



**NATIONAL
CONSERVATION
LANDS**

California Coastal

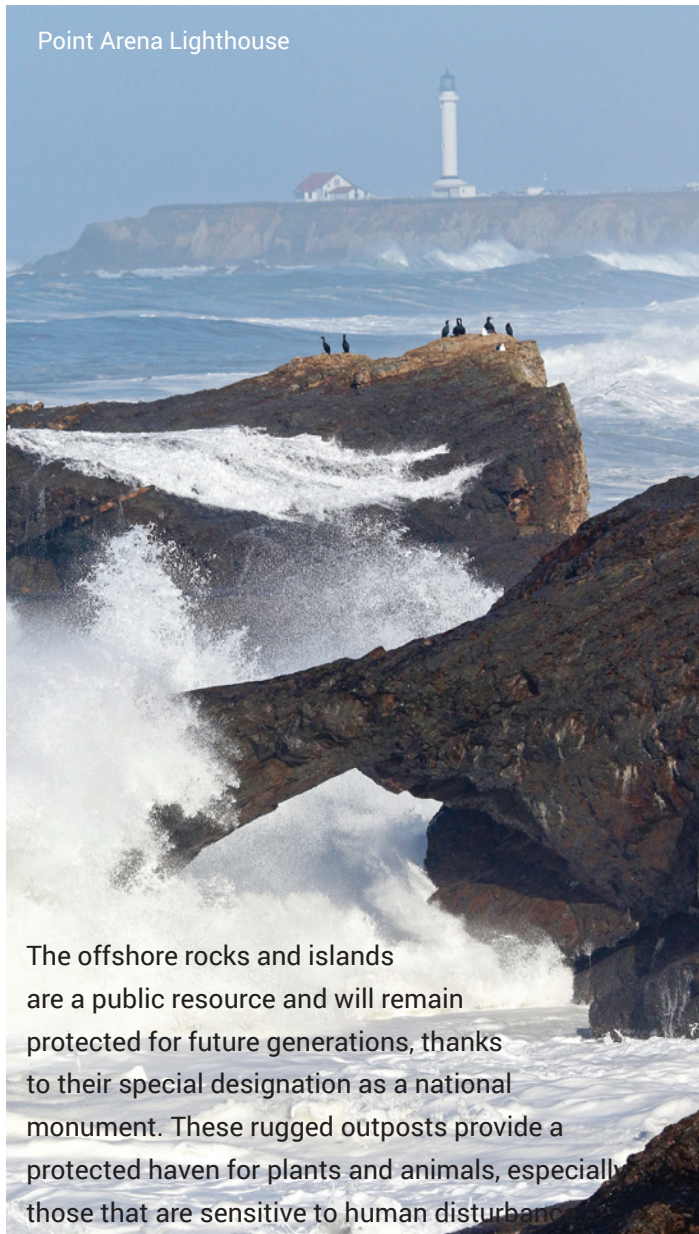
National Monument

Map & Guide

Where Land and Sea Collide

Waves explode onto offshore rocks, spraying whitewater into the air. Sea lions bark as they haul out of the surf onto the rocks, and a whirlwind of birds fly above. Millions of people gaze upon the California coastline and its stunning beauty year-round.

Point Arena Lighthouse



The offshore rocks and islands are a public resource and will remain protected for future generations, thanks to their special designation as a national monument. These rugged outposts provide a protected haven for plants and animals, especially those that are sensitive to human disturbance.



Connecting the Pacific Ocean with the land, the California Coastal National Monument provides a unique coastal habitat for marine-dependent wildlife and vegetation on more than 20,000 rocks, islands, exposed reefs and pinnacles along the California coastline. Nearly 8,000 acres of onshore public lands are also a part of the national monument: Trinidad Head, Waluplh-Lighthouse Ranch, Lost Coast Headlands, Point Arena-Stornetta, Cotoni-Coast Dairies, and Piedras Blancas.





Sanderlingsp

A Haven for Birds

A rock rising out of the ocean can be an important place for birds to breed, lay eggs, or rest away from predators.

An estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds rely on the rocks and islands of the California Coastal National Monument. Keep an eye out for black oystercatchers, pigeon guillemots, tufted puffins, several storm-petrel species, and many other birds making their homes among the rocks.



