

1-235-A Site Summary - Sue-Meg State Park to Trinidad Head**1-235-A****County:** Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment:** HM - C - S04 HM - D - S01 HM - D - S02 HM - D - S03**NOAA Chart:** 18600**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 41.09985 -124.16788**Site Description:**

This steep and rugged coastline is managed in part by State Parks at Sue-Meg State Park (formerly Patrick's Point SP) and Trinidad State Beach, BLM at Trinidad Head and much is in private ownership. Offshore rocks are included in BLM's California Coastal National Monument. This is a very popular recreational and commercial fishing area for groundfish and salmon. Predominantly wave-cut platforms backed by gravel beaches. Pockets of fine- to medium-grained sand beaches. Exposed rock cliffs and many offshore rocks.

Large seabird colonies offshore (01-12), serve as rookeries (03-09); 2004 COMU Estimates: Green Rock-24,000; Flatiron Rock-30,000; Pilot Rock-1300; White Rock-2800; Pelagic and Brandt's cormorants ~2,000 (2002). Pigeon guillemots, Cassin's auklet (SSC), Western gull, black oystercatcher, fork-tailed storm petrel (SSC), rhinoceros auklet, and tufted puffin (SSC) also present, marbled murrelet (FT,SE) forage offshore. River otters, harbor seals, California sea lions throughout area. Juvenile rockfish nursery habitat. Anadromous coastal cutthroat trout (01-12) and steelhead may be present in coastal streams throughout area when streams flow to ocean with winter precipitation; although usually not in large numbers, salmonids including coho (FT,ST) and chinook (FT) salmon, steelhead (FT), and coastal cutthroat trout (SSC) often forage in the nearshore environment and can be impacted by oiling; groundfish (EFH).

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 1A Exposed Rocky Shore

6A Gravel Beach

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	tufted puffin	FP, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Birds	fork-tailed storm petrel	FP, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Birds	common loon	FP, SSC	Year-round	
Birds	raptors		Year-round	
Birds	Cassin's auklet	FP, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Fish	salmonids		Year-round	
Mammals	pinnipeds	FP	Year-round	

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

List of Key Contacts:

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
E	/	Humboldt County Sheriff	(707) 445-7251
O	/	Cal Poly Humboldt Marine Lab	(707) 826-3671
O	/	City of Trinidad	(707) 677-0223
O	/Supervisor Ranger (24hr)	NORCOM State Parks Dispatch	(916) 358-1300
T	/	Bureau of Land Management	(707) 825-2300
T	/	California State Parks North Coast District	(707) 445-6547
T	/	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service-Arcata	(707) 822-7201
T	/	Trinidad Rancheria	(707) 677-0211
T	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service-Arcata Field Office	(707) 822-7201
T	/	Yurok Tribal Office, Klamath	(707) 482-1350

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

Additional Site Summary Comments:

Breeding seabirds will use these rocks for nesting in the spring. Offshore rocks provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and haulout locations for marine mammals. Care should be taken so that response activities do not flush wildlife from these areas. The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round, especially during nesting season (03-09) when the adults are on eggs and until the young have fledged from the nest. The offshore rocks have cultural significance for local tribes.

For further information about coastal access in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Commission's California Coastal Access Guide. For photos of the coastline in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Records Project (www.californiacoastline.org).

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Seawater intakes for the HSU Marine laboratory are in the area.

The rugged coastline will prevent onshore response over most of this area. Off-site measures including dispersants should be considered when a spill threatens to impact this area. Overflights should be careful to maintain flight path and altitude clearance distances that are large enough to prevent the flushing of birds and marine mammals from their nests, roosts, and haulouts on the offshore rocks in this area.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Extreme current, high energy shoreline, offshore rocks. Beaches may be steep at times.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: II**

Strategy: 1-235.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

Strategy: Protect with off-site response measures only. This site is best protected by preventing the oil from arriving here, when possible. Off-site response options including dispersants should be considered.

Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update**Logistics:**

Directions: From Eureka, go north on Hwy 101. Take Patricks Point Dr Exit 734 onto Patricks Point Drive. Parking and access available at several locations within park. Trinidad State Beach is south off Hwy 101: take the main Trinidad Exit 728. Turn west onto Main Street, then right onto Stagecoach Road, then left toward beach access. For Trinidad Head and south end of Trinidad State Beach: from Main Street turn left Trinity St then right onto Edwards Street downhill to the beach parking area at the end.

Land Access: Most beach areas are accessible by foot trail only.

On-Water Limitations: Offshore response only. There is a small launch facility at Trinidad Pier and beach launch adjacent.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: There are camping and day use areas inside of the park which could serve as staging areas for local beach response purposes.

Communications Problems:

