

County: **Marin**
 USGS Quad: **Tomales,Drakes Bay, Inverness**

Thomas Guide Location
 Marin County
 Latitude N 3 8 09 Longitude W 122 54
 NOAA Chart: **Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2002

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This Site extends from Lairds Landing to Shell Beach. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Although this entire shoreline is sheltered, there is a wide variety of habitats and ecologic sensitivities. Upland varies between steep and mild gradient hills, and in parallel, shoreline varies between rocky exposure at drainage divides to recessed shorelines with pocket beaches and marshy pockets and margins. Three significant tidal marshes in pocket coves are the unnamed drainage just north of Sacramento Landing, Indian Beach, and Shallow Beach. As is the case throughout the bay, every drainage has cultural sites associated with it. Fronting most of the shoreline is mudflats and eelgrass beds. The shoreline from Lairds Landing to Duck Cove is Pt. Reyes National Seashore and the remainder is within Tomales Bay State Park. Access to this site is through the cooperation of these respective agencies. The buildings at Sacramento Landings are being converted to a laboratory facility. There is limited landside access through parks lands.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The site has "A" priority all year due to the presence of wetlands and threatened and endangered species. Herring spawning is seasonal important (Nov-March). Migratory bird density increases in the fall and winter.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This long stretch of has a variety of habitats along its length, but the principal habitat at risk are several saltmarshes at the back of pocket coves: the unnamed drainage just north of Sacramento Landing; Indian Beach; and Shallow Beach. The marsh also serves as a nursery area for many species of fish and invertebrates. The bay margin is mudflats and eelgrass beds and habitat for invertebrates, fish, and foraging birds.

Several bird species of special concern are resident or casual visitors. The brown pelican are found here occasionally or seasonally; California threatened species such as the California black rail, salt marsh yellowthroat, and merlin are common in the bay marshes. Herons, egrets, shorebirds and waterfowl use the site throughout the year. Shorebirds and waterfowl, including large numbers of brant, are very abundant here as they are elsewhere throughout the bay during the fall and winter months (Oct-Apr) and many are resident throughout the year.

Herring spawn in the eelgrass during the winter months (Nov-Feb) and viable eggs (Feb-Apr).

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
E/T	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
E		Cal State Parks, Marin District Dispatch	(707) 769-5665
E		CA State Parks, Northern Comms Center (Dispatch)	(916) 358-0333
O	John Kelly	Audubon Canyon Ranch	(415) 868-9214
E/T	Pt. Reyes NP Dispatch PRNS	US National Park Service, Pt. Reyes (NS), Ranger	(415) 464-5170

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-181 -A Site Strategy - Sacramento Landing Marshes

County and Thomas Guide Location

Marin County Marin

NOAA CHART

Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643

2-181 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 8 09

122 54

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

The concerns are oil and response activity impacts to wetlands, rare and endangered species, and other vulnerable plants and wildlife. The primary objective is to minimize oiling of marshes by booming. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities such as trampling wetlands, disturbing sensitive plants and animals, and soft mudflats or tromping oil into the sediments which can cause long term oil injury to the environment.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Shallow water in the nearshore area.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-181.1 Objective: Exclude/protect marshes by booming across cove/marsh front

Deploy boom across frontage of marshes at pocket coves. Though some land access is possible, boom may best be delivered by a boat capable of beaching on or nearshore so that boom can be anchored at shore. Anchor boom near shore and leave trailing lengths of booms to ensure that oil will not short circuit around boom during changes in tide elevation. 1000' of 4X4 or large boom is needed: .750' at the unnamed drainage just north of Sacramento Landing; 100' at Indian Beach; and 150' at Shallow Beach.

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
2-181.1	0	1000		0	9 15+## anchors and stakes	1	1	0		4	

LOGISTICS

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

Best access is via boat. However, if driving, take Hwy 1 to Point Reyes Station near the head of Tomales Bay. Proceed westward on Sir Francis Drake through Inverness, turn right on Pierce Point Road, turn right on L Ranch Road, take the second right onto a dirt road to Sacramento Landing. This land is either State Park or Pt. Reyes National Seashore property and access should be made through contacts to them. This Site extends from Lairds Landing to Shell Beach. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

LAND ACCESS: via dirt road, 2WD

WATER LOGISTICS: Shallow water near shore.
Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Beach launch at Sacramento Landing. Nearest launch ramps at Nicks Cove, Marconi, and Inverness. Boat hoist at Marshall.

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

Staging at Sacramento Landing, Pt Reyes National Seashore facilities or Inverness. Contact Pt. Reyes National Seashore for access and potential limitations. Alternate is Nicks Cove and possible Marshall. Food available at Nicks, Marshall, and Inverness and gasoline at Inverness.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

