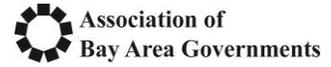




San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
 Site Description for
Point Emery



Location, Ownership, and Management: Point Emery is owned and managed by the City of Emeryville. It is a small park featuring stunning views of the Bay, walking paths, and a small parking lot located off of West Frontage Road.

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<i>Path to beach</i>	<i>Beach launch</i>	<i>Path to point launch</i>

Facility Description: Point Emery has two launches -- the wide, sandy beach north of the parking lot, and a narrow but short set of stairs near the Point. The beach launch is approximately 50 feet from the parking lot. Free unlimited parking is offered from 7AM to 9PM. There are thirteen diagonal spaces, including one ADA parking space. There are no restrooms.

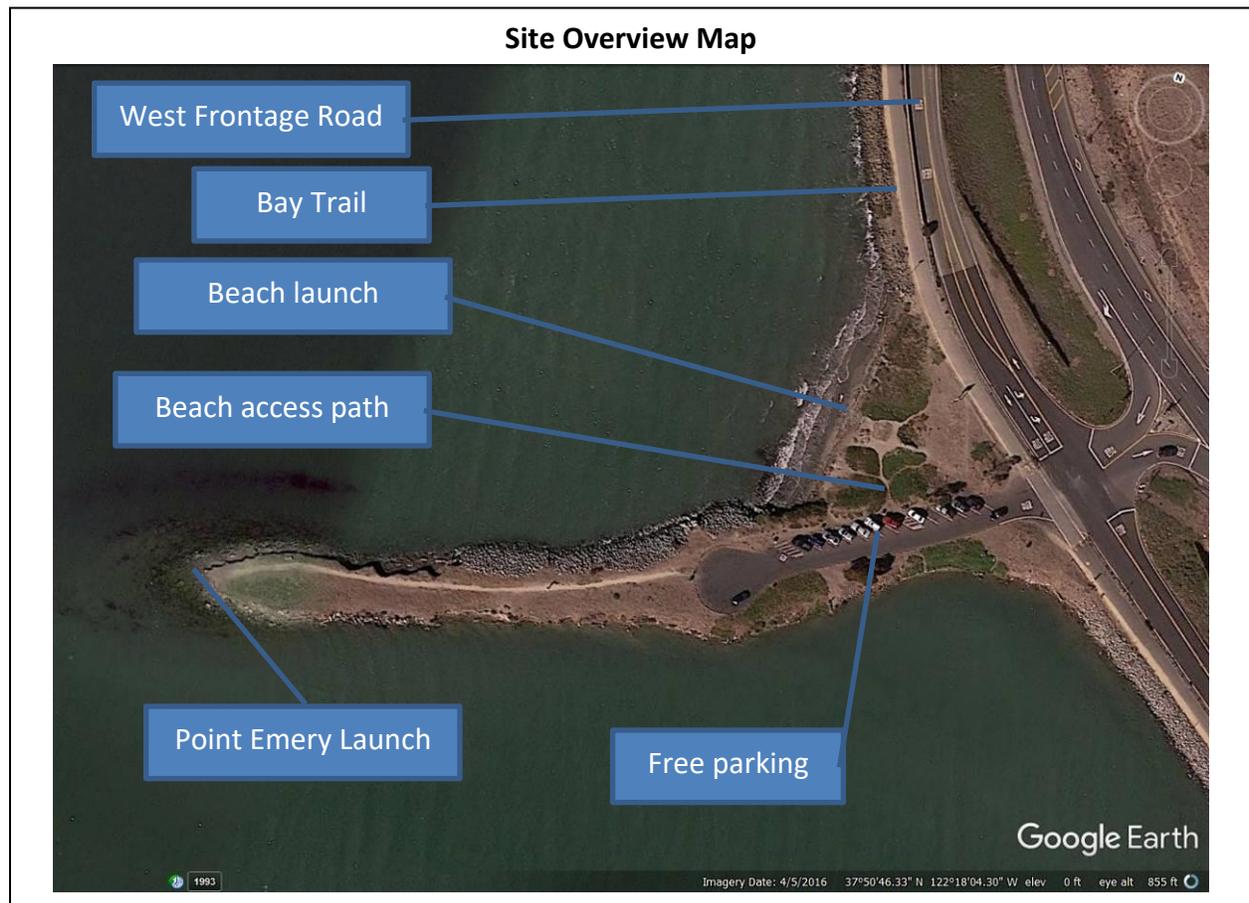
Point Emery is popular for kayakers and stand-up paddlers due to its convenient location, parking with no hourly time limit, and short walk from the parking area to the beach. The site is also a key launch for kiteboarders and windsurfers on windy summer afternoons. Parking is frequently filled on windy summer afternoons by kitesailors and windsurfers.



