

2-203 -A/C Site Summary- Drakes Beach (West)**2-203 -A/C**County: **Marin County**USGS Quad: **7.5 " Quad: Drakes Bay, CA**

Thomas Guide Location

Marin County

NOAA Chart: **18647**

Latitude N

3 8 07

Longitude W

122 57

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site is 200 yards of Drakes Beach located within Pt. Reyes National Seashore at the southwesterly crook of Drakes Bay about a quarter mile north of the fish pier. This portion of the beach is bounded by cliff to west end and a rocky point to the east. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Area: Point Reyes State Marine Reserve and the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. This site is 200 yards of east facing, sand/cobble beach. The back beach rises as vegetated steep bluffs. The upper beach is littered with driftwood and debris. Contains cliff, cobble, boulder, and pilings.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority November through June during the seal haulout and pupping periods. "C" priority the remainder of the year.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This sandy "pocket" beach serves as a valuable elephant seal haulout and pupping habitat.

Shorebirds, ducks, and sea birds throughout the year. Brants, cormorants, pigeon guillemots, surf scoters, grebes, loons, and cormorants.

Northern elephant seals (50-100), occasional harbor seals.

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	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	Steve Wertz Senior Env. Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-203 -A/C Site Strategy - Drakes Beach (West)

County and Thomas Guide Location
Marin County Marin County

NOAA CHART
18647

2-203 -A/C

Latitude N Longitude W
38 07 122 57

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

The concerns are oil contamination and response activity impacts to the sand beach and marine mammals which are present most of the year. The primary objective is to minimize the exposure of oil to natural resources present at the site. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities. Avoid trampling sensitive plants and animals and disturbing the seals. Avoid low flying aircraft/helicopters (<1000 ft) over marine mammal haulout areas. Avoid noisy boat traffic near the seals

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Poison oak. Large south swell possible and strong currents common near this site. Access from pier area involves negotiating a steep dirt trail. Equipment access best from visitors center.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-203.1 Objective: Prevent oil from stranding on shoreline and contaminating marine mammal use areas.

Site is relatively protected except from east or southeast winds. There is often a large counter clock-wise gyre in Drakes Bay. In addition to on-water recovery and containment efforts, the following site-specific measures should also be carried out.

Deploy 500 ft of ocean boom from Chimney Rock area east into Drakes Bay to deflect oil downcoast and away from Drakes Bay.

Strategy 2-203.2 Objective: Prevent oil from stranding on shoreline and contaminating marine mammal use areas.

Waters inside Drakes Bay, in the lee of the headland, are often calm, however the currents and the swell are variable and unpredictable. Use curtain boom at proper angles to the current to keep oil off the shore using the piers and mooring buoys as anchors if necessary.

a) Deploy 3000 ft of 18" curtain boom from shore at either end of the beach to exclude oil from the beach and deflect it back into the bay for possible collection.

b) Deploy boom from vessels or piers to deflect and contain oil. Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS) and/or 100ft of sorbent boom to collect small amounts of oil that may accumulate. If oil accumulates in skimmable quantities contact IC.

Strategy 2-203.3 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

If oil accumulates in skimmable quantities, deploy skimmers from vessels or piers. Contact IC prior to initiation of this 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
2-203.1	0	0	500 OB	0	0 0	0	0	0		23	
2-203.2	3000		50 os	100	20 15-20 / 25-40 lb. Danforth	4	0	0	storage tanks, bladders, or vac trucks		
2-203.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	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., 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 past the North Beach access, turn left at sign to Drakes Beach and visitor center. Alternatively, continue to end of road veering left to Chimney Rock. This site is 200 yards of Drakes Beach located within Pt. Reyes National Seashore at the southwesterly crook of Drakes Bay about a quarter mile north of the fish pier. This portion of the beach is bounded by cliff to west end and a rocky point to the east. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Area: Point Reyes State Marine Reserve and the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

LAND ACCESS: 2WD, flatbed (not semi) trucks, 4WD, ATV, foot

WATER LOGISTICS: None.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking There is a hoist on the commercial fish pier and a small boat ramp next to the lifeboat station.
and Services Available:

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

There are small parking areas at fish pier and lifeboat station on east side of Pt. Reyes headland. Parking and staging is also available at Drakes Beach Visitors Center.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ACP 2 SF Bay & Delta

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October 2014

