

County: **Marin County**USGS Quad: **7.5" Quad: Point Bonita, CA**

Thomas Guide Location

Marin County

NOAA Chart: **18647 / 18680**

Latitude N

3 7 49

Longitude W

122 32

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Large offshore flat top rock island south of Rodeo Lagoon, between Fort Cronkhite and Point Bonita. This site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. A large offshore rock that has steep vertical cliffs with boulder talus and rocky intertidal habitat at its base. Very exposed to all waves and weather. Just offshore at the south end of Rodeo Cove beach. Approximately 3/4 mile north of Point Bonita.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority from April through December due to the presence of significant numbers of California brown pelicans and other nesting seabirds. "B" priority January through March due to moderate numbers of roosting seabirds.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Seabird nesting and roosting habitat and rocky intertidal habitat at risk.

Up to 500 brown pelicans use the island as a roost site. Also up to 100 Brandt's cormorants, pigeon guillemots, common murrelets and western gulls nest on the island.

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, abalone and other invertebrates can be found here. Unusually large intertidal organisms are also present in tidepools at the base of Bird Island.

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

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

This is a culturally sensitive area. Contact the Golden Gate National Recreational Area main office, cultural resource specialist, 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/T	GGNRA Dispatch	US National Park Service, Golden Gate (NRA)	(415) 561-5505
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
E/T	Bill Merkle	US National Park Service, Golden Gate (NRA)	(415) 289-1843
E/T	Vika Sirova	US National Park Service, Golden Gate (NRA)	(415) 561-4731
T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-231 -A Site Strategy - Bird Island

County and Thomas Guide Location
Marin County Marin County

NOAA CHART
18647 / 18680

2-231 -A

Latitude N Longitude W
3 7 49 122 32

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

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 site.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Heavy surf and large swell common at this site.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-231.1 Objective: Prevent oil from stranding on rocky shoreline and contaminating seabird use areas.

Island has high verticle rock cliffs with boulders at the base. 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 type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-231.1	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0 0		On-water Recovery / ART		

LOGISTICS

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

No road access to this island. Closest shore access is to Rodeo Beach. Best access is via boat. Large offshore flat top rock island south of Rodeo Lagoon, between Fort Cronkhite and Point Bonita. This site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS: No access

WATER LOGISTICS: Heavy surf and large swell common at this site.
Limitations: depth, obstruction
Launching, Loading, Docking Nearest boat launch is in San Francisco Bay.
and Services Available:

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

Staging inside SF Bay. Staging at Rodeo Lagoon parking area but it would be very difficult to pass anything through the surf zone.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS: Developed in March, 1995. Not yet deployed or tested.