Double-crested Cormorant

A Home for Marine Mammals

Several fin-footed marine mammal species, called pinnipeds, depend on the monument's islands, rocks, reefs, and pinnacles for warming and resting, as well as the ocean around them for feeding. Harbor seals and California sea lions are common around the monument, and Steller sea lions and northern fur seals can sometimes be seen.



Harbor seal

Visitors can easily tell the difference between harbor seals and California sea lions by looking for two outward characteristics. Harbor seals do not have any external ears, while California sea lions do have ear flaps. Also, harbor seals wiggle and bounce along the land on their bellies, while sea lions can use their tails like a foot to travel on land.



California sea lions

Coastal Heritage

Humans have had a presence on the California coast for thousands of years, as the ocean provided food, raw materials, and transportation for the area's original inhabitant, Native Americans. The rocks and islands of the national monument served as navigational aids (and sometimes impediments) for the early European explorers and later for fur traders and timber merchants. Today, millions of people live along the coast and millions more visit every year.



Piedras Blancas Light Station

Do Your Part to Support Coastal Conservation

The coastal environment is a fragile one. Here are some important things you can do while enjoying the California Coastal National Monument to protect this awe-inspiring place:

- When tide pooling, watch where you step. Don't crush or remove sea stars, crabs, or other animals. Life in the inter tidal zone is challenging enough without human interference.
- Help marine wildlife by packing out what you bring to the beach. Plastic debris in the water can look a lot like food, which has huge impacts to wildlife.
- Volunteer with the BLM or one of our many coastal partners. There are opportunities for people of all ages to participate in citizen science or stewardship of the monument's natural resources.
- Keep binoculars close by to capture great views without disturbing the animals.



Trinidad



U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management



Trinidad Head Lighthouse

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Trinidad Head Lighthouse is a small tower perched on a 175-foot shelf above sea level. The tower is still active, with an LED beacon mounted outside the lantern room.

The BLM manages the historic lighthouse cooperatively with the City of Trinidad, the Trinidad Rancheria, the Trinidad Museum Society and the Yurok Tribe.



Waluph-Lighthouse Ranch

2

Walpulh-Lighthouse Ranch offers spectacular views of Eel River estuary to the south and the Pacific Ocean to the west.

There is a short, easy interpretive trail along Table Bluff where visitors can discover why there is no longer a lighthouse and read about the rich natural and human history of the area.