Point Emery offers exceptional views across the San Francisco Bay.

Other Identifying or General Information:

<p>Site ID: <u>A4</u> In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u> Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u> Ownership: <u>Public</u> County: <u>Alameda</u> Geo-Region: <u>Albany/Berkeley/Emeryville</u> SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay</u> Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u></p>	<p>Home of a Club: <u>No</u> Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>No</u> Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>Yes</u> Near Food or Drink: <u>No</u></p> <p>Proximity to Other Sites: This site is located in close proximity to Shorebird Park (A5) and the Emeryville Marina (A6), approximately 0.4 miles south and 0.7 miles southwest from the Park, respectively. The Berkeley Marina Small Boat Launch Water Trail site is located approximately 1.3 miles north. Treasure Island is 3.5 miles west and Pier 40 and the San Francisco waterfront are 6 miles west.</p>
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Description of Launch/Landing:

Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>No</u> Float: <u>No</u> Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>No</u> Gangway: <u>No</u> Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>No</u> Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>Yes</u> Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>No</u> Stair Water Entry: <u>Yes</u>	Beach: <u>Yes</u> Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: <u>No</u> Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>No</u> Other Launch/Landing Notes: On the point there is a path that leads down through the rip rap, which is utilized by windsurfers. Water Entry Path: <u>No</u>
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Site Appears to be Suitable For:

Kayak: <u>Yes</u> Windsurfer: <u>Yes</u> Kiteboard: <u>Yes</u> Whaleboat: <u>No</u> Stand Up Paddleboard: <u>Yes</u>	Canoe: <u>Yes</u> Outrigger Canoe: <u>No</u> Sculling: <u>No</u> Rowboat/Dinghy: <u>No</u> Dragonboat: <u>No</u>
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Point Emery is a long established windsurfing location and is an excellent kiteboarding location if conditions are right and skills are sufficient to ensure that a rider can stay upwind. This spot is recommended for intermediate to advanced riders only. Gear can be rigged on the beach or on the grass area within the park.

Transportation and Parking:

<p>General Spaces (number): <u>13</u> ADA Parking Spaces (number): <u>1</u> ADA Parking Description: One van accessible ADA space located closest to the point. Duration (hours): <u>14</u> Overnight Parking Allowed: <u>No</u> Loading/Unloading Area: <u>No</u> Bay Trail: <u>Yes</u> Public Transportation: No public transportation services the site. A popular segment of Bay Trail runs along the shore next to the Park.</p>	 <p>Park hours are 7AM to 9PM. There is no parking time limit during these hours, which is important to paddlers or windsailors seeking longer excursions on the Bay.</p>
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Path of Travel:

<p>Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): <u>122</u> Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): <u>140</u> Path of Travel Exists: <u>No</u></p>  <p>Path of Travel Description: The beach access path leads approximately 50 feet from the parking lot, down a small set of steps, and through small dunes to the sandy beach.</p>

Other Site Amenities:

<p>Total Restrooms: <u>0</u> Total ADA Restrooms: <u>0</u> Restroom Description: <u>None</u> Boat Washing: <u>No</u> Rigging/Staging Area: <u>No</u> Picnic Tables: <u>No</u> Benches: <u>Yes</u> BBQ: <u>No</u> Boat Storage: <u>No</u></p>	 <p><i>Benches and a walking path make Point Emery a scenic destination for paddlers.</i></p>
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Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>No</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
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Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

The park has ADA parking, but the path to the beach and out to the point is unpaved and generally not accessible.

Additional Notes on Use of Site (Boating and Non-Boating) and Existing and Planned Management:

This site is utilized largely by kiteboarders and windsurfers. Kiteboarders will launch from the beach and windsurfers often launch closer to the point. Paddlers also use the beach for launching or landing. The ability to park for extended periods of time, for free, and the proximity of the beach launch make this a convenient site when users are able to get parking.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Car break-ins are known to occur. No shipping lanes occur in the immediate vicinity of the launch.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

Mudflats to the south of the site provide habitat to foraging birds. Birds foraging in the mudflats would not be affected by boaters, as boaters would not be able to paddle in these areas at low tide. Increased signage encouraging boaters to be aware of tides and the potential for getting stranded in the mud would reduce potential for boaters to affect these habitats.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

There is a Beach TLC Station located next to the path from the parking area to the beach. This small box contains plastic bags to encourage trash collection, as well as information on how to report what type of trash was collected for data collection purposes.

Other Existing or Anticipated Water Trail-Related Issues and Opportunities:

The City of Emeryville Capital Improvement Plan includes a project that would install shoreline protection (riprap) along the unprotected portions of the northern shoreline and the western-most portions of the south shoreline of Point Emery. These improvements should take into account windsurfer access.

