



SEABIRD PROTECTION NETWORK

- Helping Seabirds Thrive -





Our National Marine Sanctuaries



Map Source: NASA

● National Marine Sanctuary

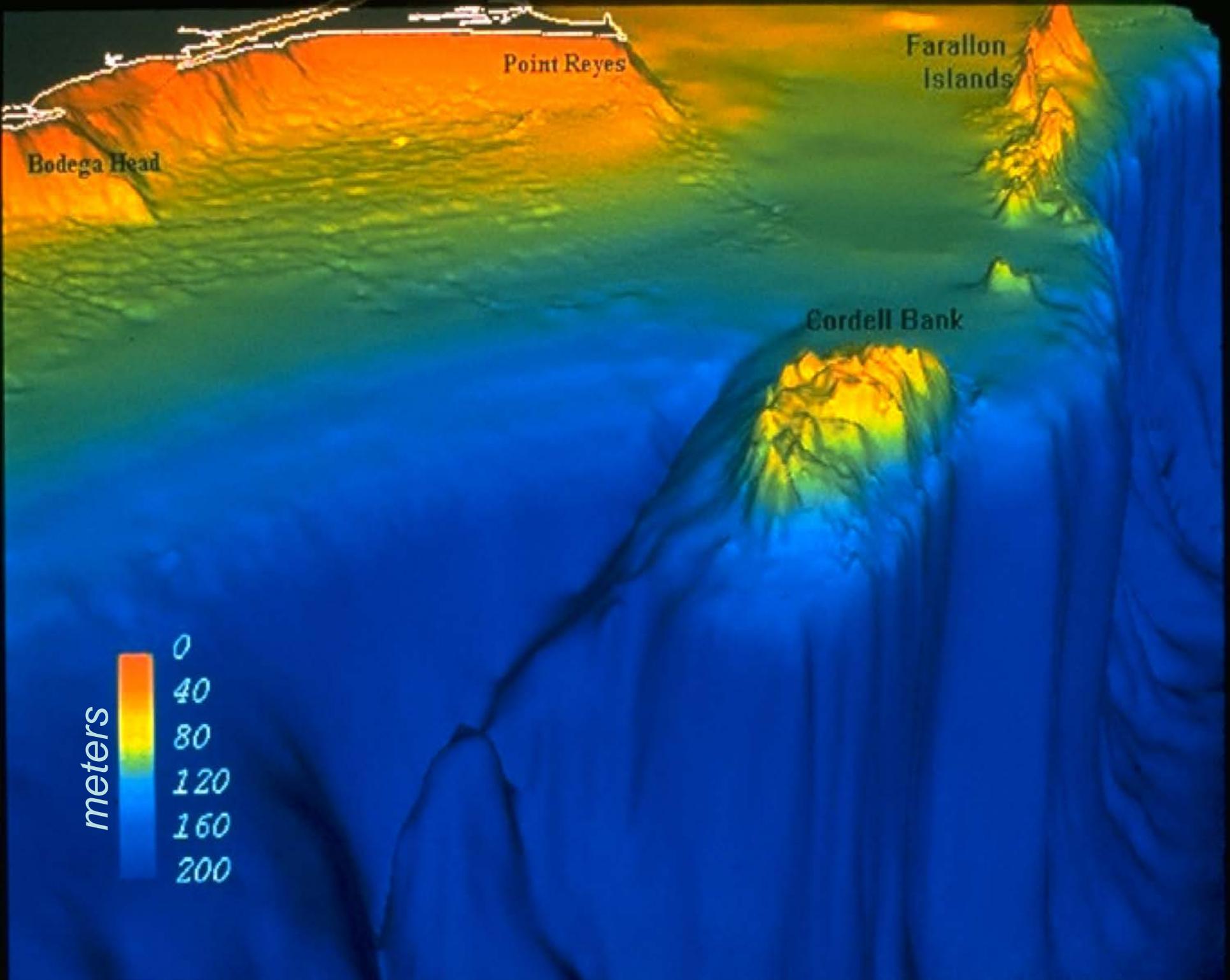
★ Marine National Monument

Lots of nutrients

California Current

= Lots of food for wildlife



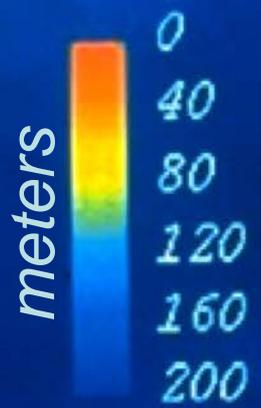


Point Reyes

Farallon
Islands

Bodega Head

Cordell Bank



A vast, deep blue ocean under a clear sky, with the text "WHAT'S OUT THERE?" centered in white.

