



San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail
Site Description for
Mission Creek






Location, Ownership, and Management: Mission Creek Park is an approximately 10-acre park along the shore of Mission Creek in the Mission Bay neighborhood of San Francisco. Water access in Mission Creek Park is located approximately 0.5 mile up Mission Creek from where it empties into the Bay at McCovey Cove. The gangway and low-freeboard dock are managed by the Port of San Francisco, while the park is managed by MJM Management Group on behalf of the City of San Francisco.

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Low-Freeboard Dock	ADA Gangway and Dock	Mission Creek Boathouse

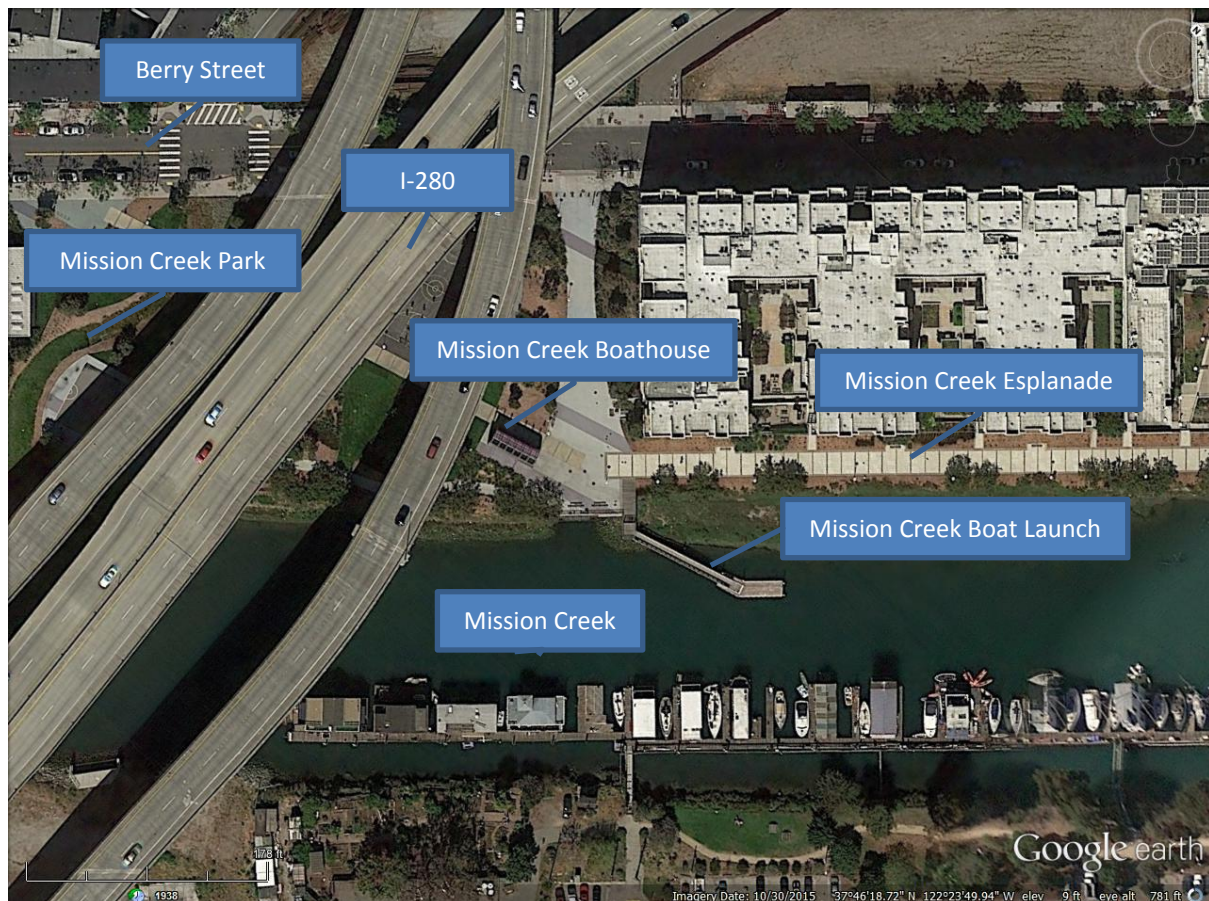
Facility Description: The Mission Creek Boat Launch provides access to and from Mission Creek and San Francisco Bay for small non-motorized boats from a low-freeboard dock. The boat launch is located in Mission Creek Park, which also features a wide promenade suitable for equipment staging and a boat storage facility operated by UCSF Outdoor Programs. The 88-foot-long ADA gangway has a gate, which is open from 6AM to 10PM daily. The site is used primarily by kayakers and paddle boarders.

