: Nellie's was once a beautiful, thriving kelp forest but has turned into urchin barren following the perfect storm. Restoration is in the works to restore ecological function and natural beauty.	I don't see sea otters in the picture (at least in the upcoming decades) for this restoration effort. The barren urchins will not be a prey choice for otters and the ecosystem is going to need years to restore sunflower sea star populations and kelp plus decades to restore natural ecosystem function and diversity. Further introduction of otters in this process will not advance this process, only introduce a complex factor of a selective predation.
San Francisco	Recreation, costal beautification, kelp forest restoration for diving and dive tourism.	Kelp forest restoration, reduction of urchin barrens, great increase in habitat for fish and marine life, increase dive tourism and general tourism for sea otters and kelp forests.
Nellie's Cove	Recreation, snorkeling, diving. Protected from consistent north summer winds.	Sea otters could eat all the abalone.
Port Orford	ecological beauty	?
South Oregon Coast [Redfish Rocks]; South Oregon Coast [South]	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife	Increase biodiversity and the importance of understanding the interconnectedness of all life. Losing the otters was/is/will be a slide downward.
Sunset Bay	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife	Bring increased tourism/disruption
Port Orford, Nellie's Cove	Natural beauty, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife	Add diversity to local environment.

Table 7 Mapping comments received from Gold Beach, OR on June 23, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Bailey Beach	It is important to us for natural beauty, recreation, and mental rejuvenation. We go there to spend time with family in nature.	Just walking on the beach and knowing that otters are out there again like they once were is really cool.
Coast at Gold Beach	We live in Gold Beach and are often on the beaches. We are very attuned with nature and the effects that are created when the ecosystem becomes unbalanced.	Sea otters need to be reintroduced to balance the ecosystem that once existed on the coast. I remember diving in kelp forest with few urchins. That almost doesn't exist anymore.
[Redfish Rocks]; [Pacific Ocean]; [Ocean NW of Gold Beach]	Lots of urchin diving around PO (Port Orford); kelp densities maintained by urchin fishermen so Key to economy <u>and</u> fishing families (best kelp densities on OR coast); concerns re. effects of ocean wind energy siting in this area	NA
North of Gold Beach	The river, the ocean, the trees/ferns/natives	By keeping the kelp forest I grew up with healthy! That in turn would help with over/under population of other species.
Cape Arago, OR	One of the best places to reintroduce sea otters- there still are some stands of kelp! Plus it's a beautiful place. Also, not too much commercial crabbing.	A fine possible reintroduction site!
Harbor Sea Cove (near Hubbard Mound)	Natural beauty, rejuvenation, supports wildlife; Human overpopulation is destroying the natural world. We have a moral obligation to reverse this trend.	They are a keystone species- the natural balance is dependent on them.
Pistol River Beach	Mental rejuvenation; supports wildlife. Low tides reveal starfish, anemones, haystacks, island off main beach-shallow.	Control of nature that gets out of balance.
Coos Bay/South Slough; Rogue Reef; Redfish Rocks; OR Coast National Wildlife Refuge complex rocks and islands	Ecosystem services, recreation/rejuvenation, wildlife.	Improvement of nearshore ecosystem will benefit all.
Agate Beach/Tseriadun State Park; Port Orford	I remember going to Agate Beach in 1976 and sometimes otters would seem to follow along as I walked down the beach. It felt like they were engaging with me. It was a delight.	Having otters at our beaches to enjoy and feel connected to nature.
Otter Point State Park, Beach OR	Natural beauty; recreation; healing environment; supports diversity of wildlife; tide pools, rocky coast; sea bird rookeries.	I think they would enhance the area, attract tourists, increase diversity as a keystone species make the coast more interesting and [...]
Frankport	Saw three sea otters here in 1992!	Help control urchins
Gold Beach	Nature, less people, wildlife	I would love to see them come back and they would help ocean biodiversity
Rogue Reef Village Islands	Rogue Reef is best remaining kelp and may be a safe place for otters to be introduced. Protective habitat. Supports bottom fish, crabs, juvenile fish protective habitat.	Sea otters would enhance fisheries in the long term and help restore kelp forest for all species- with the exception of urchins which have devastated our kelp forests.

Table 8 Mapping comments received from Brookings, OR on June 24, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Brookings; Gold Beach	Natural beauty, recreation, subsistence	Natural order (balance) i.e. kelp forests and fish breeding.
Brookings, North Cali	Commercial Dungeness crabber, relocated from SE AK commercial Dungeness crabbed up there.	NA
Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge; Crescent City, CA; Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park	NA	NA
Clam beds near Crescent City and N. OR	Culture of hunting, gathering, nature	It will alter the balance of the ecosystem
[Ocean West of Gold Beach]; [Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge]; [Ocean West of Brookings]; [Pyramid Point]; [Ocean West of Crescent City]; [Ocean West of Del Norte]	Fishing both commercial and recreational fisheries	Impacts to fisheries and fishing regulations.

Table 9 Mapping comments received from Crescent City, CA on June 24, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation reservation and other tribal lands	This is the heart of Taa-laa-waa-dun, the ancestral home of the Tolowa Dee-ni'.	Provide support thru ecosystem benefits to bull kelp restoration, which will have cascading benefits to others subsistence and traditional food sources for TDN citizens.
Trinidad Area/ Palmer's Point	Recreation, tide pooling, wildlife viewing	Recruit diversity of marine inverts
Castle Rock, Crescent City, CA	Supports wildlife (pinnipeds, sea birds), natural beauty	Enhanced biodiversity, increase in tourism, ecosystem health
Enderts Beach	It is special to me because I see living things in the ocean	It can be effected because these is a lot of little creatures.
Crescent City, CA	Natural beauty, recreation	Reconnect with past- bring back native animals
Smith RMO; Tolowa Lagoon; Castle Rock	Natural beauty, wildlife, space and wilderness	It would be awesome to add sea otters to the mix at these places!
Crescent City/ Battery point lighthouse area	Natural beauty, my volunteer work at the [...], access to the ocean, wildlife support, mental rejuvenation, absence of large urban areas.	The coastal systems that have disappeared by the absence of sea otters would be restored, enhancing and yet changing marine life in many ways. Wildlife rehabilitation is important to me.
North California Coast	Still relatively wild and pristine. Undeveloped thanks to Redwood National and State Parks, Lake Earl Wildlife Area, Tolowa Dunes.	Sea otters would represent a lifeform that humans can restore. "Put something back" for a change rather than take take taken.
