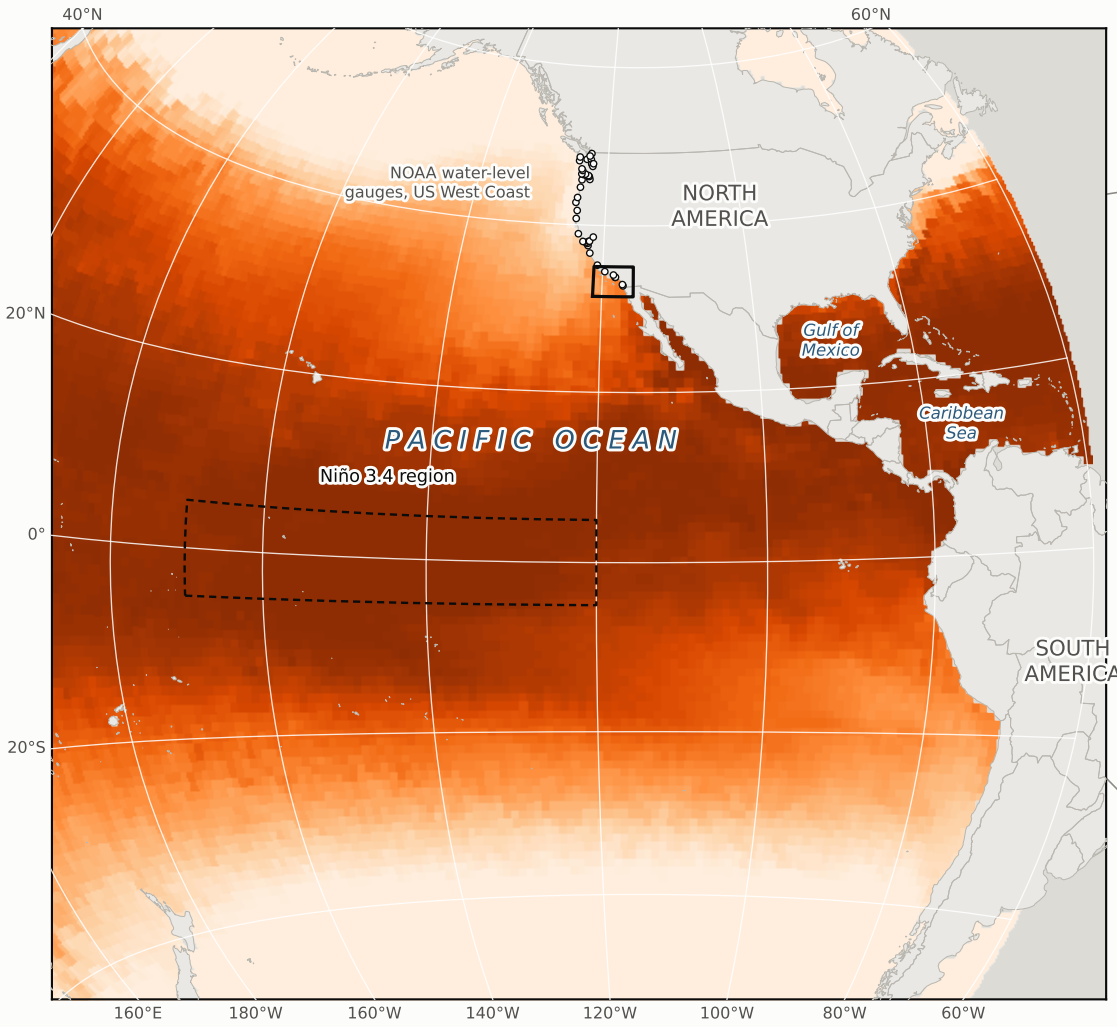
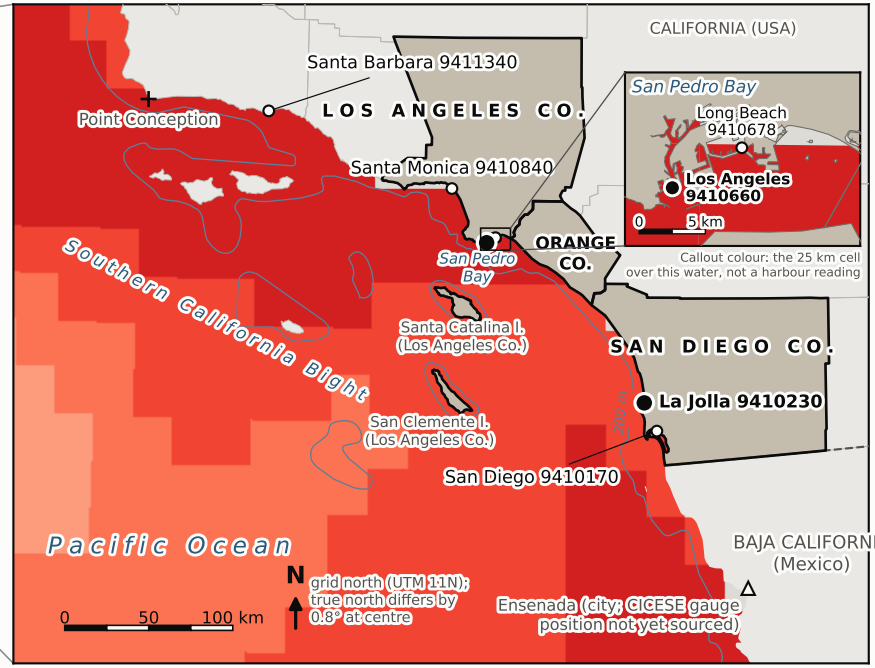
SoCal Coastal Watch: study area and its ocean setting

