

**1-414-A Site Summary - Rockport Bay and Cottaneva Creek****1-414-A****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - B - S01 MN - B - S02**NOAA Chart:** 18620**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.73408 -123.82863**Site Description:**

This site includes the tidal estuary at the mouth of Cottaneva Creek. The site is owned by Mendocino Redwood Company. Most offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument but some are owned by the same timber company. Site is associated with the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Vizcaino Rock Special Closure. Mixed sand and gravel beach. Minor wetland. Minor freshwater marsh at creek outlet.

Common murre (2004 estimates: ~2200 Rockport Rocks, ~9700 Cape Vizcaino), Brandt's cormorant (~2500, 2002), California brown pelicans (04-11). Seabirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, marine mammals, anadromous salmonids including coho salmon (FE/SE), steelhead trout (FT), chinook salmon (FT): all life stages, estuary use year round. Groundfish (EFH), surfsmelt and night-smelt spawning area (04-08), red abalone, southern torrent salamander upstream nearby in riparian habitat, sensitive vegetation on and near beach including pink sand-verbena, Point Reyes horkelia and Whitney's farewell-to-spring (all CNPS 1B).

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

1A Exposed Rocky Shore

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Presence</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>
Amphibians	Southern torrent salamander	SSC	Year-round	
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Birds	common murre	FP	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Birds	Brandt's cormorant	FP	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Birds	California brown pelican	FP, SP	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	
Plants	sensitive plant community		Year-round	

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

**List of Key Contacts:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Name/Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Phone</b>
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
E	/	Mendocino Redwood Company	(707) 463-5111
O	/24hr	CalFire Howard Forest Emergency Command	(707) 459-5336
O	/	Mendocino County Sheriff's Department	(707) 463-4086
T	/	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service-Arcata	(707) 822-7201
T	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service-Arcata Field Office	(707) 822-7201

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

**Additional Site Summary Comments:**

Breeding seabirds will use these rocks for nesting in the spring. Offshore rocks provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and haulout locations for marine mammals. Care should be taken so that response activities do not flush wildlife from these areas. The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round, especially during nesting season (03-09) when the adults are on eggs and until the young have fledged from the nest. The offshore rocks have cultural significance for local tribes.

For further information about coastal access in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Commission's California Coastal Access Guide. For photos of the coastline in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Records Project ([www.californiacoastline.org](http://www.californiacoastline.org)).

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

The rugged coastline will prevent onshore response over most of this area. Off-site measures including dispersants should be considered when a spill threatens to impact this area. Overflights should be careful to maintain flight path and altitude clearance distances that are large enough to prevent the flushing of birds and marine mammals from their nests, roosts, and haulouts on the offshore rocks in this area.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Private property, locked gate access.

**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 1-414.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** This site is best protected by preventing the oil from arriving here, when possible. Off-site response options including dispersants should be considered.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update****Logistics:**

**Directions:** From Hwy 101 in Leggett, take Hwy 1 south toward Fort Bragg. Follow 17.7 miles to private road on right at Rockport (M.P. 87.82). Site is through a locked gate and appx. 0.6 miles down a dirt road. Follow road to left to grassy field (100 yards by 150 yards). This area is accessible to large equipment.

**Land Access:** Private property. Locked Gates. Contact Mendocino Redwood Company.

**On-Water Limitations:** No launching facilities, nearest launch in Fort Bragg.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Grassy field (100 x 150 yds.) on property suitable for local response staging only. No utilities or facilities.

**Communications Problems:** Remote, limited communications