Crescent City Jetty, Battery Pt. Lighthouse; Mouth of the Smith River	Birdwatching; whale watching; marine life watching	Enhance enjoyment of wildlife watching; knowledge, education enhancement for citizen scientists
Crescent City Harbor	The harbor is historic, beautiful, and tourists and fishermen use it and love it.	The kelp population has already increased in the area around the lighthouse. It seems like the perfect protected area for sea otters. And tourists can see them from the lighthouse, the beach, and the jetty. :)
Enderts Beach, Crescent City, CA	And flowers. People from all over world come. It [this beach] has lots of tide pools to see. Very pretty.	Sea otters would promote biodiversity in the tide pools. Give people the opportunity to see a new form of wildlife and see the kelp forest that deserve to be here.
[Crescent City]; [Battery Point Lighthouse]; [Enderts Beach]	NA	NA
Chrissy Field State Park	Natural beauty and conservation, Winchuck River outlet	I'm hoping with reintroduction that the effects can teach the crabbing and clamming industries about the short and long term benefits of sea otters. They can only make our coastline more

Table 10 Mapping comments received from Arcata, CA on June 25, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
NA	NA	NA
North Jetty, Sue-meg, Trinidad Head, Cape Mendocino	North Jetty is one of the most important fisheries for shore based anglers in the 50 mile radius. Sue-meg is one of the most important spiritual areas for Yurok tribe. Trinidad Head is a major fishery. The Cape of Mendocino has some of the most interesting ecological phenomenas in California.	Yurok tribe needs sea otters returned. I only see benefits.
Humboldt Coast	I recreate along the entire Humboldt coast regularly, to enjoy natural beauty, clear my head, and enjoy the natural world.	It's a thrill to see wildlife and even signs of wildlife- deer and elk antler rubbing, river otter tracks on the beach, bear sign, etc. Also sea otters eating sea urchins would provide a huge benefit to kelp forest and a healthy biosystem on the North Coast.
McKinleyville	Lack of corporate stores, industrial, or commUNITY focus, open spaces, ocean, and beaches.	Part of the ecosystem. Some concern about their intake of salmonoids which are nearly extinct.
Trinidad State Beach and Harbor	This place is absolutely beautiful. So many wild animals and ocean dwelling animals live and play there. It's a place to relax and enjoy nature.	Sea otters would be an amazing addition to Trinidad! They will be able to live peaceful lives and help balance the ecosystem in our ocean. Do they eat the invasive purple urchins? I hope so! So many humans will get to see wild sea otters again in the wild. :)
Trinidad, CA	This is a commercial crab fishing port. There was 1.3 million pounds of Dungeness crab landed there in 2023 (maybe more in Dec of 2023).	If sea otters eat as many crabs as scientists are saying, there may be a very severe economic impact to the community.
Sue-meg State Park	Ocean views, plant and forest niches, solitude	Add a keystone wildlife resident
Trinidad	Beauty-ieee	Eco-balance-tourism
Gold Bluffs Beach, Prairie Creek State Park	Beautiful beach, good beach combing, wildlife (seals, elk)	It would be wonderful to see wild sea otters at Prairie Creek as another indicator of a whole and healthy natural environment.
Arcata Marsh	Diversity of wildlife!! But also for walking quietly in nature and connecting to the history of the place. Native American cultural preservation then lumbering.	Hard to tell, really. Would think more nature lover would come to visit, bringing more awareness to the need to preserve and protect (like drive slowly to protect the river otters!) But too much new human presence also has it
Trinidad Headland, Humboldt Bay, Eel River Estuary	Each of these places support so much wildlife, diversity, and opportunity for recreation, traditional indigenous harvest, as well as subsistence and commercial harvest	There will be a large effect on the shellfish industry. It will make things more costly and potentially inhibit [...] expansion of shellfish or algal aquaculture, which have been shown to provide substantial ecological benefits to niches and diversity, while being able to create a renewable protein source.
Entire NW coast is important	Recreation and quality of life; spending time along the ocean is healing for me, both physically and mentally	If they eat sea urchins and increase kelp, great for diversity. If they impact our crab and oyster populations that would be detrimental. Aesthetically sea otters would be an attraction to tourists
Trinidad Head	Natural beauty, recreation, supports wildlife	Increases beauty, recreation and wildlife. All for the re-introduction!
Trinidad Head	NA	NA

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Sue-meg, Scotty Pt., Tsurai	Yurok ancestral territory. An ecosystem that sustains, inspires, and provides numerous ecological services to all organisms	As keystone species of this ecosystem, sea otters are critical to the proper functioning of the entire system. It would be extraordinarily beneficial to restore their presence to the
Trinidad Harbor	Since 1977 I've fished commercially out of Trinidad. As opportunities to harvest seafood have presented themselves I've made traveled considerably. Trinidad fisherman rely on crab.	Potentially eating 10 crab per day. Otter will have a serious economic impact on commercial crabbers of future generations. I've seen so many changes in the last 50 years that I'm resorting to the fact that the only constant is change. Fisherman are very adaptable.
False Cape to Pt St. George/Oregon Border	A place to bring thousands of pounds of seafood ashore for people to eat.	1 sea otter will eat 50 to 500 lbs. of crab/day multiply times number of days + number of sea otters. Subtract that number from the annual port deliveries=loss to community.
North of SF bay Sonoma - Humboldt counties	Livelihood in Fort Bragg- supports wildlife-recreation	Helping to regulate urchin populations-take the role of apex predators in the northern coast
Trinidad, north and south of rocky habitat	Subsistence, spirituality, being one with the water is my happy place!, recreation, primary	Lack of access concerns, perceived that we would have to stay away from otter population
NA Great Hall Cal Poly Humboldt; the coast	Lived, loved, children, business, [...] employee 34 yrs., Grad [...] still volunteering and [...]. Bay, mountains, oceans, beaches, wildlife!, my soul	Sea otters clean the water, eat urchins, restore sea grass, etc. Important to protect and cherish, nourish, promote, especially for children! Thank you for being! [...]
Humboldt Bay Wildlife Area, Mad River Slough, Arcata Marsh, Hookton Slough, King Salmon/Fields Landing	Recreation including paddling, hiking, dog walking, birdwatching, enjoying and studying nature and wildlife	I'm excited to see them and excited about their potential for restoring kelp forests, plus all the other ways they benefit the ecosystem. I'm interested to hear how they might affect the commercial oyster, crab, other fisheries, tribal clam harvesting, and other people.

Table 11 Mapping comments received from Fort Bragg, CA on June 26, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Elk-Big River Estuary and north	I've lived in this area since 1973 and watched it change. It is life and ever so important.	I guess I don't know yet
Northern California Coast	All of the above - Natural beauty, recreation, livelihood, subsistence, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife.	Sea otters consume shellfish, crab, abalone, crustacean, slow moving fish. My family has been commercial fishing for 3 generations. Crab is very important for survival.
Noyo Harbor and whole Mendocino coastline	Our livelihood, we fish crab and shrimp.	They would devour the crab. They eat anywhere from a quarter to a third of their weight each day to survive.