Accessibility of Sites within the Albany/Berkeley/Emeryville Geo-Region:

There are six potential Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Albany Beach, Berkeley Marina Ramp, Berkeley Marina Small Boat Launch, Point Emery, Shorebird Park, and Emeryville City Marina.

The experiences that are available in the Albany/Berkeley/Emeryville Geo-Region are predominantly urban, but provide a variety of different facilities including beach launches, docks, and ramps. Several sites within this geo-region provide accessible features, including the Berkeley Marina Ramp and the Berkeley Marina Small Boat Launch, but none are currently considered broadly accessible.

The Berkeley Marina Small Boat Launch will provide a broadly accessible site upon completion of scheduled improvements in 2017. These improvements include a new ADA restroom, improved path of travel, paving/repaving the parking area, and a Water Trail Grant funded accessible gangway to the existing low-freeboard dock.

**Summary of Environmental Review
based on the
San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Final Environmental Impact Report**

**Point Emery
December 9, 2016**

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.	Point Emery has a sandy beach accessed by a water entry path and parking. Facilities are well maintained, but the parking area is small and often full. Non-motorized small boat use is compatible with other uses and, when parking is available, increased use would not be anticipated to result in conflicts.	Regarding recreational conflicts, Water Trail users may submit comments to Water Trail staff through the website if they witness or experience recreational conflict at any designated site.
Navigational and Personal Safety References: WT DREIR pp. 3-38 to 3-51, and Figures 3.4.2-1 and 3.4.2-2.	Small boat users should be aware of winds and currents. No major shipping channels occur in the immediate vicinity of Point Emery.	The Water Trail educational sign provides safety information related to navigational and personal boating safety.
Aesthetics References: WT DREIR pp. 3-56 to 3-68.	Point Emery is considered an urban launch, characterized by the developed park that provides access to a beach. Point Emery does not currently have signs except for parking restriction signs, an educational box for beach cleanups, and an entryway sign.	The Water Trail will require the inclusion of a Water Trail identification sign at the site. A “sign program” will be developed with the City of Emeryville to ensure that the I.D. sign and additional educational sign do not result in sign clutter at the site.
Biology-Vegetation References: WT DREIR pp. 3-69 to 3-92 and Table 3.7.2-1 and Table 3.7.2-2.	The shoreline of the Point Emery is reinforced in some areas with riprap and generally developed. Tidal mudflats occur within the basin to the south of Point Emery, and to a lesser extent to the north of Point Emery.	Boaters should keep recommended distances from sensitive habitats. Preventing the inadvertent spread of exotic, invasive plant species is important at all launch sites. The WT educational sign and website ask WT users to help prevent the spread of invasive species by rinsing boats and equipment immediately after use.

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
<p>Biology – Birds <i>References: WT FEIR text and map</i></p>	<p>Due to the developed nature of the region, there are limited active nesting areas in the vicinity of the site. The Emeryville Crescent, an important feeding ground for a variety of shorebirds and waterfowl, is located approximately 0.5 miles to the south of the park.</p>	<p>The WT educational sign includes information about how to paddle responsibly around wildlife and to maintain a buffer distance from nesting birds. The WT website and brochure include more detailed information about not disturbing nesting birds.</p> <p>Mudflat habitat is most important to species when exposed, which limits boaters' ability to come into proximity to feeding shorebirds. It is anticipated that most boaters launching from Point Emery will seek the open waters of the Bay and visitation to nearby sensitive shorelines is not anticipated to substantially increase. Signage could inform paddlers to avoid entering the Emeryville Crescent.</p>
<p>Biology – Rafting Waterfowl <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Table 3.8.2-1, Figure 3.8.2-1.</i></p>	<p>This site provides access to areas where rafting waterfowl congregate.</p>	<p>Disturbance of rafting waterfowl is not addressed in existing signs on-site, but is highlighted in the Water Trail educational sign, brochure, and website.</p>
<p>Biology – Ridgway's rail (formerly California clapper rail) and California black rail and high tide refugia <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figure 3.8.2-2</i></p>	<p>Ridgway's rail and black rail have been known to occur near Radio Beach, within four miles of the Point Emery.</p>	<p>Signage is needed to emphasize the importance of not entering marshes, keeping a 50-foot buffer from rail habitat (not entering channels less than 100-feet wide), importance of staying clear of high-tide refugia, and that landing in marshes and on levees is prohibited. The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include this information.</p>
<p>Biology –Western Snowy Plover <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-93 to 3-131 and Figures 3.8.2-3</i></p>	<p>Unique or important western snowy plover habitat does not exist at or in the immediate vicinity of the Point Emery.</p>	<p>The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include bird avoidance information.</p>