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 with descriptive sea-surface symbology; no modeling, no flow paths, no forecast.

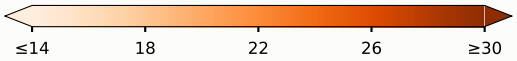
A. The system: eastern Pacific and the Americas



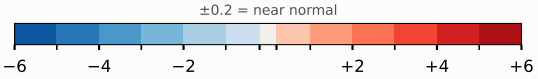
B. Study area, the inset outlined in A: three counties



NOAA OISST v2.1 daily, 18 Oct 2026, PRELIMINARY. A: 1° subsample of the 0.25° grid. B: native 0.25°.



A: sea surface temperature, °C, as analysed. Colour spent on 14–30 °C. 18,071 water cells: 5,505 at ≤14 °C, 1,312 at ≥30 °C



B: departure from the 1991–2020 normal for the date, °C. A different quantity from A. 336 water cells, all above normal: +1.2 to +5.8, median +3.7

- Capture-point gauge (La Jolla, Los Angeles)
- Other NOAA water-level gauge
- Context place (Ensenada)
- Study-area county (islands included)
- Water with no SST shown (coast cells, ice, outside tiles)
- 200 m depth (shelf edge, generalized)
- International / state boundary
- Niño 3.4 region (5°N–5°S, 170°W–120°W)
- Inset extent (= panel B)

Projections: A, Lambert Azimuthal Equal-Area centred 5°N 115°W (WGS 84): areas true, scale and north vary, so a 20° graticule and no scale bar. B, UTM zone 11N (EPSG:32611, WGS 84).
Sources: SST and anomaly: NOAA NCEI OISST v2.1 via NOAA CoastWatch ERDDAP (ncdcOisst21NrtAgg_LonPM180), retrieved 19 Oct 2026; free to use, not for legal use. Land, boundaries, counties, 200 m depth: Natural Earth (public domain), commit ca96624a, 2022-06-02. Island county membership checked against US Census TIGERweb. Gauges: NOAA CO-OPS station list, retrieved 19 Oct 2026. Ensenada and Point Conception: GeoNames 4006702 and 5339087. Labels: logged rule-based placer (Bobák et al. 2024 order).
Colour: sequential and diverging schemes after Brewer (1994) and ColorBrewer (Harrower & Brewer 2003); near-normal class after NOAA Coral Reef Watch. Shoreline in the callout: US Census TIGERweb.
Uncertainty: SST is a satellite-plus-in-situ analysis at about 25 km; near-shore water is under-resolved and coast cells are blank (hatched). Gauge positions as NOAA serves them. Boundaries generalized (1:10 m).
Made by PA-S1 (Portal Academy pupil) for Temporal Data Dynamics, map assignment r2.1, 19 Oct 2026. Python 3.13.16, matplotlib 3.11.2, geopandas 1.2.0, pyproj. Draft for review.