Mendocino Coast	Resident	Reestablish kelp forest! Resultant ecosystem
North of [Double Cone Rock]; [Cahto]; [Caspar]; [Big River]; [Albion River]	Deep relationship over time	Invigorate thriving coastal wild place; provide relationship with historic resident; restore natural community; provide salmon young refugia at coast through kelp forest rehabilitation.
The entire Mendocino Coast	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife; whale migration, birds, beauty, recreation	It would be wonderful to see otters where there used to be otters. A recovery effort would be great- but I'm concerned about the existing abalone populations.
Mendocino Coast	A lot of people around here support their families by the ocean	It would not be good
Mendocino Coast	My life is changing, being a commercial sea urchin diver, boat owner, fisherman due to no kelp. Re-intro of sea otters is a bad idea not good here.	Leave them where they are, please. Our coastline has no kelp. The abalone have died and ones left will be eaten first by the otters. Also being a com. sea urchin diver 44 years my livelihood and fishery will be gone. Things in ocean are bad, don't make things worse.
Pacific Ocean	Healthy air, beauty, peaceful	They are part of an important part of the chain of life. They deserve to thrive in their environment.
Hare Creek Beach; DeHaven Beach	Hare Creek- recreation (surfing), and fishing/crabbing at DeHaven Beach.	Improve kelp forests and help restore ecosystem (i.e. crab population).
Mendocino Coast	Natural beauty, recreation, livelihood, subsistence, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife; beyond sustaining my livelihood the coast represents coexistence of a healthy ecosystem since otters have been gone.	Sea otters will wreck havoc on our shellfish population. They won't eat empty urchin and will wipeout the abalone.
Mendocino Management Area; [...] Charters	3rd generation fisherman (salmon, crab, rockfish, tuna)	Population of invertebrates drastically decline after the introduction of sea otters in an environment
Spring Ranch; Navarro Beach	Recreation- we love to kayak in Navarro River; we love to walk the Navarro beach always finding/seeing birds, marine mammals. Spring Ranch is a part of Van Damme SP and walking there is one of the most beautiful places in this area- also many and varied birds there.	We often sit for hours watching whales, seals, dolphins go by. Only a little way off the land is another world of animals that we can only imagine- almost like another world. We haven't any idea just how important that "another world" is to our own.
The Mendocino coastline from Westport to Point Arena	We visit the coast [...] someplace here 2 or 3 times each week. We feel and see the absence of sea otters with the lack of kelp and sea grass, the urchin barrens and less fish close to shore then years ago.	Sea otters would fill their role as a keystone species, eating sea urchins. The kelp forest would be restored followed by more fish. A much more healthy ecosystem, visitors to our, community would see otters and understand their role in the ecosystem! Bring sea otters back to the Mendocino Coast!
Mendocino Coast	All of the above	Loss of more shellfish
Mendocino Coast	I grew up here (Fort Bragg), special for all the examples listed above.	I'm pro-animal. Reintroduce otters. They were here before, tired of there always being a reason why it's a bad time to bring them back. Will it be expensive? Yes. Will it work? Maybe. All that said, sea otters rely on kelp beds for shelter. Few kelp beds around these days.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Mendocino Coast	This is my home and the Red Abalone very important to me and this community.	Currently along the Humboldt, Mendocino, and Sonoma county coast the red abalone population is in a serious decline. The reintroduction of sea otters under these conditions would guarantee that these coastal areas would never again have a healthy red abalone population.
Mendocino Coast especially intertidal kelp forests [North]; Mendocino Coast especially intertidal kelp forests [Mid]; Mendocino Coast especially intertidal kelp forests [South]	The ecological richness of this habitat especially the kelp forest areas. I think the health of the ocean ecosystems is critical to the planet's well being. Also the beauty, the birdwatching, the peace I feel when tide pooling or birdwatching or walking along the coast.	I really hope that sea otters could help restore the kelp forest and keep urchins from destroying them. The otter is a key player in ecosystem balance. I'm also mindful of the needs of fisherman, both subsistence and commercial, urchin divers.
Northern CA/ Mendocino/ Ft. Bragg	Our community has a long history of a connection with the coast for commercial (urchin-crab-salmon) as well as sport- which bring in tourists-industry \$. But nature is also a core reason this place is important to me.	Our ecosystem is hammered as is with the loss of sea stars and subsequent ecological crash. My concern is brining in sea otters might do more harm than good to the situation as there isn't enough urchins (besides the zombie urchins) to feed them and they will eat what ever they can-wiping out the other shellfish and rock fish.
Mendocino Coast, Nor Cal Coast	Natural beauty, recreation, resource availability, economic value fisheries, recreational fisheries	The cost that is spent on sea otter reintroduction will be better used in direct kelp reforestation and protection. We have over 200 miles of urchin barren, otters will not survive. Fund other more efficient ways to help the ecosystem.
Coastal nearshore in general	Socioeconomic reasons, recreation, food	Sea otters will eat abalone, crab, red urchin, most of which are not doing well before they eat any purple urchin in barren. Potentially making things worse. I don't see any benefits of reintroduction at this point in time.
CA (northern) coast, live near shore	Dive tour operation, commercial diver, fishing, health	I do not want otters. The ocean is changing so much and I don't think otters will help, especially abalone fishery. Money would be better used in many other ways.
Point Arena + 15 miles of coast	Live there, monitor seabirds on colonies and beaches.	Do not know, but if habitat is OK I would be in favor of introduction.
All of it, but definitely the coast	Livelihood-shellfishing; mental rejuvenation	They would eat and destroy all abalone, healthy urchin (red and purple). Not the time for them to come back.
Mendocino Coast- Ft Bragg to Navarro River [North]; Mendocino Coast- Ft Bragg to Navarro River [Mid]; Mendocino Coast especially intertidal kelp forests [South]	All of the above. I fished for salmon in the 80's dove for abalone and urchins. I used to go out in my kayak and dive between Albion and Salmon Creek. It was paradise.	Since abalone harvesting is no longer permitted, and abalone grow very slowly, my concern is that otters will eat the small abalones. I've seen that where divers have cleaned areas of purple urchins, kelp has started coming back. I'm concerned about the impact on the crab industry since that's already impacted due to closures during whale migration.
West Port Landing Howard Creek	It is a place I have visited with my late Pomo husband- where he would go as a child with his grandfather to surf fish and collect seaweed. Now it is a free campground for Pomo Natives and a place of ceremony for Canto Tribe and other tribes in this area.	Restoring the natural ecocycle of all animals native to their area will help restore all People's connection physically and spiritually to the earth, the ocean, and the atmosphere.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Blues Beach; MacKerricher State Park; Ten Mile	These places are important because the diversity. MacKerricher with its large intertidal biodiversity allow awesome tide pooling. Ten miles long sandy beach for walking. And Blues Beach for recreation/gathering.	I don't really think it would other than causing more restrictions in certain areas. It would be nice to see them, but I think it could be hard to get a population to stick.
