

2-198-A Site Summary - Point Reyes Beach**2-198-A****County:** Marin **ACP Division/Segment:** MR - G - S001**NOAA Chart:** 18640 / Bodega and
Tomales Bays 18643**Map Book:** Marin County**Decimal Degrees:** 38.076678 -122.975407**Site Description:**

Located within Pt. Reyes National Seashore on the northwest side, this beach (aka "The Great Beach") is about 12 miles long and extends from Point Reyes Headland (Lighthouse) north to Kehoe Beach. Abbott's Lagoon outlet is at the northern half of beach. Site lies within the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. A northwesterly facing beach with medium coarse sand, moderate slope, and potentially very heavy surf. The back beach rises as vegetated dunes or steep bluffs. The upper beach is littered with driftwood and debris.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

3B Scarps and steep slopes in sand

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Oct
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	Nov-May
Insects	Myrtle's silverspot butterfly	FE	Year-round	
Mammals	Northern elephant seal	FP	Year-round	Nov-Jul
Mammals	Steller sea lion	FP	Year-round	
Plants	Tidestrom's lupine	FE, SE	Year-round	Apr-Jun
Plants	beach layia	FE, SE	Year-round	Mar-Jul
Plants	Point Reyes blennosperma	SR	Year-round	Feb-Apr
Plants	showy rancheria clover	FE	Year-round	Apr-Jun
Plants	Point Reyes meadowfoam	SE	Year-round	Mar-May
Plants	Sonoma alopecurus	FE	Year-round	May-Jul

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
O	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	California Coastal Commission	(415) 693-8375
O	/Emergency Service Coordinator	Marin County Office of Emergency Services	(415) 250-0267
O	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Marin County Sheriff's Department	(415) 479-2311
T	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 678-4943
T	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
T	/Dispatch, 24-hr	US National Park Service, Golden Gate NRA	(415) 561-5505
T	/Park Ranger, 24 hr	US National Park Service, Point Reyes	(415) 464-5175

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

Additional Site Summary Comments:

This site hosts a large array of species including sensitive plants, a variety of birds, pinnipeds, sensitive insects, Point Reyes jumping mouse, etc. Shorebirds nest here from October-April.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

The concerns are oil contamination and response activity impacts to wetlands, rare and endangered species, and other vulnerable plants and wildlife which are present throughout the year. The primary objective is to minimize exposure of oil to the site and natural resources present at the site. Snowy Plovers use beach as nesting site. Have a biological monitor flag off nesting area to avoid impacts. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities. Avoid trampling wetlands, sand dunes, sensitive plants and animals causing penetration of oil into the sediments and further injury to the environment.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Narrow roads, Large surf and swell. Vehicle access thru South Beach Parking Lot.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: 0**

Strategy: 2-198.1 Objective: Prevent oiling of snowy plover and elephant seal use areas. Prevent injury to sand dunes from cleanup activities.

Strategy: This site is difficult to protect as is most of the outer coast. Mechanical shoreline protection techniques are not likely to be effective because of high wave energy conditions at this site. Consider use of ARTs.

- a) Recommended response strategy is on-water containment and recovery.
- b) Pursue feasibility of alternative response technologies (e.g. dispersants and in-situ burning) to reduce the volume of oil reaching the site.
- c) If suitable conditions exist, deflect oil away from the south end of the beach which is used by seals.
- d) The beach may be suitable as an oil collection site, but there is no indication that the oil will hold on the beach once it strands. The southerly quarter is not desirable for collection due to the proximity of seals. For details, contact Pt. Reyes National Park resource specialists.
- e) Conduct beach pre-cleaning during plover nesting season only with advice and consent of DFW and USFWS. Also contact Pt. Reyes National Park resource specialists.
- f) Use manual recovery methods in most situations. For very heavy oiling conditions, consider front-end loaders.

Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update**Logistics:**

Directions: From San Francisco take Hwy 101 North to Sir Francis Drake Blvd., west to Olema. Turn north (right) on Hwy 1, go 2 miles and take a left on Sir Francis Drake Blvd through Inverness. Several access points to the beach are possible. Take Pierce Point Road to access McClure's Beach, Kehoe Beach, or Abbott's Lagoon. Continue on Sir Francis Drake to access the North and South Beach parking areas.

Land Access: Large truck okay thru South Beach Parking Lot.

On-Water Limitations: Large surf and swell common; steep beach. Nearest boat ramp at Lawson's Landing in Tomales Bay, other ramps in Bodega Bay.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: No facilities. Staging at parking areas.

Communications Problems: Cell reception varies.

Additional Operational Comments: Coordination with the National Park to establish access routes. Services (sanitation and water) are infrequent in this beach area.

