

Channel Islands National Park's Kelp Forest Monitoring Program

Protocol reference guide for **VISUAL FISH TRANSECT**





Abstract

Visual fish transects are KFMs oldest fish monitoring protocol. There are four counts with a single observer along the main transect. Each transect is 50 meters long, 3 meters tall, and 2 meters wide.

There are two primary passes along the main transect. Each pass has two data columns for the first and second 50 m respectively. The 50-meter mark of the transect is marked with several stripes of colored tape. Begin each pass by swimming past the ends of the transect and off the site a few meters before turning around.



The survey should take 5 minutes per pass. Two and a half minutes per 50 meters. After the second pass, take a surge reading with the surge-o-meter. You will also take a visibility reading with the horizontal secchi disk