Elk, CA	I am old enough to remember sea otter in Elk and I think this is the single most exciting news since bringing back Pelicans from DDT.	In every way conceivable- for the better
MacKerricher State Park	Big park! Opportunity to educate public- also a place for wildlife.	The ocean is out of balance, sea otters were here long ago and did not destroy they prey to threatened existence. We should try to expand their territory, they will help the kelp.
Fort Bragg	All of it	The appalling question: sliced up animals and birds from the wind machine proposed
MacKerricher State Park; 10 mile	This is a beautiful section of the coast, with protections in place for other marine and bird species. We need to restore the kelp forest there and elsewhere and this location would be an excellent place to start... assuming they would thrive there.	Sea otters would help restore the kelp forest by creating more balance to the intertidal/subtidal ecosystem.
Whole Mendocino Coast- Ft Bragg	Livelihood -shellfishing; supports wildlife; amazing and originally diverse ecosystem.	Apex predator without support of kelp <u>and</u> sunflower sea stars leads to fisheries being harmed. Sea otters are cute <u>and</u> important but cannot be reintroduced without producers (kelp) in the ecosystem. <u>Would</u> support if this issue is handled.
Pacific Coast	This unique ecosystem should be restored as much as humanly possible for us and forever. If we build it they will come.....	Ecosystem collapse is absolutely terrifying- keystone species need to be allowed to come back and do their work to heal our oceans.
Albion-Mendocino County	Ecosystem health is important to me- from the forests along the Albion to the Albion estuary and its eelgrass beds to the ocean that has supported (in the past) a vibrant fishing community, abalone diving, urchin fishing	All is connected. All parts of the system are important and top predators are a necessary component. We are part of a community, dependent on other parts- all other parts, like sea otters.
Gualala CA	Personally- natural beauty, mental rejuvenation, hiking, access to terrestrial and marine flora and fauna	The Gualala community depends somewhat on tourism including abalone gathering, so there's been decline in economic benefits for local stores, campgrounds, restaurants, with indefinite closing of abalone hunting.
Russian Gulch	It is where I completed my reef check cert. I saw a skate larger and longer than me, out stretched, lets say 5' wide by 6' long. I hung out with them for a while. They were beautiful in every possible way.	I worry for the otters. The habitat here is degraded. I do not think it makes sense to reintroduce them into a habitat that isn't healthy, doesn't have kelp, where the urchins are empty, and where the pinto abalone are rare, the flat are rarer still, others are totally gone. Put resources into restoring the kelp forest. Then bring back the otter.
Navarro headland and beach	Mental rejuvenation; supports wildlife.	I might get to see one!
NA	Resident for 38 years, wife of fisherman (commercial).	Destroy fishing industry-eat all that is meant to be caught for livelihood. They are not here now so leave them out.
Fort Bragg	I live on my sailboat on Noyo River. I sport fish, crab, rock fish, salmon, flat fish, and mussels, and red urchin.	It would put pressure on crab, abalone, urchin, and mussel. I have friends in Craig, AK that have seen complete decimation of dungeness crab fishery due to introduction of sea otter.
Point Cabrillo Lightkeepers Association	Point Cabrillo is a free state park where people can enjoy all manners of wildlife and marine mammal sightings, that gets over a thousand visitors every week during the summers.	From a tourism point of view, the opportunity for otter-specific tourism could be incredible. Offshore of Point Cabrillo is a marine protected area (and has been for decades) and the ability to see otters there would likely be a big draw for tourists. I'm so interested to consider the possibilities!!

Table 12 Mapping comments received from Bodega Bay, CA on June 27, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
[Bodega Head,]	The ocean is spiritual, family, fishing, and diving	Do not allow expansion of otters to strip mine our coastline. Rehabilitate their zone. Remove purple urchin barrens.
[.....]	Removing sea urchin is Priority #1	Have universities and SBIR to begin R&D on drones and robots to smash, perforate vacuum or otherwise mitigate sea urchins. Post a prize \$25 M. Gov must ask, we cannot.
Bodega Bay	Supports wildlife; natural beauty; home	Sea otters would help adjust the balance in the ocean environment-consumption of urchin to allow for growth of kelp which is a food source for abalone and shelter for many of our young fish in this area.
Bodega area, CA	Recreation, fishing	Might help restore kelp and healthy ecosystem. However, might also negatively impact local fisherman and crab fisheries. It would help if this project could explain to local fisherman how this effort will NOT lead to a bad outcome for them.
Sonoma Coast	NA	Don't want otters here because the ocean is already in trouble enough why add another predator to the abalones and other sea life.
Northern CA, really all of CA coast; All of it :)	Natural beauty, mental health, scuba and freediving for recreation, scuba instructor	It would improve the experience for myself, friends, and students by seeing them. Hopefully long term it would help bring back a healthy, vibrant kelp forest.
Drakes Estero	Natural beauty, determination of federal agency-NPS-to protect wilderness in face of opposition.	Enhance
Bodega Bay-Estero Americano, Bodega Bay-Estero de San Antonio	Livelihood-personal property rights-restoring sea otters in a fair and balanced way.	Fishing community needs compensation for financial loss; ag community needs property protected from tourism and unfair taking. I support sea otters on the coast but with BALANCE (from above- restoring sea otters in a fair and balanced way).
Bodega Head and Sonoma Coast in general	Natural beauty, natural history- also support of marine science and research to help inform marine conservation	Interesting idea to try to restore them here- I guess I'm concerned with the chance of success - certainly wouldn't want to introduce them to an environment that isn't conducive to their
Bodega Bay, CA; Bodega Bay, CA- [Salt Point State Park]	Unique combination of marine, sea bird nesting, scenery, and accessibility to all of it by visitors. A healthy ecosystem further benefits for the environment and humanity	As a keystone species its reintroduction is necessary to a complete sea environment. Things are out of whack and it needs correction.
Fort Bragg	Socioeconomic benefits to the community of fisher people.	Waiting to see. Hopefully it will be a positive impact once all the studies are done and public input is completed.
Northern California Coast- The whole thing	Anywhere shellfish grow	They eat all shellfish and thereby destroy the shellfish beds
Bodega Bay	Natural beauty, wildlife, birds, flowers, ocean	I do not know, I have not educated myself at this time but I do want to learn more about it.
Fort Bragg	My [...]	Sea otters attract tourists.
Pt Reyes Long Beach Lighthouse; Drakes Beach	Unique, biodiverse region, kick the cows out.	Large enhancement, unfortunately not in my lifetime sadly (I'm 66).
All of the North Coast	All of the suitable areas for sea otter recovery I support. Rejuvenation, natural beauty, recreation, supports wildlife; and climate resiliency; support for Tribal TEK and access, rewilding keystone species for ecosystem	Sea otters provide critical ecological services to enhance structure, function, and composition of our coastal ecosystems in need of help to recover from our kelp barrens, abalone declines, sea star wasting and purple urchin imbalances.
California Coast	Time along the ocean is healing time. Sea otters would make ocean time far more of an adventure	Sea otters would make ocean visits far more interesting. They would help bring needed balance to the ocean ecosystem. Sea otters would improve the quality of family visits to ocean. Bring back the sea otters!

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Bodega Bay	Support coastal rejuvenation	Help with restoration of coast
The Sea Ranch	Natural beauty, supports wildlife, ecosystem	Functioning more complete ecosystem especially kelp forest.
Sonoma Coast State Beach areas	Natural beauty, recreation, diverse habitat, open space, solitude, spiritual	Add to beauty, diversity of area. Restore historic population. Balance nature.
North Coast	Beauty, fishing, diving, kayaking	Sea otters would eliminate abalone of a viable size to take for a <u>very</u> long time. The ocean life was extremely viable without otters, don't believe they would bring it back, very

Table 13 Mapping comments received from Point Reyes, CA on June 27, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Mt Tam to Stinson Beach	Beautiful scenery where I hike with family and friends I love the plants, wildlife, peacefulness of the location	They would make it even better
Point Reyes	All of the above + coastal foraging kelp [...]	I can only see huge benefits-other than attracting sharks and killing off otters. If they can help restore kelp forests and eat urchins what's not to like?! Bring in 100s of them!
Rodeo Beach/Fort Cronkhite	Surfing, hiking, natural beauty, mental health	I'd love to be out in the water with them. I've had the experience in Santa Cruz and loved it
Dillon Beach	We live there. I grew up there. My dad and I used to go fishing, clamming, crabbing, and abaloneing. We ate what we caught, followed the laws on what, how much, and when to take the different species. It is sad to see the demise of so many.	I would like to see them back in their natural range and doing their part to rebalance the ecosystem. But I do understand the concern for the oyster and crab competition issues. I would hope that we can once again attain a successful balance for humans and the sea otters.
Tomales Bay	30 year resident and environmental advocate	Concern is economy impacts-need to be mitigated in order to promote public acceptance of introduction
Monterey/Moro/Elkhorn Moss	[...]-all of above	We are very fortunate to have sea otters-river otters and lake otters
Dillon Beach	I used to come up here with my family on vacation and am now currently living here. It is a very nice place and I like the small close knit community and the beautiful environment.	If they are introduced I would be glad for the positive environmental impacts they would bring. On the other hand the brief vacation renters are normally an annoyance to permanent residents and having more to view the otters would only worsen the issue.
Tomales Bay; Bolinas Lagoon	I love both of these places for the opportunities they provide for me to recreate (paddle + surf), fish, swim, naturalize, and bird watch!	I think they would add a new dynamism to the area, assisting in restoration of kelp and eel grass communities and build resilience into the marine communities. I hope that more otters will mean more kelp, more carbon sequestration, and more reasons to be out in the bays
Drakes Estero Bay	Wilderness-federal park, restore estuary systems	Biodiversity and ocean protection. USFWS and CFW need to get going
Drakes and Limantour Estero	I have a kayak and small sailboat that I use at every opportunity on the esteros. I think it would be an excellent initial site for reintroduction	It would enrich one the most biodiverse bays in the Bay Area. I have lived in west Marin for 39 years native of Marin and think this Tomales Bay and SF bay are all excellent venues for returning this species to their historic range. Thanks for you work on this! I hope to see them returning in my lifetime.
Tomales Bay	I live near and swim in Tomales Bay year round. I love sea otters but I also love and value the economic contributions this industry gives to small rural community.	My concerns above speak to this question. IF the otter do not impact the oyster industry, I would be in full support. WE have an unfortunate example of elk being introduced there with very negative impact- no natural predators! Find out
Drakes Estero	This area is a former oyster farm, closed in 2012. Point Reyes ns is studying the genetic diversity of eel grass in relation to the areas recovery	Sea otters predated organisms that harm the grass/those that eat organism that have a symbiotic relationship w/grass would be great. Plus park visitors would love to see otters.
Pescadero CA	Natural Beauty! One of my favorite places to hike/bike go to the beach and they have amazing artichoke bread.	Otters will help boost the seagrass population protecting this coastal area from erosion and climate risk.
Drakes Estero	Restored estuary in National Park, grew up in area, wilderness	Sea otters part of ecosystem missing from restored estuary
Tomales Bay	Gorgeous place for recreation, salmon habitat, all kinds of plants and animals. So special	Another emotional connection for local community and return to natural processes.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Lagunitas Watershed	20+ year recovery effort for the endangered coho salmon	Not sure
Tomales Bay	Tomales bay is beautiful and spiritual. I am an oyster farmer and [...] concern would be otters getting into our bays. Otherwise I'm worried for the clamming	Community. Over fishing from tourist and others. More traffic on this quiet bay but otherwise I think it would be beneficial to the ecosystem.
Bolinas Lagoon; Duxbury Reef; Point Reyes; Stinson; Tomales Bay	Supports abundant wildlife, improvement for restoring human health through beauty and recreational opportunities	I would LOVE to see sea otters return to their natural habitat. Humans co-existed with sea otters of millennia prior to colonization. Humans killed them and we need to bring them back in order to restore balance to these ecosystems.
Tomales Bay	Recreation, fishing, camping	I am concerned that reintroduction efforts to maintain a population may lead to the loss of recreation and mental rejuvenating opportunities available in Tomales Bay.
Tomales Bay	I swim daily and love the serenity	I'd enjoy seeing more wildlife. I'm not sure how they interact with humans or they would [...] into the bay.
Tomales Bay	Aesthetics, mental clarity, oyster food, recreation	Beautiful animal, improved aquaculture, diversity of plant and fish habitat
The whole coast	Natural beauty. Supports wildlife. Deep connection with the land.	Sea otters are a part of this ecosystem. As every being in the ecosystem is connected symbiotically, having them back in their home range would be a great benefit for the
Richardson Bay	Kayaking, relaxation with friends, birding, natural beauty	Would improve/enhance all of these experiences!
Drake's Estero, Pt Reyes National Seashore	One of the most wonderful wilderness areas near an urban environment. WE need to bring back sea otters to the Bay Area, Drake's bay and entire west coast of north America restoring their original territory.	Bring back a healthy kelp forest and eelgrass- which sea otters help restore.
Duxbury reef	Education and natural beauty an amazing shale reef where I've gotten to learn a lot and see stuff first hand I though I might only ever get to see in books.	I hope their presence nearby would help sustain and support biodiversity here and help the area, weather climate change, helping humans on shore in our efforts to protect this areas for future generations.