WHAT'S OUT
THERE?





Rockfish & Perch



Filetail Catshark



Rockfish



Flag Rockfish

Sea Stars



Rex Sole



Brittle Stars



Black Eel Pout



Sea Lilies



Tubeworm



Sea Pen



Sea Fan



Ocean Sunfish



Plankton



Krill



Salmon



White Shark





Stellar Sea Lion



Pacific White Sided Dolphin



Harbor Seal



Pilot Whales



Northern Right Whale Dolphins



Killer Whales



Humpback Whale



Blue Whales

Tufted Puffin



Buller's Shearwater



Cassin's Auklet



Pelagic Cormorant



Northern Fulmar



Sooty Shearwater



Seabird Colonies



Common Murre



**Pigeon
Guillemot**

**Tufted
Puffin**



Brandt's Cormorant

Common Murre



Range:

- ❖ Alaska to California

Breeding:

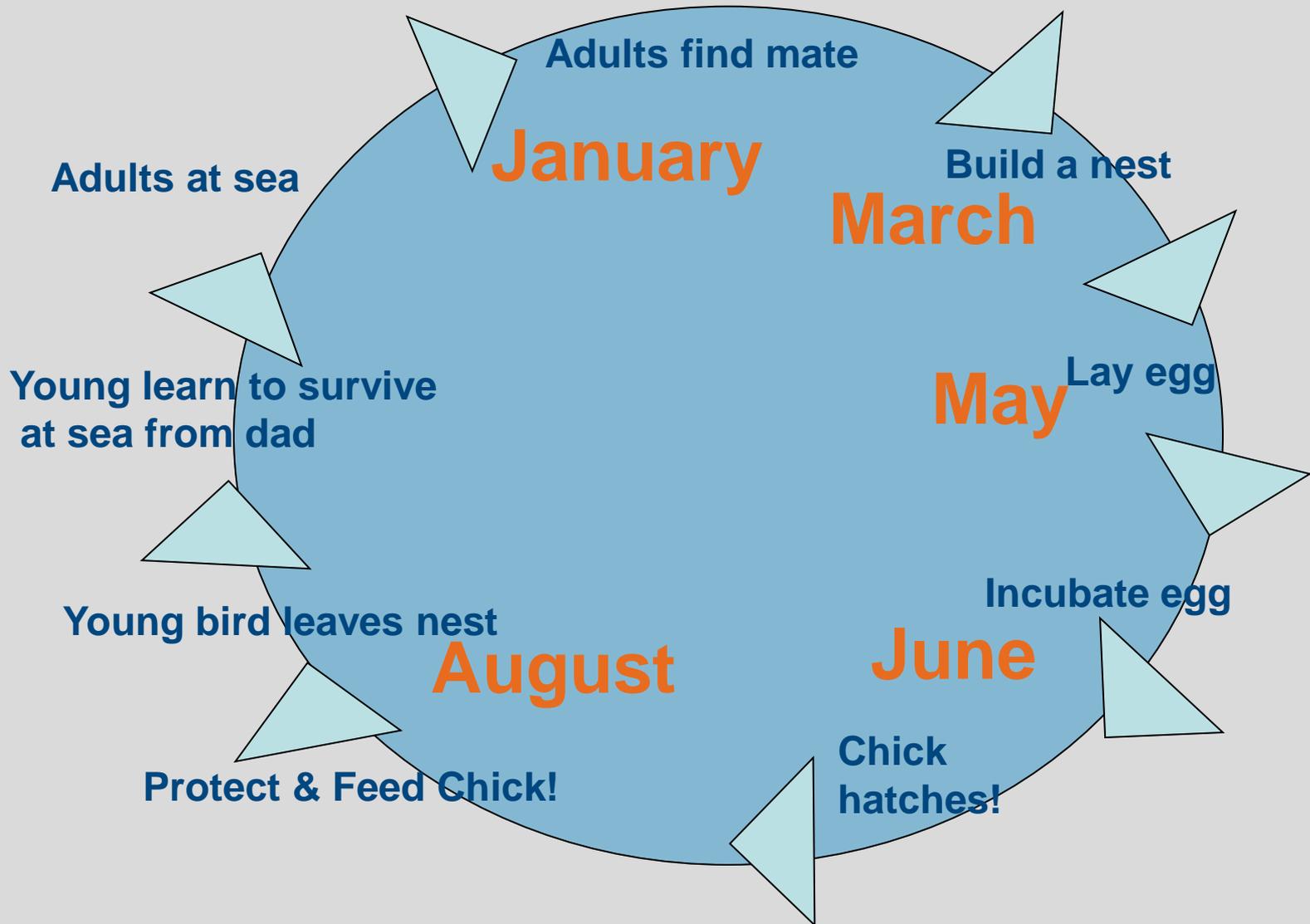
- ❖ Colonial
- ❖ Returns to same place every year
- ❖ One egg per year



