**Point Arena-Stornetta Unit**

California Coastal National Monument

Situated along the rugged Mendocino County coastline adjacent to the town of Point Arena, is the 1,665-acre Point Arena-Stornetta Unit of the California Coastal National Monument. The first shoreline unit of the Monument offers spectacular views of coastal bluffs, sea arches, the estuary of the Garcia River, and sandy beaches and dunes with eight miles of marked paths.

The Point Arena-Stornetta Unit (Unit) was included as the first shoreline unit of the California Coastal National Monument by Presidential Proclamation on March 11, 2014. The Unit expands the Monument to include coastal bluffs and shelves, tide pools, ocean shore dunes, coastal prairies, riverbanks and the mouth and estuary of the Garcia River. Purpose for the designation was for the protection of important biological resources and habitats, cultural resources, geology and recreational use and access.

The Unit is open for daytime activities including wildlife viewing, hiking, bird watching, fishing, picnicking, nature photography, and public access to the Mendocino Coast. The privately owned Point Arena Lighthouse can be accessed via Lighthouse Road (county road), which runs through the area at the north end.

The California Coastal National Monument was established on January 11, 2000, and comprises more than 20,000 rocks, reefs, and islands spread along the 1,100 mile California coastline. These dramatic features contribute to California’s awe-inspiring coastal scenery and provide havens for significant populations of seabirds and marine mammals. The Monument protects feeding and nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds and thousands of loafing and breeding pinnipeds (seals and sea lions).

**Conserving Our Lands**

National Conservation Lands, including the California Coastal National Monument, are part of an active, vibrant landscape where people live, work, and play. They offer exceptional opportunities for recreation, solitude, wildlife viewing, exploring history, scientific research, and a wide range of traditional uses.

**In an Emergency**

- **Call 9-1-1**
- Mendocino County Sheriff (707) 964-6308
- Nearest hospital is 44 miles north on Hwy 1.
- Mendocino Coast District Hospital, 700 River Drive, Fort Bragg, CA (707) 961-1124

**Contact Us**

Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Field Office
2550 North State Street, Suite 2
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 468-4000
blm.gov/ca/ukiah

California Coastal National Monument
blm.gov/ccnm

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**Leaves No Trace**

Grazing

Water

Wildlife

Weather

Safety/Condition

 Conserving Our Lands

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### Managed Grazing

Managed grazing is a useful tool in the ongoing management of the Garcia River. Purpose for the designation was for the protection of important biological resources and habitats, cultural resources, geology and recreational use and access.

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The Unit is home to nine special status species, many of the special status species.

Packing with Human History

When Europeans first arrived, the area was inhabited by the Bokeya or Central Pomo tribe. The ocean played an important part of the Bokeya life. Fish, shellfish, sea mammals, and seaweed were gathered from the ocean and coast for food. From the land, vegetables, berries, roots and greens were gathered and mammals and birds hunted. The Bokeya traded items from the coast for acorns, buckeye, and pine nuts found further inland.

During the late 1800s, the town of Flumeville or Rollerville was located roughly at the intersection of Lighthouse Rd. and Highway 1. This small settlement helped move timber from the interior forests via the Garcia River with a system of flumes (trough-like channels filled with water), a narrow gauge railroad, and chute to sailing ships at Point Arena Harbor.

Cattle troughs, a milk barn, and road system from the early 1900s remain as evidence of dairy operations. Joseph Sheppard established a Jersey dairy farm on portions of this area in the late 1800s. Around 1924, A.O. Stornetta purchased the ranch from the widow of Joseph Sheppard. Stornetta was known for combining local dairy operations.

Coastal Cliffs

Cliffs/bluffs are unstable—do not climb. Be careful of edges when using a camera, viewing wildlife, or just walking. Due to wind, water, and wave action, the edges may be undercut and not visible from the top of the bluff. These conditions are ever-changing and may not be marked.

Wildlife

The Unit is home to nine special status species, including plants, mammals, birds, amphibians, fish and insects. Commonly seen marine animals include harbor seals and gray whales.

Safety/ Caution

Whether hiking, wildlife viewing or driving, your safety depends on your good judgment, adequate preparation, and constant awareness. Your safety is your responsibility.

Weather

Weather on the North Coast can be changeable with fog, wind, rain or sun. Dress in layers for your comfort and changing conditions while visiting the area.

Water

Carry enough water per person for hiking. Water is not available on site. Cooler coastal temperatures are deceiving and you can still become dehydrated.

Grazing

Grazing reduces invasive bunch grasses which compete with other native succulent plants that are critical to many of the special status species.

Respect the Neighbors

There are private properties within and adjacent to the Point Arena-Stornetta Unit that are closed to the public. Respect private lands, signs and closures.

The City of Point Arena has provided public access on the southern end of the Unit. Be respectful to the City and community as there are community activities at City Hall. Do not park adjacent to the building.
Line fishing is allowed. NO FISHING for aquatic invertebrates (including abalone) or aquatic plants. For boundaries and regulations go to: wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs

Enjoy Your Visit Today & Tomorrow

The California Coastal National Monument is managed to conserve and protect coastal resources. Visitor use should be consistent with these objectives. Please practice Leave No Trace principles and the following guidance:

- Stay on paths. Trails are under development and are subject to change.
- Pack out your trash.
- Cliffs are unstable—do not climb.
- Dogs must be on leash. Clean up after your dog.
- Keep your distance from wildlife and do not feed wildlife.
- This area has active livestock grazing. Make cows aware of your presence by talking to them in a calm voice. For your and your dog’s safety, do not approach cattle.
- Day use only from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. No fires and no camping.
- No cutting or collecting firewood.
- No discharge or use of fireworks, firearms or other weapons, including bows and arrows, pellet guns, and paintball guns. No hunting.
- No motorized vehicles or hang gliding.

These lands were acquired by the BLM and made possible by the many generous grants and contributions by agencies, non-government organizations and individuals with the three phases of acquisition.

A special thanks to the community of Point Arena.