Drake's Estero	Visit often, kayaking, hiking birding	Greatly improve biological [...]
On this part of the map Russian River and Russian Gulch	Natural beauty and relative isolation. It is also close to home.	I am not sure how otters would affect this the Russian river would probably be more usable habitat than the gulch.
Bodega Bay	We go there to enjoy the coast and swim.	We would love to see them, especially our daughter!

Table 14 Mapping comments received in Sausalito, CA on June 28, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
SF Bay area and the whole Pacific Coast	Natural beauty/recreation/watching wildlife/[...] in marine species and ocean health	Sea otters should definitely be reintroduced to return the ecosystem to health of kelp forest and to predate on urchins. This can be done in partnership with [...] fishing communities!
Bolinas Lagoon (Kent Island)	I go there 2x a month for habitat restoration (removing ice plant and other non-natives) after 4+ years (minus 2020) I feel like this is my home and there is active rookery (herons, egret, cormorant)	Otters are part of the natural environment that should be there. Unsure if they prey on the seabirds like the river otters do (have not seen river otter on Kent Island). Doubt that sea otters will affect plant environments.
San Pablo Bay-near Hercules	Biggest eelgrass beds in the SF Bay Estuary. Regional park serving East Bay communities.	Increase range and health of eelgrass beds, more tourism in a less used area.
Las Gallinas Creek	Located behind my house and love observing much wildlife there like river otters, falcons, owls, and coyotes	Not sure but I like the idea
Mill Valley	Its where I teach! And-to-me-it has some of the most beautiful surrounding natural spaces (mt. tam, Marion headlands, Muir woods, Muir beach)	It would make our living lab (wetland behind our school) even more exciting and convincing it's worth protecting
Duxbury Reef; Point Reyes, Limantour	Ecological value, natural beauty, supports wildlife	Restore ecosystems, especially kelp and seagrass, protection of shorelines
Point Reyes Seashore	Wild area that has population of pinnipeds other protected species. Beautiful landscape that has lots of food for animals and not a lot of people.	They would be a perfect fit for this area and would help restore the kelp forest and mitigate sea urchin population. Would be less chance of human interaction and predation.
Fort Ross Reef	Recreational abalone diver	Restore kelp forest by reducing sea urchin population
CA Coast, specifically Marin	Beauty, conservation, climate effects, fishery health	Reintroducing otters can bring back kelp and sea grass forests which can offset erosion and climate effects improve species diversity and population and improve ecotourism.
West coast ocean	Worried about kelp then otters	Eco balance
Fort Ross State Historic Park-Fort Ross Cove	Recreation, recreational and commercial shell fishing (abalone), natural beauty, tourism, critical underwater ecosystem of bull kelp (top fauna) that supports diverse wildlife	Attract more tourists and visitors which is economically beneficial for communities; promote restoration and management of bull kelp ecosystem as a second top predator on purple sea urchins; add to natural beauty and rebalance our ecosystems improving health
Richardson Bay, Marin County, CA	Richardson bay has one of the highest density populations of eelgrass w/in SF Bay. It is also largely a protected area via the CA Audubon and has seasonal closures for bird breeding.	Without knowing the ecological effects, I think Richardson Bay would be an excellence place for reintroduction because of the great eelgrass protections and current boating restrictions. Sausalito ecotourism that is already taking place in Richardson Bay would also greatly benefit by reintroduction.
Point Reyes National Seashore	Point Reyes is a local coastline wilderness that supports marine wildlife and bird species, is culturally significant to local indigenous people, and provides the physical and mental health benefits of nature for people	Sea otters returning to their historic range would be an inspiring story of repairing cultural and biological harm to our marine ecosystem. Seeing wild sea otters would inspire park visitors to connect with nature and develop a sense of stewardship and commitment to conservation.
Entire coast... would LOVE SF Bay	restoring the biodiversity of our coast is most important prefer to reintroduce to an area with the highest chance of success	Small effort in restoring damaged ecosystem
Point Reyes	Natural beauty wildlife	Help rid sea urchins munching kelp- thank you for listening then actual plans. :)
900 miles of cost without sea otters	Recreation they are great fun to look at supporting wildlife. I hope the ecosystems will support, will be a healthy enough environment for the otters	I learned that the genetic diversity the northern sea otters would provide would benefit the species.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Point Arena California	The wild coast, beautiful scenic views, the health of the ocean ecosystem and abundance of life (particularly in the tide pools)	Sea otter historically were part of this ecosystem. Sea otter would help restore the kelp forest and should be reintroduced on our coast which have suffered an extreme loss over the past decades. So much of our local culture, economy, and heritage depend upon and are inextricably intertwined with the kelp forests. We should do everything we can to protect and restore them.
Pt Lobos	All of the above a special place for scuba diving. I have been a part of that community since 1967.	I treasure the times I have dived in the kelp forests. I love kayaking in Monterey Bay.
Russian River Mouth	Estuary in historic range that might be more conducive to successful reintroduction	Help restore biodiversity in our kelp forest ecosystems.

Table 15 Mapping comments received from San Francisco on June 28, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
The coast between Mendocino and Fort Bragg	Natural beauty, excellent habitat for sea otters (kelp forests, secluded coves, food sources for otters)	They would help to begin restoring the depleted kelp bed by eradicating the millions of sea urchins that have exploded in numbers.
SF south coast around Cliff House Point Reyes	Walks there are magnificent. Accessibility by public transportation minimal environmental impact to go there. My own backyard, [...].	I would love to see more wild kelp off the coast. I want to know it is a healthy ecosystem.
Palo Alto Baylands, Bair Island (Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge) both low boat traffic and low mercury. See Rudebush et al. 2020 in Peer J. https://peerj.com/articles/10241/	I am past President of the [...] resource conservation district- we have been asking for sea otter since 2015	Wildlife watching is the primary goal. Eelgrass yield fish!
Sonoma and Mendo Coast	I've been camping and diving the coast since the early 70s. Most recently the urchin population has eaten most of the kelp depleting the abalone. We are currently removing urchins in an effort to give kelp beds a chance to recover. With that we hope to see abalone.	If sea otters are reintroduced in these areas there may never be the opportunity to dive for abalone again. Divers have rules, regs, and limits. Otters have none.
San Francisco	Importance of natural habitat and beauty of nature	To see the beauty of nature present and future
Coyote Point	Nostalgia and supports wildlife	great control of shellfish
Marin Headlands	Natural beauty, accessible ocean area, marine conservation groups, youth education groups	Benefit marine ecosystem, boost visitor ship with mind to conservation!