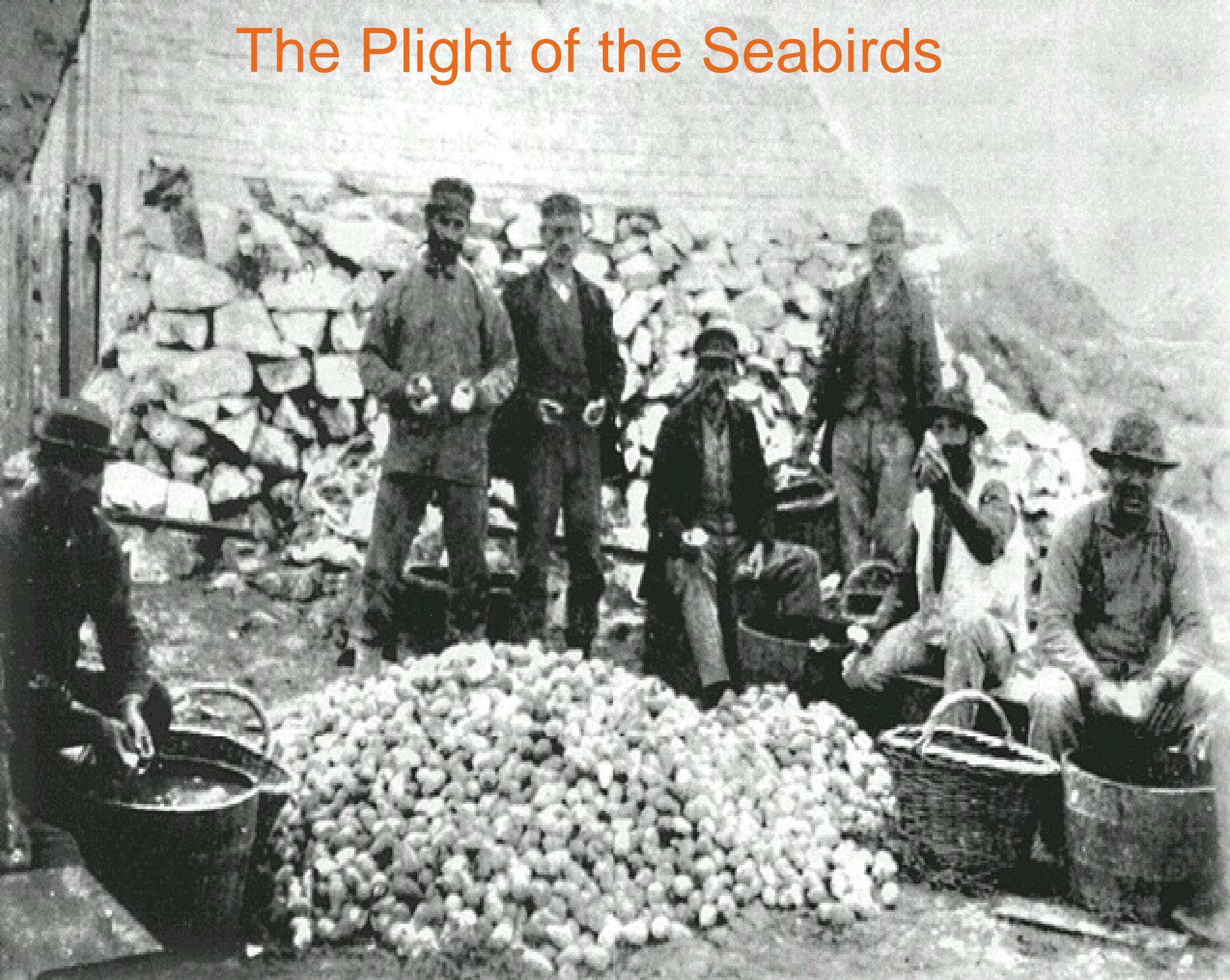
Life Cycle of Seabirds

(Common Murre example)

Seabirds need safe places to breed and rest.



The Plight of the Seabirds



The Plight of the Seabirds



Seabird
populations
have declined
greatly
from historic
population
levels



Oil Spills & Seabird Mortality



**Cosco
Busan
2007**



**Apex Houston
1989**



**Command
1998,**



Devil's Slide Rock Sensitive Seabird Colony



Devil's Slide Rock
From 1,000' AGL

© 2010 Google
