

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

Thomas Guide Location  
 Marin County  
 Latitude N 3 8 14  
 Longitude W 123 00  
 NOAA Chart: **Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643**

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

A single rock island pinnacle approximately 300 yds offshore and west of Tomales Point. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. Large, steep-faced rock island surrounded by several washrocks. Located within Point Reyes National Seashore.

#### SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority all year. Seabird colonies most vulnerable during spring and summer months. Designated by the State as an area of Special Biological Significance.

#### RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Seabird colonies are present all year. They are most vulnerable during the spring and summer months while nesting and after molting.

Moderately sized seabird colonies (ca. 600 in 1980) are located on the island. Pelagic cormorants, pigeon guillemots, ashly storm-petrels, black oystercatchers, common murre, and western gulls all nest on the island.

Harbor seals haul out on the lower portions of the island and the surrounding washrocks throughout the year (>1000 in 1991).

A wide variety of seaweeds, fish, crabs, snails and other sealife are present on and around the island and washrocks.

Intertidal plants and animals are diverse and abundant on the central California coast. Many seaweeds, mussel beds, barnacles, fish, endangered black abalone, and other invertebrates can be found here.

Surface-canopy forming bull kelp beds and subtidal-canopy forming kelps are common.

#### CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

This is a culturally sensitive area. For specific sites, contact the Pt. Reyes Park headquarters archeological staff, the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - 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	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
O	Main Office	Point Blue Conservation Science	(707) 781-2555
E/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
E/T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

#### ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

## 2-194 -A Site Strategy - Bird Rock

County and Thomas Guide Location

Marin County Marin County

NOAA CHART

Bodega and Tomales Bays 18643

## 2-194 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 8 14

123 00

Last Page Update :

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Principal concerns are oil contamination and response activity impacts to seabirds, marine mammals, and other vulnerable intertidal plants and wildlife. The primary objective is to minimize exposure of oil to the natural resources present at the site. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities. Avoid low flying aircraft/helicopters (<1000 ft) over the seabird colonies and marine mammal haulout areas. Avoid noisy boat traffic near the site.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Numerous washrocks surround Bird Rock.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-194.1 Objective: Prevent oil from stranding on rocky shoreline and contaminating seabird and marine mammal use areas.

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 and rocky conditions at this site.

- 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.

### Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no tve and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-194.1	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0 0		On-water Recovery / ART	0	

### LOGISTICS

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

Accessible only by boat, the site is located approximately 300 yds offshore, west of Tomales Point. A single rock island pinnacle approximately 300 yds offshore and west of Tomales Point. Site lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS:** None

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Shallow washrocks, heavy surf and swell

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest boat ramp is at Lawson's Landing inside Tomales Bay, others are in Bodega Bay.

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

Lawson's Landing in Tomales Bay.

### COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

### ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

