

County: **Marin**
 USGS Quad: **7.5" Quad: Tomales, CA**

Thomas Guide Location
 Marin County
 NOAA Chart: **Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643**

Latitude N
 38 12
 Longitude W
 122 56

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Site includes the two islands and a sand bar in the middle of Tomales Bay. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. These two islands are owned & managed by the National Park Service (Point Reyes National Seashore). Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. The island is actually two vegetated rocky islands with mixed sand and gravel beaches surrounding them. The sandbar, which is exposed at low tides at the northeast corner of the island, is a favorite resting area for brown pelicans and local cormorants, and occasional pinnipeds. The northern island is much larger and has a grove of trees that provide roosting and nesting for cormorants. Waters at the northwest corner are deep enough to approach the island, but recreational use and trespass is prohibited.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"B" priority site due to its importance as a roosting area for brown pelicans and shorebirds during the winter.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Hog Island is a land mass well elevated above the tidal lines of Tomales Bay. Most sides of the Island are rock faces but there are coarse grain beaches on the north and the west point and a fine grain sand spit on the northeast corner. The upland is a eucalyptus grove with a grassy understory.

The sensitivity of this location is derived from the sea and shore birds which favored the spit as a resting area. During the winter, 20 to 30 (and as many as 50) brown pelicans, plus cormorants and other marine birds, use the spit as a casual resting area. Cormorants roost and nest in the trees.

This was a historic harbor seal haul out (200 in May-June 1991) but currently is rarely used due to disturbance of boating traffic.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

This is a culturally sensitive area as is the entire margin of Tomales Bay. For specific sites, contact the Pt. Reyes Park headquarters archeological staff, the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Historically, a rich area of human habitation. 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
T	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
O	John Kelly	Audubon Canyon Ranch	(415) 868-9214
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
E/T	Pt. Reyes NP Dispatch PRNS	US National Park Service, Pt. Reyes (NS), Ranger	(415) 464-5170
T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-171 -B Site Strategy - Hog Island

County and Thomas Guide Location

Marin County Marin

NOAA CHART

Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643

2-171 -B

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 8 12

122 56

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Greatest potential for impact is oiling or disturbing roosting US threatened brown pelicans and other seabirds. If the spit becomes oiled, birds will get oiled when they land there. Also, response activity can disturb birds nesting and roosting in the trees or on the island. Stay off the upland portion of the island unless accompanied by a Pt. Reyes National Seashore representative.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Shallow shoals possible when approaching island.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-171.1 Objective: Hazing Pelicans and seabirds away from oil on beach

When oil on spit is a hazard for loafing birds, contact US Fish and Wildlife Service staff and Pt. Reyes National Seashore to advise of passive hazing measures. Mylar tape and balloons are recommended measures to keep birds from settling on oiled spit.

Strategy 2-171.2 Objective: Protection booming to minimize shoreline cleanup.

Surround the island with 2500 ft of 6X6+ protective boom. Anchor at 500' intervals and more frequently on the windward side.

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 and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-171.1	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	3 mylar tape, mylar balloons, stakes	2	
2-171.2	2500	0		0	8 15+#/danforth	2	1	0		8	

LOGISTICS

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

Hwy 1 to Tomales Bay. Accessible by water only. Launch at Nicks Cove just east of Hog Island. Site includes the two islands and a sand bar in the middle of Tomales Bay. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. These two islands are owned & managed by the National Park Service (Point Reyes National Seashore). Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS: none - water access only

WATER LOGISTICS: Sandbar is exposed at all tides.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest boat ramp is at Nicks Cove, Marshal, Sacramento Landing

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

Staging at Nicks Cove, Marshall, or Lawson's Landing. All have other support facilities.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