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Data CSUMB SFML, CA OPC
© 2010 Europa Technologies
37°39'00.77" N 122°32'44.76" W elev -85 ft Eye alt 39361 ft



Devil's Slide Rock 2001



Devil's Slide Rock 2007, no decoys!

People affect seabirds

Especially when we get too close



1. Low Flying Aircraft *birdstrike



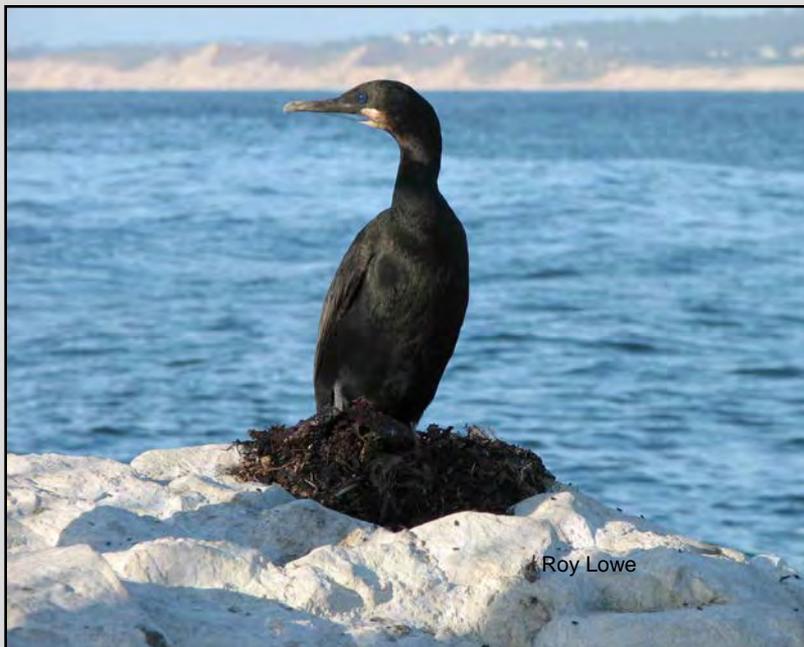
2. Close approaching boats, Kayaks, personal watercraft



3. Humans on Foot

Seabirds can harm pilots too!

