

County: **Marin County**
 USGS Quad: **7.5" Quad: Drakes Bay, CA**

Thomas Guide Location
 Marin County
 NOAA Chart: **18640 / 18647**

Latitude N
 38 00
 Longitude W
 123 00

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Pt. Reyes Lighthouse to Chimney Rock and inside Drake's Bay to Lifeboat Station. Site is located within Pt. Reyes National Seashore and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Areas: Point Reyes Headlands Special Closure & Point Reyes State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.. A rocky headland approximately 3.5 miles long; steep cliffs; offshore washrocks; small pocket beaches of mixed sand and gravel; and rocky intertidal pools.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority all year. Seabirds present all year but nesting during spring and summer (Mar-July). Northern elephant seal breeding and pupping area (Jan-March). Stellar's and California sea lion haul outs August through April. California gray whales nearshore Dec-Feb and Apr-May.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Extremely sensitive and important seabird colonies and pinniped rookeries all along the headland on offshore rocks, cliffs, and pocket beaches.

Large seabird colonies (<20,000 in 1989) of Brandt's and pelagic cormorants, black oystercatcher, common murre, pigeon guillemot, tufted puffin, and western gull.

Northern elephant seal breeding and pupping area (Dec-March). Stellar's and California sea lion haul outs August through April. California gray whales nearshore Dec-Feb and Apr-May.

A wide variety of seaweeds, fish, crabs, snails and other sealife are present on and around the rocky headland 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
T	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
O	Main Office	Point Blue Conservation Science	(707) 781-2555
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
T	Becky Ota Marine Conservation MGR	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
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
T	Steve Wertz Senior Env.Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-201 -A Site Strategy - Point Reyes Headlands

County and Thomas Guide Location
Marin County Marin County

NOAA CHART
18640 / 18647

2-201 -A

Latitude N Longitude W
3 8 00 123 00

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

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 which are present throughout the year. 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 headland.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Heavy surf, large swell, and strong current common at this site. Nearshore washrocks are present along the headland.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-201.1 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.

Strategy 2-201.2 Objective: Prevent oil from stranding on rocky shoreline and contaminating seabird and marine mammal use areas.

If sea conditions allow:

- a) Deploy ocean boom off north or south points (1000 ft each) of headland to deflect oil away. Deploy boom off rocky points near seal haulout coves to deflect oil from pocket beaches.
- b) Deploy 500 ft of ocean deflection boom from Chimney Rock area easterly into Drakes Bay to deflect oil away from rocky intertidal shore along the inside of the headland.
- c) Waters inside Drakes Bay, in the lee of the headland, are often calm, however the currents are variable and unpredictable. Use 18" curtain boom at proper angles to the current to keep oil off the shore using the piers and mooring bouys as anchors if necessary.
- d) Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS) and/or 100ft of sorbent boom to collect any oil that may accumulate. Contact IC if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities.

Strategy 2-201.3 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

If oil accumulates in skimmable quantities as a result of strategies .1 or .2, deploy skimmers from vessels or piers using boom to deflect and contain oil. Contact IC prior to initiation of this recovery strategy.

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
2-201.1	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0 0		On-water Recovery / ART	0	
2-201.2	3000		3050 OB	100	30 30 / 40lb danforth	8	0	0	storage barges or bladders		
2-201.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0		

LOGISTICS

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

From San Francisco take Hwy 101 North to Sir Francis Drake Blvd in San Rafael, go west to Olema. Turn north (right) on Hwy 1, go 2 miles and take a left on Sir Francis Drake Blvd through Inverness. Continue on Sir Francis Drake to the headland. Pt. Reyes Lighthouse to Chimney Rock and inside Drake's Bay to Lifeboat Station. Site is located within Pt. Reyes National Seashore and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Areas: Point Reyes Headlands Special Closure & Point Reyes State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources..

LAND ACCESS: Access to shoreline difficult if not impossible.

WATER LOGISTICS: Large surf and swell, washrocks. Beach landings possible.

Limitations: depth, obstruction
Launching, Loading, Docking Small boat launch on north side of headland at lifeboat station.
and Services Available:

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

Staging at Lifeboat station on north side of Pt. Reyes headland. Deploy skimmers from vessel, pier, or shore.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

