

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
Site Description for
Jack London Square Public Dock

Location, Ownership, and Management: Jack London Square (JLS) Public Dock is located in the heart of Jack London Square along the Oakland Estuary. It is owned by the Port of Oakland and managed by the Jack London Square Common Area Operator. California Canoe and Kayak currently (CCK) operates out of the JLS Public Dock.

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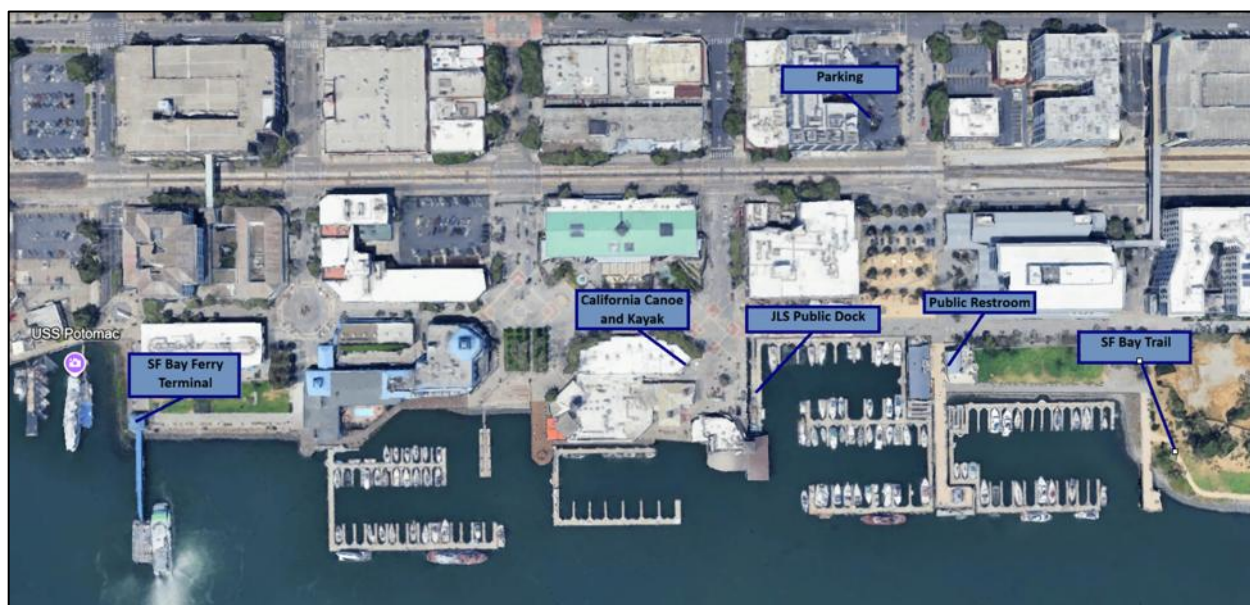
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<i>ADA gangway to high-freeboard dock</i>	<i>Low-freeboard docks and storage</i>	<i>Low-freeboard dock</i>

Facility Description: JLS Public Dock offers proximity to recreation both on land and in the water. The public dock is adjacent to the JLS waterfront promenade, which offers shoreline walking trails, dining, and retail opportunities. The dock also provides public access to the easternmost destination within the Oakland Estuary for non-motorized watercraft. The Oakland Estuary generally offers calmer and more protected waters compared to the Open Bay, geared toward a wide range of boating programs. However, boaters must be aware of safe navigation techniques and boating etiquette.

Water access facilities include an ADA compliant graded ramp that leads to a high freeboard dock that sits about 18 inches above the water. This high freeboard dock leads to another lower freeboard that sits about 9 inches out of the water. The low freeboard dock provides easier access into and out of the water. The launching area also includes kayak and canoe storage and rentals managed by CCK.

Map



Other Identifying or General Information:

Site ID: <u>A9</u> In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u> Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u> Ownership: <u>Public</u> County: <u>Alameda</u> Geo-Region: <u>Oakland Waterfront</u> SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay</u> Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u> Home of a Club: <u>No</u> Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>No</u>	Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>No</u> Near Food or Drink: <u>Yes</u> Proximity to Other Sites: Jack London Aquatic Center is located less than a mile to the southeast. Grand Avenue Boat launch is located approximately 1.75 miles to the southeast. Tidewater Aquatic Center is located approximately 3.65 miles to the southeast.
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Description of Launch/Landing:

Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>Yes</u> Float: <u>Yes</u> Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>No</u> Gangway: <u>Yes</u> Gangway Slope Description: Designed to meet ADA slopes at all tides. Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>No</u> Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>No</u>	Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>No</u> Stair Water Entry: <u>No</u> Beach: <u>No</u> Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>No fee to launch. Paid parking is closest to the launch. Free parking can be found within the nearby neighborhoods.</u> Water Entry Path: <u>No</u>
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ADA gangway to the low-freeboard dock



Low-freeboard dock

Site Appears to be Suitable For:

Kayak: Yes

Windsurfer: No

Kiteboard: No

Whaleboat: No

Stand Up Paddleboard: Yes

Canoe: Yes

Outrigger Canoe: Yes

Sculling: Yes

Rowboat/Dinghy: No

Dragonboat: No



Transportation and Parking:

General Spaces (number): <u>1,140</u> ADA Parking Spaces (number): <u>12+</u> ADA Parking Description: ADA Parking inside parking is located within the parking garages. Elevators and path of travel are provided out of the parking garage. Loading/Unloading Area: <u>Yes. There is a cul-de-sac near the top of the dock where vehicles can briefly park and unload before going into the parking garage to park.</u> Bay Trail: <u>Yes</u>	Overnight Parking Allowed: <u>Not in paid parking garages. Yes, in nearby neighborhood.</u> Overnight Parking Description: Nearby parking garages offer no overnight parking. Surrounding neighborhood streets have varying parking restrictions. Public Transportation: This site is located along the Bay Trail. The Oakland Ferry Terminal is located 0.25 miles away. The Oakland Jack London Amtrak station is located 0.3 miles away. Lake Merritt BART station is located 0.85 miles away.
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Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: <u>3</u> Total ADA Restrooms: <u>3</u> Restroom Description: Marina restroom and two restrooms located on each end of the parking garage.	Boat Washing: <u>Yes</u> Rigging/Staging Area: <u>Yes</u> Picnic Tables: <u>Yes</u> Benches: <u>Yes</u> BBQ: <u>No</u> Boat Storage: <u>Yes, for CCK</u>
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Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>Yes</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
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Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 470

Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): 470

Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 354

Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): 868

Path of Travel Exists: Yes



Path of Travel Description: A paved (paver stones) level sidewalk extends from the parking garage to the top of the ADA gangway to the boat launch.

Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

Facilities within the staging area appear broadly accessible, including paved paths of travel, ADA restrooms, and ADA seating and tables. Within the parking area, paved paths connect the paved ADA parking spaces to the restroom and continue to the ADA compliant gangway with a transition plate. There is no transition ramp between the high-freeboard dock and the low-freeboard dock, which creates a several inch step between the docks and limits accessible access to the low-freeboard dock.



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

The public dock is consistently used by California Canoe and Kayak (CCK) for tours and classes. CCK also hosts youth groups and environmental efforts to help remove garbage from the Oakland-Alameda Estuary.

On the water, the boat launch provides access to the easternmost region of the Oakland Estuary as well as a connected 5-mile water trail that includes several sites to the MLK Jr. Shoreline Boat Launch on Doolittle Drive. Paddler could also use the launch as a starting or ending point for circumnavigating Alameda Island.

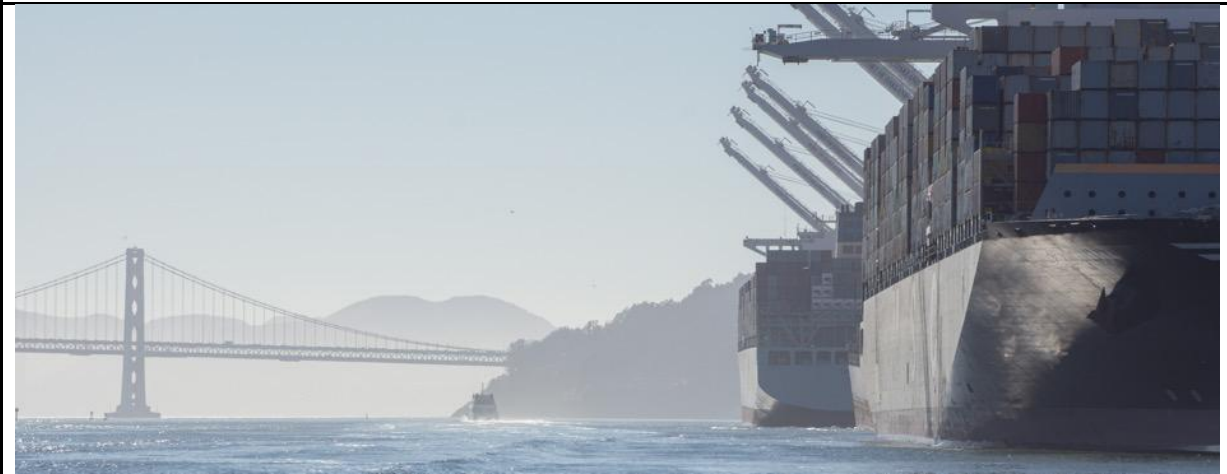


Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

The JLS public dock is a launch site used by environmental and community-oriented organizations such as I Heart Oakland-Alameda Estuary, which provides opportunities for youth and other community members to complete garbage clean-ups in the estuary.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Shipping channels exist along the Oakland Estuary from the northern entrance until just past Coast Guard Island. There is a lot of boat activity and users need to be aware of their surroundings and familiar with how to boat near other vessels. Water Trail signage will emphasize that users need to be aware of ferry routes, shipping channels, and larger boats.

**Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:**

The Oakland Estuary is in an urbanized area with a lot of boat activity due to the shipping channels and numerous marinas. There is a pelican roost and harbor seal haulout on the jetty outside of Encinal Boat Launch, which is located on the opposite side of Alameda Island and a long paddle from the site. There are no known sensitive plant species or nesting birds within four miles of the site.

Accessibility of Sites within the Suisun/Delta Geo-Region:

There are nine potential/existing Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Middle Harbor Park, Jack London Aquatic Center (designated), Grand Avenue Boat Ramp, Encinal Beach and Boat Launch (designated), Crown Memorial State Beach (designated), Tidewater Boating Center (designated), Elmhurst Creek, and Doolittle Drive (designated). Of these, Middle Harbor Park, Jack London Aquatic Park, Crown Memorial State Beach, and Tidewater Boating Center provide a variety of accessible facilities.

The Oakland Waterfront Geo-Region provides opportunities to enjoy both windy conditions and calm conditions, wildlife viewing, urban experiences, dining, and overnight accommodations. As mentioned above, numerous locations within this geo-region offer accessible features.

Currently, the most broadly accessible site in this geo-region is Tidewater Boating Center, which offers a long gangway with resting areas, permanent accessible restrooms, accessible parking, a long low-freeboard dock and other accessible amenities such as a drinking fountain, and loading/unloading area.