

**3-435 -A Site Summary- Bird Rock****3-435 -A****County:** Monterey**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Monterey

1133

36° 35.5'

121° 58.2'

**NOAA Chart:****Last Page Update:** 6/30/2014**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Offshore rocky outcroppings supporting roosting sites for pinnipeds and shorebirds. Access by water only. Bird Rock lies just north of Seal Rock. Site is associated with the following BLM California Coastal National Monument site: Bird Rock. Bird Rock and Seal Rock are in between Point Joe and Cypress Point. Private Ownership - Pebble Beach Company.

**SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Year round

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Seasonally present pinnipeds (potentially very high numbers) and shorebirds. Harbor seal pups are likely present (Feb-May). Significant colony of Brandt's Cormorants nests on Bird Rock, April-September.

Brown pelicans, Brandt's and Pelagic cormorants, Black Oystercatchers, Pigeon Guillemots, Western Gulls and other various shorebirds utilize rock island to roost and forage.

Harbor seals haulout and may use site for pupping, Feb-May. Sea lions also haul out here. While not a significant gathering site, Southern Sea Otters (FT) are common throughout Santa Cruz and Monterey counties and may be present near-shore year round.

Site is located within Black Abalone Critical Habitat. Actual presence of black abalone is unknown.

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison: 916-445-7044), and the Northwest Information Center (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College: 707-588-8455) 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
O			Pebble Beach Company	(831) 625-8428
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251
E/T	David Ledig		BLM California Coastal National Monument	(831) 630-5006
E/T	James Weigand	Ecologist	BLM	(916) 978-4656

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

Adjoining land is privately owned by Pebble Beach Company.

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**CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:**

Offshore rocks accessible via boat. Potentially heavy surf during winter months.

**HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:**

Keep aircraft out of area Mar-July.

**SITE STRATEGIES**Strategy 3-435.1 Objective: Offshore Containment and Recovery Activities to Minimize or Avert Oil From Impacting Shoreline Habitats and Wildlife.

This site is difficult to protect as is most of the outer coast. No on-site protection is feasible.

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 tvpe and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-435.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

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

Traveling south on Hwy.1, continue south past Monterey toward Carmel. Exit Hwy.1 on to Hwy 68 West, Pacific Grove/Pebble Beach. Follow signs to Pacific Grove and Asilomar. At the junction of Highway 68, Sunset Drive, and Forest Avenue, turn left onto Sunset. At intersection of Sunset and 17-Mile Drive, turn left to enter 17-Mile Drive gate of Pebble Beach. 17-Mile Drive hugs the coast and taking it will take you to most of the sensitive sites. Follow 17-mile Drive around the coast to the Bird Rock and Seal Rock site (Bird Rock Road is a short loop off 17-Mile Drive). Closest cross streets to Seal Rock are Silver Trail or Spyglass Hill Road. Contact Pebble Beach Company, if directions are needed to get to other entrance gates for 17-mile Drive. Offshore rocky outcroppings supporting roosting sites for pinnipeds and shorebirds. Access by water only. Bird Rock lies just north of Seal Rock. Site is associated with the following BLM California Coastal National Monument site: Bird Rock.

**LAND ACCESS****WATER LOGISTICS:**

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking

and Services Available:

**FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:****COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:****ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