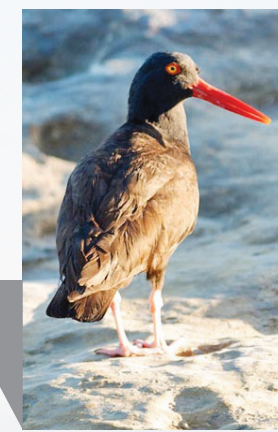
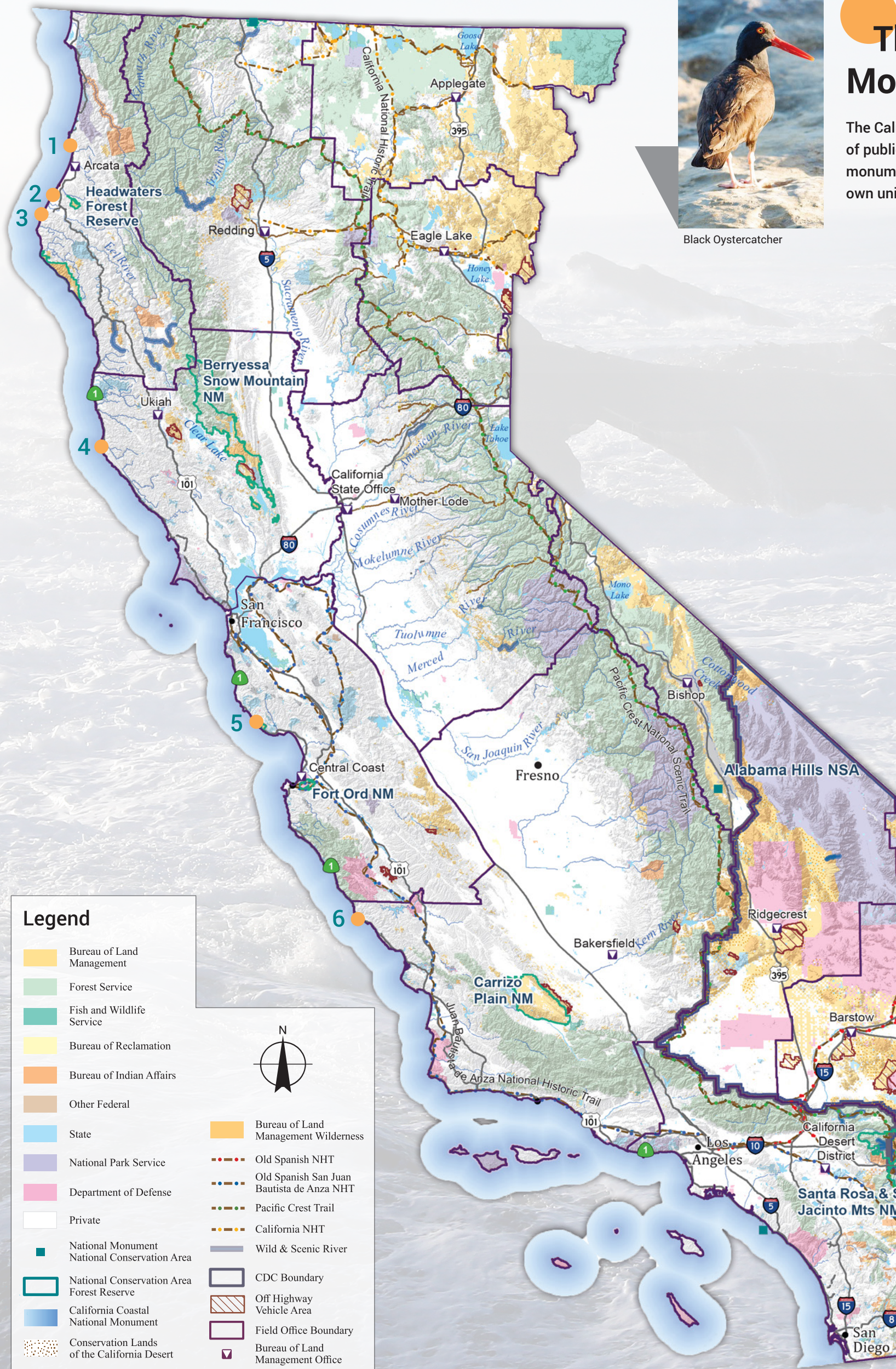
Lost Coast Headlands

3

The Lost Coast Headlands stretch along the coastal bluffs south of the mouth of the Eel River.

The area provides seasonal beach access and includes grasslands with scattered patches of forest and portions of the Fleener Creek and Guthrie Creek watersheds.

The northern point of California's Lost Coast is a place of rolling mountains and windswept coastal bluffs crumbling onto narrow beaches.



Black Oystercatcher

The California Coastal National Monument Stretches Onshore

The California Coastal National Monument also includes nearly 8,000 acres of public lands on the mainland. These lands give visitors a chance to see the monument's seabirds, marine mammals, and tide pools, but and support their own unique plants and animals and offer other recreational opportunities.

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Point Arena-Stornetta

Situated along the rugged Mendocino County coastline adjacent to the town of Point Arena, Point Arena-Stornetta offers spectacular views of coastal bluffs, sea arches, tide pools, the estuary of the Garcia River, sandy beaches and dunes with eight miles of marked paths.

The historic Point Arena Lighthouse provides a stunning backdrop to the area.



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Cotoni-Coast Dairies

Near Davenport in Santa Cruz County, Cotoni-Coast Dairies extends from the steep slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains to the marine coastal terraces overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Vibrant riparian areas follow along stream corridors, with red alder and arroyo willow forests dominating the vegetative community.



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Piedras Blancas Light Station

The Light Station provides a glimpse into our nation's past when lighthouses served a vital role in maritime navigation. Today it is managed as a historic park and wildlife sanctuary.

The tower and some support buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The best way to visit the Light Station is on a public tour. Visit www.blm.gov/piedrasblancas for more information.



Northern Elephant Seal



Pigeon Guillemot



Brown Pelican



Common Murre



Western Gull



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