- Low over flights can be hazardous to pilots!
- **Bird strikes** cause more than \$600 million in damages each year, and have taken the lives of over 350 people worldwide!
 - www.birdstrike.org
 - The National Wildlife



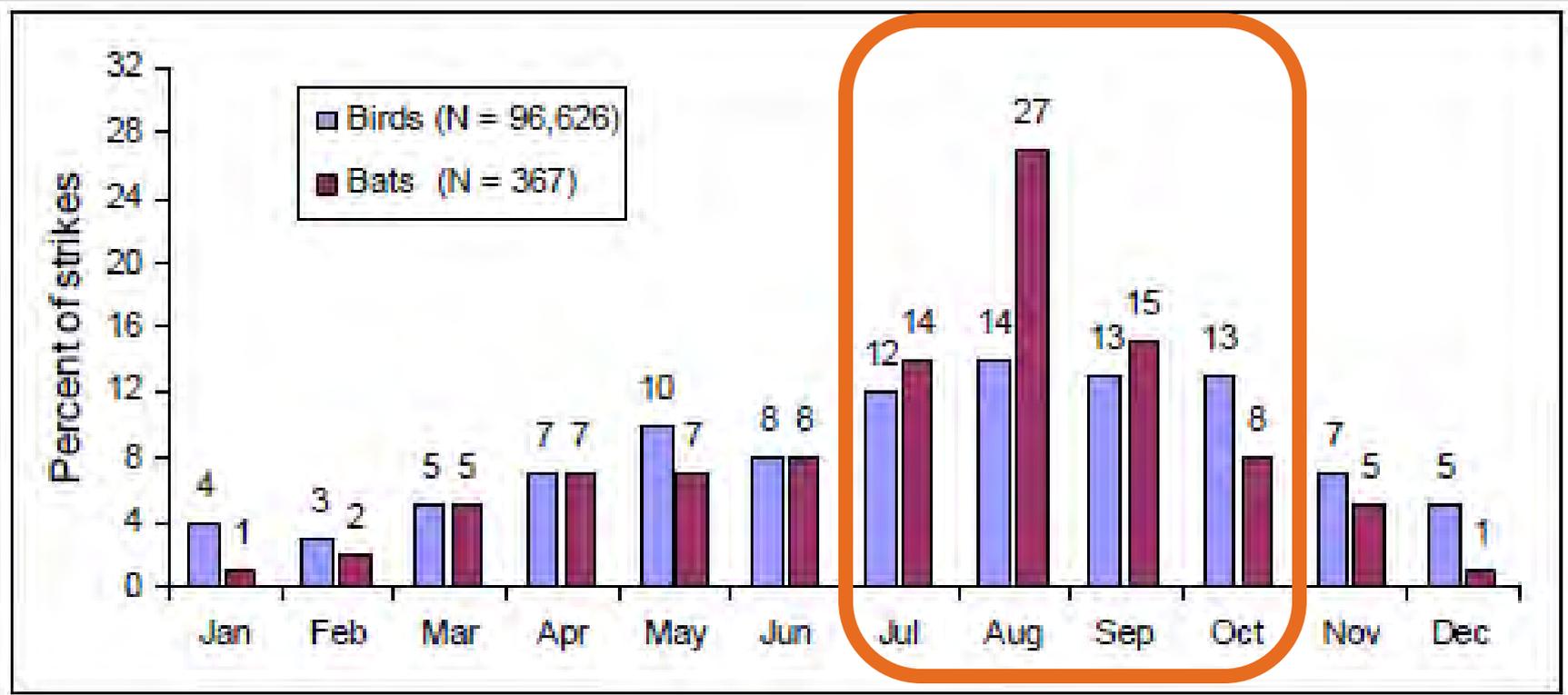
Bird Strike Facts

- 76 % GA strikes occur at or below 500' AGL
- Above 500' AGL, the number of strikes declines by 44% with each 1,000' gain in height

- Avoid low altitudes to minimize risk!