Bay Area	It is my home and I love seeing the local flora and fauna	It would hopefully bring more lively ecosystem
Richardson Bay inside of SF Bay	Already protected (eelgrass) Walkways along the shore. Easy to access for kayakers. Natural beauty and very limited fishing or boats. Perfect otter habitat with great public access.	They would help expand the eelgrass, add to human interactions with a much beloved species and help us all learn about the importance of helping reestablish a long lost natural ecosystem.
Monterey Bay	Natural beauty! My dad (age 79) visited in his 20s to find himself there and follow in the trail of Doc Ricketts (Father of marine biology, [...] hero of John Steinbeck novels). My husband and I have some of our best memories there at the aquarium.	I love sea otters and my husband is passionate about keystone species of plants. I am so excited you're considering this work to protect our future for daughter, who is here with us today and loves otters!
Ocean Beach, SF	I love going there on bike ride and trying to spot whales. My fondest memory there is finding out I was going to be a dad.	Anything that improves the biodiversity of the coast and helps to undo the damage humans have done is a huge benefit for us all.
SF Bay, why not?	Highly public, no commercial crab fishery	A great health indicator and visible keystone indicator
Point Reyes National Seashore	The biodiversity, healthy oceans, climate mitigation, natural beauty and connection to nature	Sea otters are an amazing part of the CA ecosystem. I'd like to see them survive, expand their range and genetic viability and improve the kelp and other coastal environments. Bring them back to San Francisco Bay.
Bodega Bay/Tomaes Bay	Crabbing	Less crabs
Mouth of the Eel River	Natural beauty, important native America land	Restoration of wildlife for important Native American locations
Port Orford Heads State Park	Beautiful nature, great views and wonderful memories	It would be wonderful to view otters in their native habitat and would be a nice attraction for the town.
Mad river beach	Excellent wildlife viewing-my favorite place to run between wildlife classes at Humboldt State University	Sea otters can only make it better. It would be lovely to see both sea and river otters.
Marin Headlands	Home, wildlife viewing, intrinsic, habitat, aesthetic	Presence of otters would much enhance joy of headlands. Would create tourism opportunities for National Park Service. Add to its wilderness qualities.
Golden Gate NRA	Recreation, wilderness, wildlife viewing, inspiration, natural beauty, mental rejuvenation	Add to the rich ecosystem of wildlife accessible to a large urban population.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Area south of Ft Bragg-North of Jennes	I grew up here, diving, fishing for abalone, camping. It is a spiritual space that I must protect.	Sea otters would be an important tool to control sea urchin barrens and revitalize kelp forests. Sea otters would partner with people, fishermen, coastal dwellers to strengthen the near shore ecosystem. It is essential that sea otters are reintroduced to the Northern California Coast.
Bair Island	Beautiful environmentally diverse area, close to thousands of people	I would go out there more often and watch for all the wildlife that would reappear as a result of reintroduction. I've lived here for 30 years and would love to watch a growing population of otters over time.
Pillar Pt and Fitzgerald Marine Reserve; Duxbury Reef	I am a [...] and I have worked in the intertidal areas of [...] counties for over 20 years. I work with community scientists along the coast at these places. They are all incredibly beautiful, biodiverse, and provide inspiration. The opportunity to connect with nature and places to harvest mussel and fish for anyone [...MPAs]. These are places people learn, recreate, connect to nature, teach others, and sustain themselves!	Sea otters may impact the invertebrate populations in the rocky intertidal, but they also will likely increase kelp and eelgrass which will support invertebrate diversity. In HMB there could be negative impacts to the crab fishery shallow areas, but all in all I think reintroduction will be positive.
San Francisco Bay	I live and work in SF and am a marine biologist. I recently completed intertidal surveys of [...]. I love the natural beauty and peacefulness of the Bay. I also love that so many people enjoy the bay and that it is a nature right next to commerce, fishing, housing, restaurants, and	Sea otters could be key to the growth and improved health of eelgrass systems in the Bay. They could negatively impact some fisheries, but I think the positive benefits will likely outweigh the risk. I think otters would be incredible for the health of the SF Bay.

Table 16 Mapping comments received from Emeryville, CA on June 29, 2023.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Duxbury Reef	When I first did intertidal observations as a kid with [...]. Site of the first new species discovered by my brother (and me) [...]	Probably not very much
Davenport-3 mile-41st s. Cruz	I surf. The tranquility and origin of life begins in the ocean. Physically it is a place to reflect and consider mortality.	Better kelp forests that creates a more pure ecosystem. A healthy ocean can give us focus and hope. Sea otters on the North Coast is critical to rejuvenating the waters and sea beds.
Bolinas and Stinson Beach	My family has lived in Marin county since the 1960s and has found a spiritual home on the mountains and coastline here. The wild makes it home.	Sea otters would improve the kelp forests off the shore, which would have positive impacts up and down the ocean, coast, and river ecosystems. Contributing to the ecological health of nor cal. Bolinas like to be a sanctuary, secretive town, but it should welcome new otter neighbors. Question-how would otters affect surfing? Lots of people surf around here.
Wildcat camp, Pt. Reyes; Steep Ravine	These are beautiful, natural places where I had fantastic wildlife viewing experiences. I've seen gray whales very close up, tons of pelicans diving for fish, dolphins playing in the water and Tule El, grazing in the hills.	Adding sea otters to my wildlife viewing experiences in these areas would enhance my experience. Unlike whales and dolphins which are more migratory and often not seeable, otters are often relatively stationary and reliable to see. Having nearby otters would be lovely because I go all the way down to the central coast to see
Bodega Bay	Who is going to pay for this. Inflation and taxes are killing Ca-country is going broke. How will it effect fishing community and health of other species?	Ecotourism is listed as a financial benefit. Will it overtake the infrastructure of community-roads, parking, overcrowding of beaches.
Alameda County/SF Bay Area	I was born in SF and now live in Alameda County	Help for people to know about otters. They can help with the ecosystem in the Alameda county and SF Bay area
Oakland/SF Bay	I grew up here and my family has a boat so the coast is very important to me	Sea otters would help the environment and might make people care to preserve the wildlife that surrounds us.
Oakland/Alameda Estuary and Bay	We live in Oakland alongside Embarcaders of the Oakland estuary, we have a small 16 ft c-dory motor boat (modern clean engine!) Enjoy natural waters and mammal/bird life	If introduced to SF Bay we could see them! The Oakland public would love this.
Slide ranch, former shoreline dairy farm between Muir Stinson beach, Marin co.	Shell fishing; mental rejuvenation, natural beauty, recreation, supports wildlife. In the late 1950s my club, [...] had a few Abalone dives there. My biggest was 8 3/4"! A buddy scored a GIANT which I measured 11 3/4"!	Successful sea otter reintroductions at ANY suitable location would help to rebalance the coastal marine ecology including reducing the massive purple urchin population. And they are extremely CUTE! GOOD LUCK
Bolinas	Natural beauty, supports wildlife- I see tons of brown pelicans, crabs, and urchins in the rocky intertidal zone. I care about this place in part due to its ecological significance.	Sea otters in Bolinas will ensure ecosystem health and sustain the small fishing industry of the area through restoring kelp health. The nearby estuary is a biological hotspot, and sea otters will contribute to that/benefit from it.
