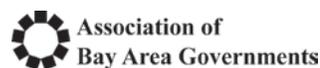




San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
 Site Description for
South Beach Harbor (aka Pier 40)



Location, Ownership, and Management: Pier 40 is located along the The Embarcadero, south of the Bay Bridge, in the South Beach neighborhood of San Francisco. The site is managed by the Port of San Francisco. Pier 40 and the adjacent waterfront was recently redeveloped to provide improved boat launch facilities, restrooms, parking, Bay Trail promenade, and park areas.

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South Dock	Public Kayak Storage	North Dock

Facility Description: Pier 40 provides access to the San Francisco Bay for small non-motorized boats with high-freeboard docks, boat storage, public restrooms, and an outfitter - City Kayak. There are two high-freeboard docks, one is located to the north of Pier 40 and one to the south. Both are accessed by accessible gangways and are open for public use.

The site is used primarily by kayakers and stand-up paddlers. Most paddlers launch from the dock on the north side of Pier 40. The dock gangway has a gate and sharp turns that can make carrying boats difficult; however, the dock is frequently used. Level of use varies seasonally, but generally the site is used at least five days per week. City Kayak provides indoor and outdoor public kayak storage for a monthly fee. City Kayak also provides equipment rentals, guided trips, sales, classes, and coordinates regular outings for groups, including disadvantaged youth.

The adjacent South Beach Park and promenade also contain benches, pathways, trash/recycling receptacles, art sculptures, and landscaping. Parking at Pier 40 is limited to City Kayak or other Pier 40 customers only. Public parking is limited and visitors are typically required to use metered street parking on The Embarcadero. Food and drink are available from the adjacent Java House and SB40 restaurants.

Other Identifying or General Information:

<p>Site ID: <u>SF8</u> In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u> Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u> Ownership: <u>Public</u> County: <u>San Francisco</u> Geo-Region: <u>Southern San Francisco</u> <u>Waterfront</u> SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay</u> Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u> Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>No</u> Near Food or Drink: <u>Yes</u> Home of a Club: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>Yes, Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors (BAADS)</u></p> <p>Proximity to Other Sites: The closest existing site to the south is the Mission Creek Boat Launch (SF15), which has a low-float dock and ADA gangway. Further to the south is the Pier 52 Boat Launch (SF7), which has a low-float dock with transfer step and kayak assist from an ADA gangway. To the north, Pier 1.5 (SF16) provides a high-freeboard dock from an ADA ganway.</p>
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Description of Launch/Landing:

<p>Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>No</u> Float: <u>Yes</u> Freeboard Level: <u>High (9" and above)</u> Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>Yes, transfer system operated by BAADS</u> Gangway: <u>Yes</u> Gangway Length (feet): <u>164</u> Gangway Width (inches): <u>58</u> Gangway Slope Description: There are two gangways. The South Dock has a 164-foot ADA gangway with a 180 degree turn. The North Dock has a 161-foot ADA gangway with a bend in it. Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>No</u> Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>N/A</u> Stair Water Entry: <u>No</u> Beach: <u>No</u> Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: <u>No</u> Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>Yes</u> Water Entry Path: <u>No</u></p>  <p><i>The ADA gangway for the south dock has a 180 degree turn. The south dock is utilized by BAADS.</i></p>
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Site Appears to be Suitable For:

<p>Kayak: <u>Yes</u> Windsurfer: <u>No</u> Kiteboard: <u>No</u> Whaleboat: <u>Yes</u> Stand Up Paddleboard: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Canoe: <u>No</u> Outrigger Canoe: <u>Yes</u> Sculling: <u>No</u> Rowboat/Dinghy: <u>No</u> Dragonboat: <u>No</u> Other: <u>No</u></p>
<p>Notes: There are two primary boating groups that use the site: The Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors (BAADS) and the Iron Oars Rowing Club, a whaleboat rowing club. BAADS offers weekly dinghy sailing, keelboat sailing, and veterans sailing programs, serving approximately 50 participants each weekend. BAADS participants range in age from eight to 80 and include people with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities. In addition to weekly sailing programs, BAADS hosts and participates in a variety of regattas and informal races both locally and internationally.</p>	

Transportation and Parking:

<p>General Spaces (number): <u>37</u> ADA Parking Spaces (number): <u>2</u></p> <p>ADA Parking Description: The parking lot at Pier 40 provides two ADA accessible parking spaces located on the south side of the Pier.</p> <p>Duration (hours): <u>1</u> Overnight Parking Possibly Allowed: <u>No</u></p> <p>Overnight Parking Description: Parking can be difficult depending on the demand. Users bringing in their own boats may need to drop off boat and park elsewhere, such as along The Embarcadero. Some spaces within the lot are permit parking only. Day parking permits are available to City Kayak patrons for \$10-\$20/day, depending on availability. Other paid public parking is available at Pier 30 and 1 Bryant Street, approximately 1.5 blocks away.</p> <p>Loading/Unloading Area: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Bay Trail: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Public Transportation: The KT Muni line stops at Brannan Street, an approximately 5 minute walk from Pier 40. The Bay Trail and Blue Greenway run along the shoreline adjacent to Pier 40.</p>  <p><i>Two ADA parking spaces are located in the lot on Pier 40.</i></p>
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Path of Travel:

<p>Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): <u>200</u> Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): <u>200</u> Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): <u>100</u> Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): <u>324</u> Path of Travel Exists: <u>Yes, but not striped in places.</u></p> <p>Path of Travel Description: The path of travel is paved and level to the ADA gangway on the south side of the Pier, which is also the dock primarily used by BAADS. Users would need to cross the parking lot to use the ADA gangway on the north side of the Pier; however, this path of travel is also paved and level.</p>

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 2

Total ADA Restrooms: 2



Behind Pier 40 there is a public ADA restroom with running water. The restroom is open during daylight hours.

Boat Washing: Yes

Rigging/Staging Area: No

Picnic Tables: No

Benches: Yes

BBQ: No

Boat Storage: Yes

Boat Storage Description: City Kayak offers indoor boat storage (\$59/month) and outdoor boat storage (\$39/month).

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>No</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
Accommodations Description:				

Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

There are two gangways. The Pier 40 boat launches have been designed to meet ADA standards. Each of the launch docks include an accessible gangway that leads to a high-freeboard dock. On the south side of Pier 40 there is a 164-foot ADA gangway with a 180 degree turn. At Pier 40 there is a 161-foot ADA gangway with a bend in it. The dock has transition plates and the surface is smooth.

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

The site is used predominantly by kayakers and stand-up paddlers. Level of use varies seasonally, but generally the site is used at least 5 days per week and most heavily on weekends. Small sailcraft are also utilized regularly by BAADS from the South Dock.

Paddlers can access a variety of destinations, while enjoying a waterside view of the San Francisco skyline. Popular nearby destinations include AT&T Park, Mission Creek Boat Launch, The Ramp, and paddling under the Bay Bridge. Longer paddling destinations include Treasure Island, San Francisco Aquatic Park, Islais Creek, and the Golden Gate Bridge.

South Beach Harbor provides a sheltered experience for novice paddlers to learn in a protected environment, as winds and currents can be swift outside the harbor breakwater.

City Kayak offers a variety of guided tours for paddlers of various skill levels - from beginner to experienced.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Motorized boats and sailboats are regularly moving throughout the marina, particularly near the mouth of the marina, so small non-motorized boats need to take caution to avoid these vessels. Outside the harbor, small craft should be cautious and avoid the barges and other large ships that frequent the shipping lanes offshore.

Winds and currents on the Bay can be strong; paddlers need to take care to stay within their skill level.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

The site is located in a densely urban area of San Francisco with a long history of human use. No nesting or roosting locations are known to occur in the vicinity of the site. No sensitive aquatic habitats are known to occur in the vicinity of the site.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

BAADS regularly puts on programs for people with disabilities to get on the water, though primarily in sailing craft. The Iron Oars Rowing Club regularly hosts practices and races, including "rookie practices" to introduce people who are new to rowing. City Kayak hosts a youth camp every summer to teach young kayakers safe boating practices and other skills.

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

The primary site improvement desired is a designated pick-up and drop-off location, as offsite parking at Pier 40 is often required.