Bird Strike Facts

- **109,107** wildlife strikes were reported from 1990-2009
- 97.2% of strikes involved birds



Birds most frequently involved in strikes:



Unknown bird

California United States

5766 68858

Gulls

653 6033

Pigeon

510 2236

American kestrel

326 3037

Red-tailed hawk

247 1615

Sparrows

208 2657

Mourning dove

205 5133

Barn owl

195 753

Western meadowlark

173 647

Hawks

150 1158

Ducks

138 751

Horned lark

126 2287

Cliff swallow

115 736

European starling

108 2867

Total Strikes of all species

10,946 125,857





Avoid a Birdstrike

- Avoid marsh lands, seabird nesting areas, landfills, and migration routes.
- Avoid flying at low altitudes during the seabird nesting season (February-August)
- Check wildlife strike resources for recent incidents and tips to avoid strikes

Seabird Reactions to Low Flying Aircraft



A disturbance at Devil's Slide Rock seabird colony

To see this video online
please visit our YouTube channel:

www.youtube.com/user/SeabirdProtection/videos

Wildlife are protected by federal regulations

- National Marine Sanctuaries Act
- Airborne Hunting Act
- Marine Mammal Act
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Endangered Species Act

National Marine Sanctuaries Act



California Sanctuaries have regulations prohibiting flights below 1000' in certain geographic areas.



Dan Dawson

Harassment (interrupting natural behavior) of wildlife is unlawful in all sanctuaries



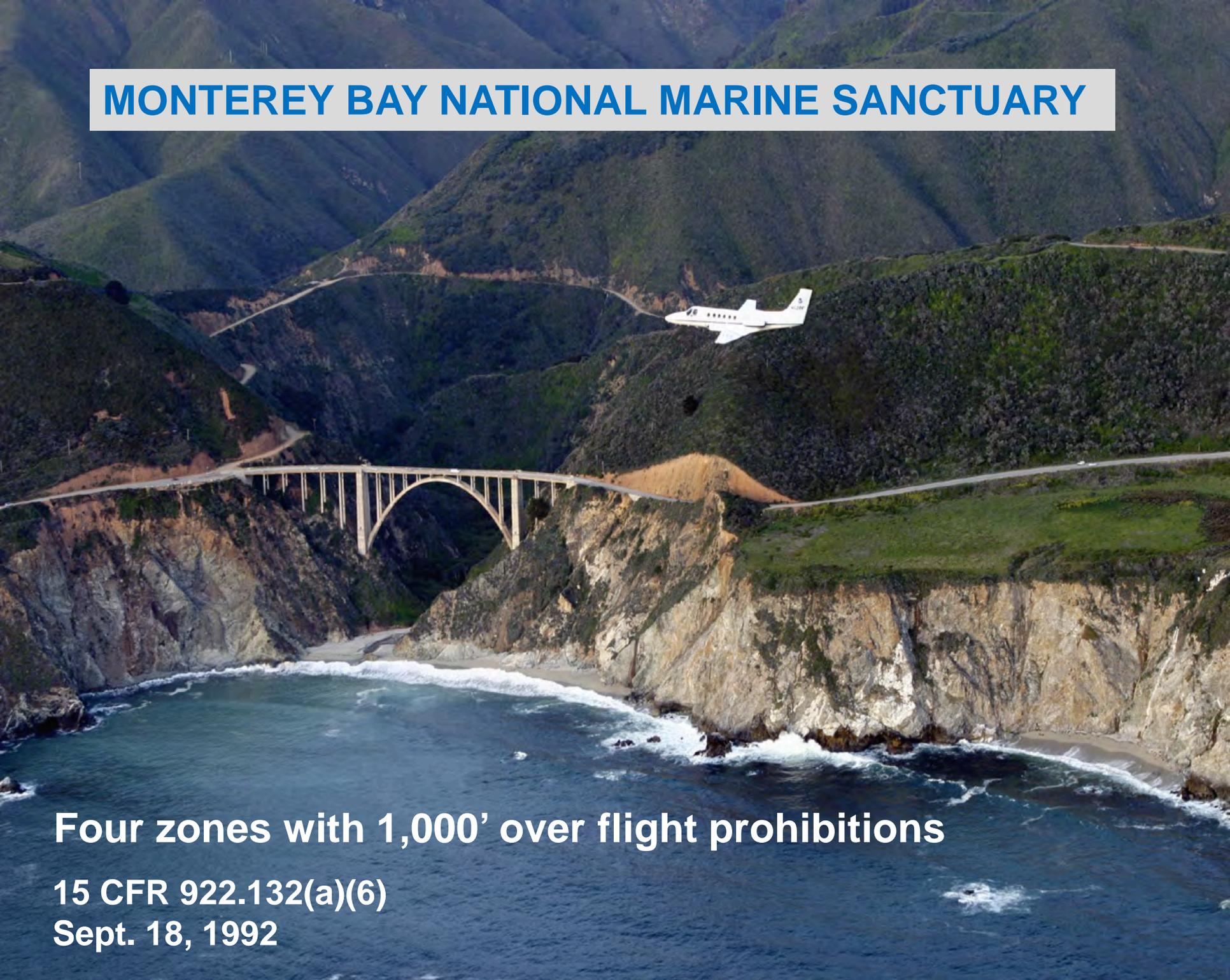
CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