There are no dedicated public parking spaces associated with the boat launch. Boats can be dropped off near the Mission Creek Park restrooms, located along Berry Street, approximately 550 feet from the boat launch. Due to the distance and lack of designated parking, this site is primarily utilized by UCSF and as a destination site for boaters coming from other launches.


UCSF Outdoor Programs runs the Mission Creek Boathouse, which provides storage for kayaks used in the programs they regularly run from the site. The park also contains benches and picnic tables, pathways, trash/recycling receptacles, an enclosed dog park, basketball courts, tennis courts, and native landscaping.

Other Identifying or General Information:

<p>Site ID: <u>SF15</u></p> <p>In WT Plan: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Existing or Planned: <u>Existing</u></p> <p>Ownership: <u>Public</u></p> <p>County: <u>San Francisco</u></p> <p>Geo-Region: <u>Southern San Francisco</u></p> <p><u>Waterfront</u></p> <p>SF Bay Plan Region: <u>Central Bay</u></p> <p>Launch or Destination: <u>Launch</u></p>	<p>Home of a Club: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: <u>Unknown</u></p> <p>Appreciated for Windy Conditions: <u>No</u></p> <p>Near Food or Drink: <u>No</u></p> <p>Proximity to Other Sites: South Beach Harbor/Pier 40, featuring accessible gangways and high-freeboard docks, is approximately 1.5 miles north of the site and Pier 52, featuring an accessible gangway and low-freeboard dock with accessible features, is approximately 1.5 miles south of the site.</p>
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Site Overview Map

Description of Launch/Landing:

<p>Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: <u>No</u></p> <p>Float: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Freeboard Level: <u>Low (less than 9")</u></p> <p>Transfer/Launch Assistance System: <u>No</u></p> <p>Gangway: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Gangway Length (feet): <u>88</u></p> <p>Gangway Width (inches): <u>78</u></p> <p>Gangway Slope Description: The gangway is gently sloping and designed to meet ADA requirements.</p> <p>Boat/Trailer Ramp: <u>No</u></p> <p>Mudflats Affect Site Usability: <u>No</u></p> <p>Beach Wheelchair Available: <u>No</u></p> <p>Stair Water Entry: <u>No</u></p> <p>Beach: <u>No</u></p> <p>Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: <u>No</u></p> <p>Fee for Launch or Parking: <u>No</u></p> <p>Water Entry Path: <u>No</u></p>	<p>Other site notes: Due to the distance and lack of designated parking, the site may be most utilized as a destination site for paddlers bringing their own equipment.</p> <p>Restrictions: Launch is open from 6am to 10pm daily.</p>  <p><i>The gangway provides accessible access to the low-freeboard dock.</i></p>
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Site Appears to be Suitable For:

<p>Kayak: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Windsurfer: <u>No</u></p> <p>Kiteboard: <u>No</u></p> <p>Whaleboat: <u>No</u></p> <p>Stand Up Paddleboard: <u>Yes</u></p>	<p>Canoe: <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Outrigger Canoe: <u>No</u></p> <p>Sculling: <u>No</u></p> <p>Rowboat/Dinghy: <u>No</u></p> <p>Dragonboat: <u>No</u></p> <p>Other: <u>No</u></p>
<p>Notes: Mission Creek is often sheltered from the wind and has negligible current, making it a good launch for novices and youth paddling programs. It also serves as a good destination for paddlers along the San Francisco shoreline to rest or get out of the Bay's stronger winds/currents.</p>	

Transportation and Parking:General Spaces (number): 0ADA Parking Spaces (number): 0

ADA Parking Description: Limited street parking is available along Berry Street.

Duration (hours): Varies depending on street parking locationOvernight Parking Possibly Allowed: YesOvernight Parking Description: Street parking may allow overnight parking in some areas.Loading/Unloading Area: YesBay Trail: No

Public Transportation: There is a free Mission Bay Shuttle that runs every 15 to 30 minutes Monday – Friday from 7:00 – 10:00 am and 3:45 – 8:00 pm with a stop near the launch site. The West Route serves Berry and Owens Streets and the East Route serves China Basin/Library, Fourth Street, and Mission Bay Boulevard. The Muni station is located approximately 0.5 miles away on King and 4th Street.

