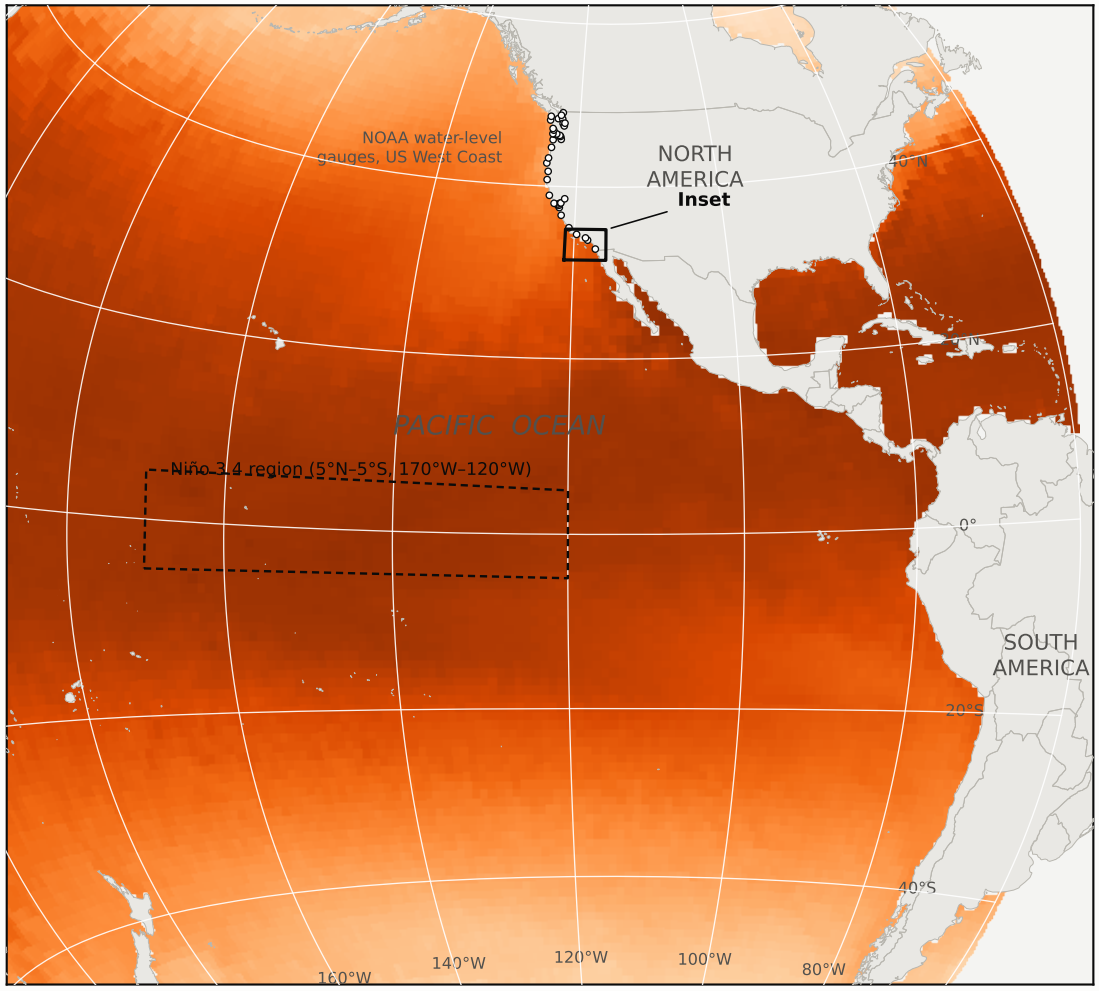
SoCal Coastal Watch: study area and its ocean setting

Purpose: to locate the gauge pair La Jolla–Los Angeles and the three-county study area within the eastern Pacific system that delivers water to it, from Ensenada to Point Conception. Base map only: no modeling, no flow paths.

A. The system: eastern Pacific and the Americas



B. Study area: San Diego, Orange and Los Angeles counties





Sea surface temperature, °C · NOAA OISST v2.1 daily, 18 Oct 2026 (PRELIMINARY)
Panel A: 1° subsample. Panel B: native 0.25°. Same colour scale in both

- Capture-point gauge (La Jolla, Los Angeles)
- Other NOAA water-level gauge
- Context place, outside the study frame
- Study-area county
- International / state boundary
- Niño 3.4 reference region
- Inset extent

Projections: A, Lambert Azimuthal Equal-Area centred 5°N 115°W (WGS 84), so ocean areas are not inflated; scale and north vary across A, so it has a graticule (20°) and no scale bar. B, UTM zone 11N (EPSG:32611, WGS 84).
Sources: SST: NOAA NCEI OISST v2.1 via NOAA CoastWatch ERDDAP (ncdcOisst21NrtAgg_LonPM180), retrieved 19 Oct 2026; free to use, not for legal use. Land, countries, states, counties: Natural Earth 5.2.0-pre, public domain (counties derived from US Census). Gauges: NOAA CO-OPS station list, retrieved 19 Oct 2026. Ensenada and Point Conception: GeoNames 4006702 and 5339087.
Uncertainty: SST is a satellite-plus-in-situ analysis at about 25 km, so near-shore water is under-resolved and cells touching the coast are blank. Gauge positions are drawn as NOAA serves them (precision varies by station). Coastline and county lines are generalized at 1:10 m scale.
Made by PA-S1 (Portal Academy pupil) for Temporal Data Dynamics, map assignment r1, 19 Oct 2026. Software: Python 3.13.16, matplotlib 3.11.2, geopandas 1.2.0, pyproj. Draft for review.