An aerial photograph of a coastal area. A twin-engine propeller plane is flying over the water. Below the plane, three sailboats are visible in the dark blue water. The coastline is rocky and brownish, with some green vegetation on the left side. The background shows a large, brown, hilly area.

1,000' over flight prohibition within one mile of any island

**15 CFR 922.71(a)(5)
Sept. 22, 1980**

MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

An aerial photograph of the Bixby Creek Bridge in Big Sur, California. The bridge is a concrete arch bridge spanning a deep canyon. The surrounding landscape is rugged and mountainous, with steep cliffs and green vegetation. A small white airplane is flying over the canyon, positioned above the bridge. The ocean is visible in the foreground, with waves crashing against the rocky shore.

Four zones with 1,000' over flight prohibitions

15 CFR 922.132(a)(6)

Sept. 18, 1992

GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

1,000' over-flight prohibition within one mile of the Farallon Islands, Bolinas Lagoon, or any state designated area of Special Biological Significance

**15 CFR 922.82(a)(5)
Jan 16, 1981**



Southeast Farallon Island

300,000 breeding seabirds



Airborne Hunting Act



Prohibits disturbance to wildlife by aircraft.
(50 CFR 1911)



US WILDLIFE REFUGES

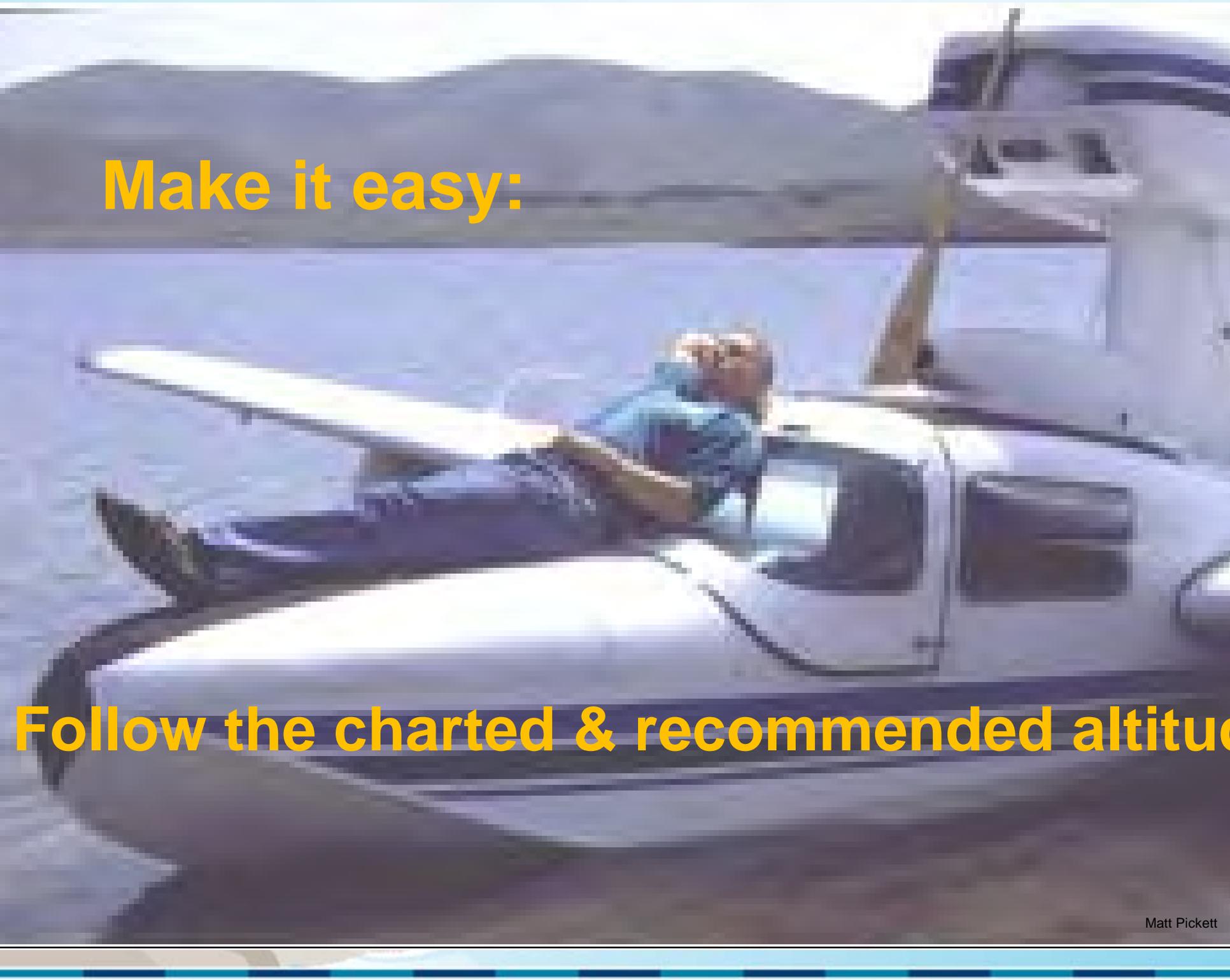


Request to pilots:

Maintain a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above:

- National Parks
- Monuments
- Seashores
- Lakeshores
- Recreation Areas
- Scenic Riverways
- National Wildlife Refuges
- Big Game Refuges
- Game Ranges
- Wildlife Ranges
- Wilderness and Primitive areas





Make it easy:

Follow the charted & recommended altitudes

Use Common Sense:

If there is not a specific
recommendation
remain above 1000' AGL
Or 1/4 mile offshore.



Fly Safe above marine wildlife:

Avoid flying over seabird colonies and marine mammals on land

Avoid making multiple passes over wildlife.



Spread the Word: Educate other pilots about sensitive marine life





Home

About Your Sanctuaries

Visiting Your Sanctuaries

Expeditions

Education

Science