Drake's Beach and Drake's Estero; Limantour in Pt. Reyes National Seashore	Natural beauty, recreation, mental rejuvenation, supports wildlife- I used to live nearby and still spend a lot of time there and have had many life changing and life affirming experiences around there.	I'm not a scientist but I think they would add to the joy of being there and have a positive impact on the ecosystem.
SF Bay	My family and friends love spending time at bay area parks	Seeing sea otters in the bay would be a great way to teach my son about conservation/restoration and it's positive impacts on everyone.
Mt Tamalpais; Pt. Reyes; Bolinas	Natural beauty and spiritual rejuvenation	Wild fish stock already depleted by red algae and underwater leakage from Fukushimal... How will sea otters impact shoreline fishing?

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Emeryville Marina	I have grown up in this area and visit the marina park quite often. Definitely sentimental.	They would definitely bring more excitement to the area as a tourist site. Improving the ecosystem.
Point Reyes National Seashore	Our family loves to go to Pt Reyes together to spend time in nature and enjoy the beach and woods	Sea otters would enhance our enjoyment of this special area and would strengthen the local ecosystem. "Sea otters in Pt Reyes would be awesome" -[...], Age 8
Carmel by the Sea	It was the first day trip with my friends newborn girl. This was her first time at the beach.	Being exposed to nature and the many forms of it would help people care for nature. It can also help enrich the area as they become attractions.
[Duxbury Reef] Any of the protected areas near the SF Bay; [Pillar Point] Any of the protected areas near the SF Bay	I chose 2 places because they are relatively near. I did not choose Pt. Reyes because of shark activity.	They are a very important keystone species! They also happen to be one of the cutest species on earth. Earth without otters would be a far less happy place.
Berkley-Emeryville	It is home- easy bay needs more positive projects and focus. SF is very large, shallow and has good infrastructure that could support such an enterprise.	There could be positive effects w/o compromising-effect of ecotourism can be profound in rural areas.
[Bolinás] See all areas on map indicated; [Pillar Point] See all areas on map indicated; [SF Bay] See all areas on map indicated	This is where I kayak and in the Monterey area see sea otters and kelp forests. Natural beauty here and supports both sea creatures and birds.	Help to restore kelp forests and keep sea urchins in check. These forests provide food, shelter and nurseries for thousand of species. Sea otters are a "keystone" species that critical to the biodiversity of our coastal areas. Also, the presence of sea otters will enhance tourism along our coast. Justice for this iconic species nearly driven to extinction in previous centuries by fur traders!
Duxbury Reef	A reef will provide food, protection, and the reef itself could benefit from the presence of sea otters.	The area near Duxbury Reef seems shallow, perfect for sea otters. It is also not too far away from a marine research center above Point Bonita.
Point Bonita	The marine mammal center is around there and that is where I began to learn more about marine life. I loved to walk along the beach near Point Bonita-beautiful.	Sea otters would help to maintain biodiversity around that area. Having sea otters there would surely impact the center's work, perhaps making their study and protection of otters and the ecological impacts easier. Visitors to the center could walk around and see the otters too!
Protected area [Pillar Point] near Half Moon Bay	Half Moon Bay is a beautiful place with great rocky coasts that is a testament to California's beauty	I see that there is a marine protected area near Half Moon Bay. If the location would be ideal for sea otters to thrive then introducing them to an area where they can be protected by law.
Richmond Bay	Rejuvenation	Increase tourism
Bodega Bay Pt Reyes National Seashore	Natural beauty, subsistence shellfishery	Reintroduction effects on shellfish concerns me. On the other hand I would like to see the seagrass/bull kelp return and urchins problem be more balanced.
Drakes Estero Bay/Pt. Reyes	This is a wonderful natural area with lots of wildlife and adding otters would only enhance the visitor experience.	They could affect shell fishing communities, but mostly enhance more of an appreciation of nature. There are shark concerns to consider as well.
Point Arena	I belong to [...]. I am [.] and set up a plan so my family will not have to in worry in the event of my death. My ashes (and the ashes of beloved pets) will be mixed with potting soil and flower seeds and planted at the base of my Douglas Fir (chosen by me and my family). I will become part of Pt Arena forest overlooking the marine protection area.	I would love to think that I could participant in the reintroduction of sea otters to such a lovely and meaningful place. Knowing what happened with the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone and other examples in Africa, I am a big fan of expanding knowledge of keystone species.

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF PLACE	WHY IS THIS PLACE SPECIAL	CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF SEA OTTERS
Duxbury Reef/ Marin Coast	Natural beauty, supports wildlife (esp. the reef), recreation, shellfish to eat, mental rejuvenation	The reef is struggling due to the sea star collapse, which fuel the urchins to destroy the kelp. Otters can help restore balance to this ecosystem and help it stabilize and adapt.
Point Reyes National Seashore	PRNS is a vast area of coast, wetlands, and coastal uplands. It is terrific for hiking, camping, whale-watching, tide pooling, kayaking, and marine mammals.	I would LOVE to see sea otters at Point Reyes NS!!
SF Bay and N. CA Ocean- really, whole ecosystem	Oceans are critical to the health of everything else- beautiful, full of life. Understanding we are part of something larger, duty to protect it.	Bring back kelp forests to health, all the wildlife that depends on it. Sea mammals so fantastic to have in our lives, so much to learn from and about them- an important part of my life,
Albany Bulb, Albany, CA	Natural beauty, recreation, supports wildlife. Can walk to it with a happy dog, hiking swimming, views, experience the Bay. Health and mental health.	Sea otters have a connection to protecting the coast, and that's what the Bulb/the Bay is. Not to mention our community steps beyond.
Emeryville; Point Reyes	1. We have lived there for 30 years; 2. Our favorite trip	Top predator, wonderful to watch
Double Point; Pt Reyes	Ideal habitat? Kelp, a bay	NA
Mendocino county; Humboldt county	Ecological restoration and stability, fisheries stability, tribal cultural importance and indirect species recruitment.	Sea otters might positively affect these by predated on herbivores, creating indirect consumptive effects on algal growth and non-consumptive effects on herbivores influencing their herbivory.
Pt. Reyes, Drakes Estero	Natural beauty, supports wildlife, areas is coming back after oyster farm closed-would be nice if perhaps otters could be there.	I believe they have a place in the environment here in Northern California. Sea otter introduction will help bring back a creature who eats sea urchins which have tipped the scales, are a bit out of control (to put it mildly). Thank you