

County: Sonoma

USGS Quad: 7.5" Quad: STEWARTS POINT, CA

Thomas Guide Location

Sonoma County

NOAA Chart: 18640

Latitude N

3 8 43

Longitude W

123 28

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Site includes the rocky intertidal wave cut platforms and sandy beaches within the Sea Ranch community boundary, approximately from Gualala Point on the north end to Black Point on the south end. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. About 10 miles of rocky intertidal wave cut platforms and offshore wash rocks. Many medium to fine grained sand beaches are interspersed between rocky reefs. This reach of ocean front includes 3 marine reserves, including: Del Mar Landing, Walk-on Beach, and the offshore rocks north of Smuggler's Cove.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Priority "B" all year. Harbor seals give birth on select rocks on the outer reef during March through May. Shorebirds are present all year but especially abundant during spring and fall migration. Intertidal plants and animals, mussel beds and tidepools are present all year.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Extensive rocky intertidal habitat, including tidepools, mussel beds and algal beds.

Intertidal areas used by a variety of shorebirds throughout the year but especially during spring and fall migrations.

Harbor seals use the rocky reefs to haul out throughout the year and have their pups in the spring. Major haulout/pupping areas are at Shell Beach and at the point off Green Cove Drive off Headlands Reach (MP 53.22).

Kelp forests are present offshore during the summer and into late fall.

The intertidal rocky platforms support endangered black abalone, extensive mussel beds; rich assemblages of algae and invertebrates; tidepools with anemones, fishes, snails and crabs.

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

Historically, a rich area of human inhabitation. Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison -(916) 653-9125), and the Northwest Information Center, (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College ((707) 332-1117)) for specific information on historic or cultural resources in this area.

**KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)**

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E	Sea Ranch Community Security	Sea Ranch Association	(707) 785-2701
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-104 -B Site Strategy - Sea Ranch

County and Thomas Guide Location  
Sonoma County Sonoma

NOAA CHART  
18640

## 2-104 -B

Latitude N Longitude W  
3 8 43 123 28

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Contamination and injury to harbor seals, rocky intertidal plants and animals, and shorebirds. Oil may be trapped and contained in tidepools and boulder areas during periods of low wave energy. Saturation of coarse grain sand beaches is possible.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

High wave energy and dangerous surf, slippery rocks, high bluffs.

### SITE STRATEGIES

#### Strategy 2-104.1 Objective: Deflection: Channel oil to finer grain sand beaches where possible.

Because of high wave energy and rocky conditions at this site, mechanical shoreline protection techniques may not be possible. On-water containment and recovery efforts are the best available protection strategy. When water conditions do permit, deploy deflection boom offshore to protect rocky reefs and coarse grain pocket beaches; direct oil toward fine grain sand beaches for collection.

#### Strategy 2-104.2 Objective: Shoreline cleaning and pre-cleaning

Because of high wave energy and rocky conditions at this site, mechanical shoreline protection techniques may not be possible. Since on-water containment and recovery efforts are not totally effective, shoreline cleanup may be necessary.

- a) Inspect shoreline for possible pre-cleaning.
- b) Use sorbents and flushing of pooled oil to nearshore collection.

#### Strategy 2-104.3 Objective: Alternative technologies to mechanical protection: Skimming, off shore ART, nearshore ART

Because of high wave energy and rocky conditions at this site, mechanical shoreline protection techniques may not be possible. On-water containment and recovery efforts are the best available protection strategy. Pursue feasibility of alternative response technologies (e.g. dispersants and in-situ burning) or even nearshore dispersal.

### Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-104.1	1500	0	0	0	0		2	0	0			6	
2-104.2	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0			
2-104.3	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	On-water Recovery / ART		

### LOGISTICS

#### **DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)**

Hwy 101 to Santa Rosa, take Hwy 12 west to Hwy 116, continue west to Hwy 1 at Jenner on the coast. Proceed north on Hwy 1, Sea Ranch is a long section of coast (ca. 10 miles) between Fort Ross and Gualala. Site includes the rocky intertidal wave cut platforms and sandy beaches within the Sea Ranch community boundary, approximately from Gualala Point on the north end to Black Point on the south end. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS:** Vehicle access limited. Primarily foot access. Private property.

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Dangerous surf; submerged rocks

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: None available locally. Hand launch skiffs across beach.

#### **FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:**

Satellite staging areas at parking areas at Helm St. (Del Mar Beach) and Shell Beach.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:**

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:** Communications via two-way radio and landline only.

