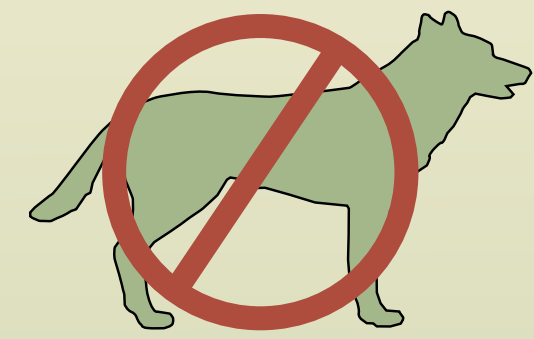


What Lies Before You? California's First Marine Reserve on an Estuary!

Depending on the tide, you may see the mudflat and rocky shore exposed. Worms, clams, and shrimp consider the mud their home. Crabs, barnacles, mussels, and side-swimmers prefer the shelter of rocks. Shorebirds, sharks, fish, and ducks feast on these critters and in turn, larger predators feast on them.

Many critters that live between the land and the sea must eat when the tide is in and hide when the tide is out, or they may become a tasty morsel for a hungry predator.



Dogs are not allowed on the beach at Crab Cove or Crown Beach.

This "Marine Conservation Area," (formally a marine reserve), designated by the State of California protects this estuary habitat.



You are welcome to explore, but regulations prohibit digging and collecting. This means buckets, cups, shovels, and similar equipment are restricted to the sandy beach.



