

**1-458-B Site Summary - Mendocino Headlands State Park****1-458-B****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - F - S02**NOAA Chart:** 18626**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.3051 -123.80913**Site Description:**

This site is composed of the rocky shoreline adjacent to the community of Mendocino and is managed by State Parks. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Rocky bluffs, surge channels, seawalls and offshore rocks. Fully exposed wave energy. This site is popular and can be busy seasonally with many tourists and locals hiking the trails on the scenic bluffs.

Seabird colonies include pelagic cormorant, pigeon guillemot, tufted puffin (SSC), western gull, black oystercatcher; marine mammals, red abalone, groundfish (EFH). Sensitive plants on bluff include bluff wallflower, perennial goldfields, Mendocino Coast paintbrush (all CNPS 1B.2).

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	tufted puffin	FP, SSC		Mar-Aug
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Mammals	marine mammals	FP	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:**

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
O	/24hr	CalFire Howard Forest Emergency Command	(707) 459-5336
O	/	Mendocino County Sheriff's Department	(707) 463-4086
O	/Supervisor Ranger (24hr)	NORCOM State Parks Dispatch	(916) 358-1300
T	/	Bureau of Land Management	(707) 825-2300
T	/Sector Superintendent	California State Parks, Mendocino District	(707) 937-5804
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:**

Extreme current, high energy shoreline, offshore rocks

**Site Strategies:**

**Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 1-458.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** Conventional on-scene response is not possible at this site. Protect with off-site response measures only.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update**

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* From Hwy 101 at Willits, take Hwy 20 west to Hwy 1 at Fort Bragg, go south on Hwy 1 to the Mendocino exit onto Lansing Street, turn west on Heeser Drive to the end at the headlands.

*Land Access:* Shoreline access is limited to foot traffic.

*On-Water Limitations:* No launching facilities are available at this site.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Staging for local response equipment is available in the parking lots above the beaches in the general area. These parking lots are unpaved and have no utilities. Food service and phones are the only resources generally available for response in the immediate area.

*Communications Problems:*