Accessibility of Sites within the Southern San Francisco Waterfront Geo-Region:

There are six potential Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Pier 40 (South Beach Harbor), Pier 52 Boat Launch, Mission Creek, Islais Creek, India Basin Shoreline Park, and Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Of these, only India Basin and Candlestick Point do not have some sort of accessible launch/landing facilities.

The experiences that are available in the Southern San Francisco Waterfront Geo-Region are urban. Several sites have benefitted from the commitment of the Port of San Francisco to improved access to the public along the waterfront. As a result, there are several sites that offer a variety of accessible features. Pier 52 Boat Launch offers a low-freeboard dock, transfer system, accessible parking, and a loading and unloading area. Mission Creek provides an accessible gangway to a low-freeboard dock, as well as accessible restrooms. South Beach Harbor has ADA compliant gangways and high-freeboard docks, as well as accessible parking. BAADS serves approximately 50 participants each weekend at the Pier 40. BAADS provides lessons and/or equipment for dinghy and keelboat sailing for people with disabilities and a Veterans Sailing Program for all veterans.

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

**Pier 40
March 11, 2016**

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.	Pier 40 has two high freeboard docks, parking, and an equipment storage area. Facilities are well maintained and have sufficient capacity to accommodate increased levels of use; however, finding parking can be challenging.	Regarding recreational conflict, 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.	Motorized boats and sailboats are regularly moving throughout the marina, particularly near the mouth of the marina, so small non-motorized boats need to take caution to avoid these vessels. Outside the harbor, boaters need to be cautious to avoid the barges and other large ships that frequent the area.	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.	Pier 40 is considered an urban launch, characterized by the developed public boat launch adjacent to commercial and recreational uses (South Beach Park, AT&T Park).	The Water Trail will require the inclusion of a Water Trail identification sign at the site. A “sign program” will be developed with the Port of San Francisco 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 Pier 40 is reinforced in some areas with riprap and bulkhead and generally developed. Wetland vegetation has not been observed by WT staff at any tide levels within or in the immediate vicinity of the boat launch.	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. A hose for boat rinsing is available at the storage area onsite.

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. Two heron rookeries are located within four miles, on Treasure Island and Alcatraz Island.</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>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 may provide access to areas in San Francisco Bay 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 depend on habitat that does not exist at Pier 40.</p>	<p>WT signage and the brochure 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.</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 Pier 40.</p>	<p>The Water Trail educational sign and brochure include bird avoidance information.</p>
<p>Biology – Harbor Seals <i>References: WT DREIR pp. 3-132 to 3-156, Figure 3.9.2-1, and Tables 3.9.2-1, 3.9.2-2, 3.9.5-1, and 3.9.5-2</i></p>	<p>There are no harbor seal primary or secondary haul-out sites within four miles of this site.</p>	<p>The WT educational sign, brochure, and website all advise boaters not to land at haul-out sites and to always stay at least 330' away from hauled-out harbor seals and at least 500' away from March to July when seals are pupping. The permanent inclusion of this information in WT media is a good precaution to reach boaters who may paddle more than eight miles in one day or take a multiple-day trip.</p>
<p>Cultural Resources</p>	<p>No WT-related construction is planned at this time. NMSB users are not anticipated to land in regional wetland habitat, potentially disturbing cultural artifacts. The site has a long history of disturbance and future construction of any facilities is not likely to identify undisturbed resources.</p>	<p>The WT website includes information about avoiding disturbance to cultural artifacts.</p>

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Hydrology	No WT-related construction is planned at this time.	Future construction may require site hydrologic conditions to be addressed at that time.
Transportation, Circulation, and Parking	<p>Parking can be difficult depending on the demand. Users bringing in their own boats may need to drop off boat and park elsewhere, such as along The Embarcadero. Some spaces within the lot are permit parking only. Day parking permits are available to City Kayak patrons for \$10-\$20/day, depending on availability. Other paid public parking is available at Pier 30 and 1 Bryant Street, approximately 1.5 blocks away. Patrons of City Kayak or those that store their kayaks at the onsite storage would be able to take public transit.</p>	<p>Parking at this site is difficult due to its urban location. Paddlers would need to plan ahead if bringing their own equipment to either pay for parking or drop equipment at the site and utilize offsite parking.</p>



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