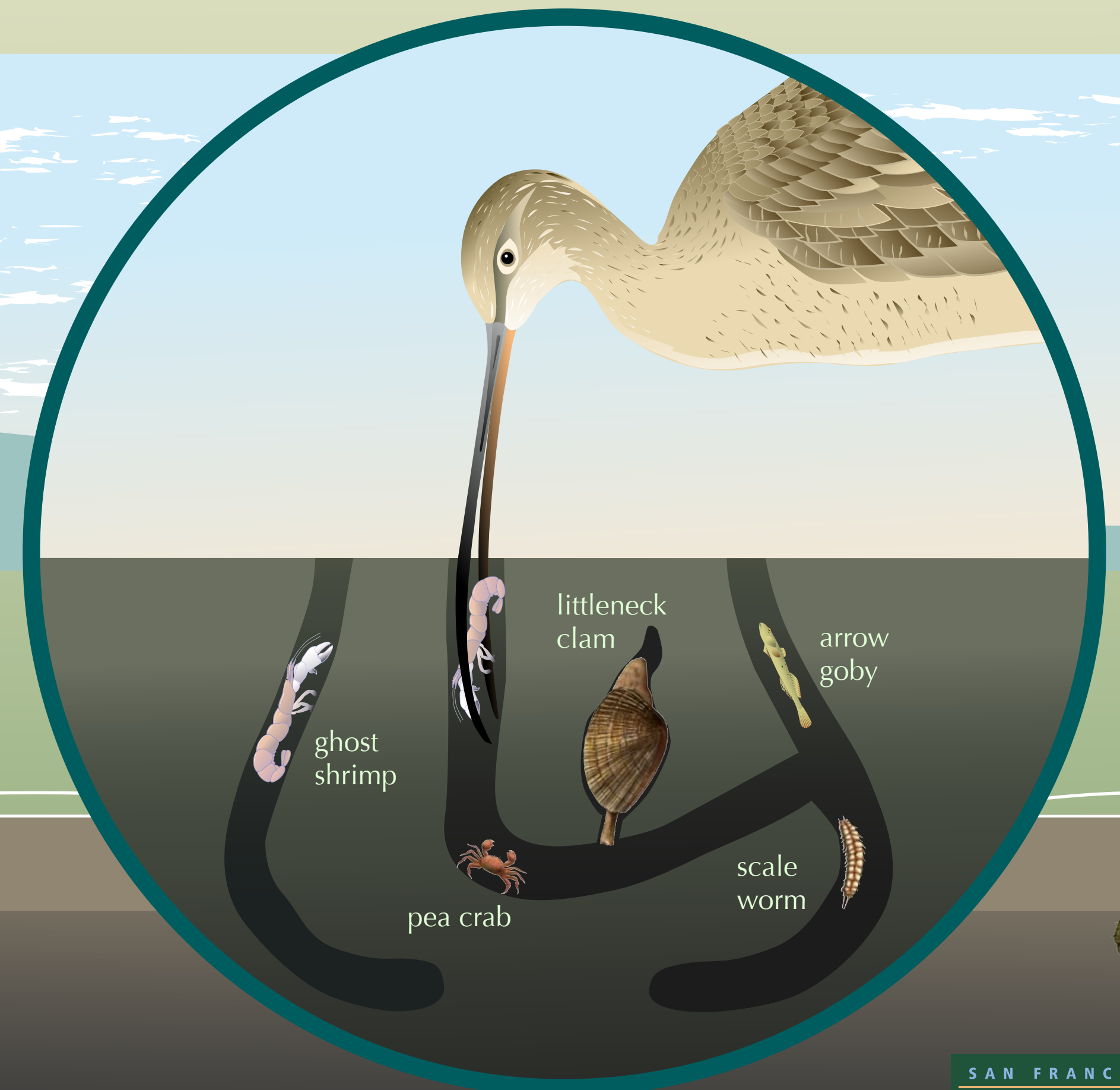
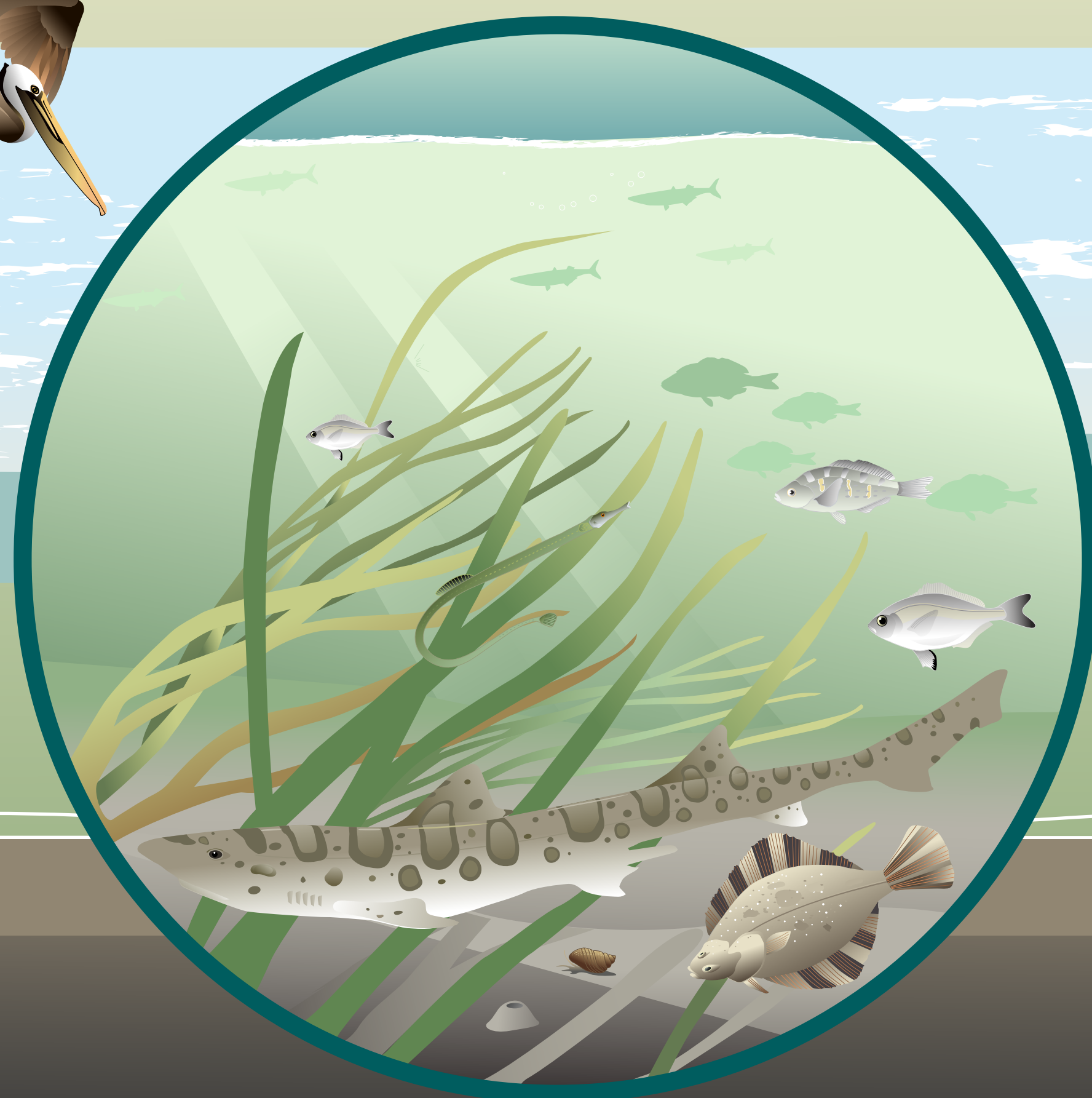
Replace upturned rocks and wood wet side down. This provides a safe haven for critters.



Walk carefully to avoid crushing crabs and other marine life.



Leave what you find: no collecting is permitted.



Drop by Crab Cove Visitor Center to learn more about the creatures and habitats shown on this panel.