The Bay Trail runs along the shoreline at the mouth of Mission Creek and connects to the Mission Creek Park Esplanade, a multi-use path connector runs along the north side of Mission Creek from the Bay Trail to the boat launch.



Mission Creek is often sheltered from the wind and has negligible current, making it a good launch for novices and youth paddling programs.

Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 244

Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 640

Path of Travel Exists: Yes

Path of Travel Description: The path of travel is level and paved from the loading/unloading area to the launch.

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 2

Total ADA Restrooms: 2

Restroom Description: One male and one female public restroom are located in a Mission Creek Park facility along Berry Street. Restroom hours are currently 8AM – 7PM.

Boat Washing: No

Rigging/Staging Area: No

Picnic Tables: Yes

Benches: Yes BBQ: No

Boat Storage: No

Boat Storage Description: UCSF Outdoor Program has boat storage for kayaks and associated equipment for use in their programs (life vests, paddles, emergency equipment).



The Mission Creek Boathouse is used by UCSF Outdoor Programs for onsite storage for their kayak programs. Mission Creek Park also has pathways, benches, sport courts, a dog park, and landscaping.

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: <u>No</u>	Hostel: <u>No</u>	Ship: <u>No</u>	Camping: <u>No</u>	Other: <u>No</u>
Accommodations Description: There are a variety of hotels in downtown San Francisco; however, none are in the immediate vicinity and it is unlikely that they would provide kayak/equipment storage for paddlers on multi-day trips.				

Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

The Mission Creek Boat Launch features an ADA gangway that leads to a low-float dock. The park has accessible picnic tables, restrooms, and pathways.

UCSF Outdoor Programs offers a variety of programs, including for people with mobility and visual impairments.

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

There are no dedicated public parking spaces associated with the boat launch/park. Boats can be dropped off near the restrooms, located along Berry Street, approximately 550 feet from the boat launch. Due to the distance and lack of designated parking, this site is primarily utilized by UCSF and as a destination site for boaters coming from other launches.

UCSF Outdoor Programs runs the Mission Creek Boathouse, which provides storage for kayaks used in the programs they regularly run from the site.



Mission Creek Boat Launch is also popular for launching and landing for paddlers that want to float in McCovey Cove during Giant's baseball games to enjoy the festivities and for a chance to catch a "splash hit" home run.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Mission Creek is typically sheltered from winds and currents, and therefore offers a relatively safe paddling area for novices. McCovey Cove has an active ferry landing during baseball games and the cove can be crowded with a variety of larger craft, so boaters need to be cautious to avoid the ferrys and other large ships.

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

The site is located in a densely urban area of San Francisco with a long history of industrial disturbance. No nesting or roosting locations are known to occur in the vicinity of the site. Water quality is regularly tested within the channel, but no sensitive aquatic habitats are known to occur.

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

The primary site improvement desired is a designated loading/unloading zone for boaters along Berry Street.

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. The Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors (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**

**Mission Creek Landing
March 11, 2015**

Resource Area	Impacts Analysis	Notes
Recreation References: WT DREIR, pp. 3-32 to 3-37.	Mission Creek has a low freeboard dock, ADA gangway, and an equipment storage area. Facilities are well maintained and have sufficient capacity to accommodate increased levels of use.	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.	Mission Creek is typically sheltered from winds and currents, and therefore offers a relatively safe paddling area for novices. McCovey Cove has an active ferry landing during baseball games and the cove can be crowded with a variety of larger crafts, so boaters need to be cautious to avoid the ferries and other large ships.	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.	Mission Creek is considered an urban launch, characterized by the developed public boat launch in a well maintained park adjacent to recreation and residential uses.	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 Mission Creek is reinforced in some areas with riprap, has native landscaping, and is generally developed. Restored wetland vegetation is located along the shores of Mission Creek 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 Mission Creek Landing.</p>	<p>WT signage and WT brochure emphasize the importance of not entering marshes, keeping a 50-foot buffer from rail habitat (not entering channels less than 100-feet wide), and 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 Mission Creek Landing.</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	There are no dedicated public parking spaces associated with the boat launch/park. Boats can be dropped off near the restrooms, located along Berry Street, approximately 550 feet from the boat launch. Due to the distance and lack of designated parking, this site is primarily utilized by UCSF and as a destination site for boaters coming from other launches.	Increased use by non-motorized small boat users is not expected to be great enough to overwhelm parking. Additional parking is available on nearby streets.



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