

County: Sonoma

USGS Quad: 7.5" Quad: Plantation, CA

Thomas Guide Location

Sonoma County

NOAA Chart: 18640

Latitude N

3 8 34

Longitude W

123 20

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

A small cove within Salt Point State Park. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Areas: Gerstle Cove state Marine Reserve and Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. This site is primarily a rocky boulder intertidal habitat with a pocket beach of mixed sand, cobbles, and boulders at the base of the public access ramp. It is located within Salt Point State Park and is a designated State Ecological Reserve.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Priority "B" all year. A State Ecological Reserve.

Shorebirds are present all year but especially abundant during spring and fall migration.

Intertidal plants and animals, abalone, mussel beds and tidepools are present all year.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Extensive rocky intertidal and subtidal habitat, including tidepools and algal beds. This site is an ecological reserve.

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

Harbor seals may use rocky intertidal areas near the cove to haul out throughout the year.

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

The intertidal rocky platforms support endangered black abalone, 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/T  |                                   | CA State Parks Russian River District Office     | (707) 865-2394 |
| E    |                                   | CA State Parks, Northern Comms Center (Dispatch) | (916) 358-0333 |
| T    | David Ledig                       | BLM Ca Coastal Monument                          | (831) 630-5006 |
| T    | Becky Ota Marine Conservation MGR | CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program              | (650) 631-6789 |
| T    | James Weigand                     | BLM Ca Coastal Monument                          | (916) 978-4656 |
| T    | Steve Wertz Senior Env.Scientist  | CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program              | (562) 342-7184 |

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-113 -B Site Strategy - Gerstle Cove

County and Thomas Guide Location  
Sonoma County Sonoma

NOAA CHART  
18640

## 2-113 -B

Latitude N Longitude W  
3 8 34 123 20

Last Page Update :

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Contamination and injury to rocky intertidal plants and animals, and shorebirds. Pooling of oil under rocks during low energy periods. Saturation of coarse grain sand beaches.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Potentially dangerous surf, vertical bluffs, slippery and uneven walking surface on rocky intertidal areas. High winds on bluffs.

## SITE STRATEGIES

### Strategy 2-113.1 Objective: Deflection under favorable conditions to sandy beach areas

Because of high wave energy and rocky conditions at this site, mechanical shoreline protection techniques may not be possible, and booming is generally unfeasible due to wave energy in a boulder strewn area. When water conditions do permit, divert oil away from haulout areas toward fine grain sand beaches for collection.

### Strategy 2-113.2 Objective: Alternatives to mechanical protection and cleanup

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. dispersant and in-situ burning)

### Strategy 2-113.3 Objective: Shoreline Cleanup possibilities

Inspect shoreline for possible precleaning, manual removal, cold water flush and wash to remove pooled oil.

### Table of Response Resources

| strategy number | harbor boom | swamp boom | Other boom type | sorb boom | Anchoring no tvoe and gear | Boom boat | Skiffs punts | Skimmers No Type | Special Equipment or comment No and kinds | staff deploy | Staff tend |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|---|--------------|------------|
| 2-113.1         | 1500        |            |                 |           | 12 12 x 25-40#             | 2         |              |                  |   | 6            |            |
| 2-113.2         | 0           | 0          | 0               | 0         | 0                          | 0         | 0            | 0                | On-water Recovery / ART                   |              |            |
| 2-113.3         | 0           | 0          | 0               | 0         | 0                          | 0         | 0            | 0                |   |              |            |

## 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 to Salt Point State Park, north of Fort Ross. Exit at park entrance and proceed to Gerstle Cove parking area. A small cove within Salt Point State Park. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Areas: Gerstle Cove state Marine Reserve and Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS:** Asphalt one-lane road to beach; no turnaround.

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Dangerous surf possible, submerged rocks  
Limitations: depth, obstruction  
Launching, Loading, Docking Carry-in boats can be launched at beach.  
and Services Available:

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

Staging can be done on Park grounds. There is a paved area at beach headquarters. Sanitation and water available at this site.

### COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

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