Maritime Heritage

Management

Resource Protection

News & Events

Photos & Videos

Library

Get Involved

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NEWS & EVENTS

Pilots: Know Before You Go!

Overflight regulations within Olympic Coast, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuaries require that motorized aircraft maintain minimum altitudes above specified locations. Failure to comply with these minimum altitude restrictions is presumed to disturb marine mammals and seabirds and is a violation of federal regulations for the sanctuaries.

Overflight restrictions have been in place for many years, and in February 2012 a Final Rule standardized NOAA regulations across the sanctuaries to reflect a consistent and clear regulatory approach. The regulatory modifications were required by the FAA in order to post a clear notice to pilots on aeronautical charts about low overflight restrictions in national marine sanctuaries along the west coast. Full text of the amendment to the Overflight Regulations for the Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuaries is posted in the Federal Register (Vol 77, No.17; Jan. 26, 2012) as the **Final Rule** (PDF, 160KB) effective Feb. 27, 2012.

FAA to Release Updated Aeronautical Sectionals

Over the next three months, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will release updated aeronautical sectionals that include West Coast sanctuary overflight regulations.

Date	Sectional	Displays Overflight Regulations of
May 31, 2012	Seattle Sectional	Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
June 28, 2012	Los Angeles Sectional Chart & Los Angeles Terminal Area	Channel Islands & Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries
Aug. 23,	San Francisco Sectional Chart & San Francisco Terminal Area	Monterey Bay & Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries



HELPING SEABIRDS THRIVE...

By reducing human disturbance to sensitive seabird breeding colonies

NETWORK HOME

[PILOTS](#)[BOATERS](#)[KAYAKERS](#)[COASTAL VISITORS](#)[ADVISORY GROUPS](#)[NEWS, ARTICLES & LINKS](#)[Report a Disturbance](#)[facebook](#)

Welcome

California is home to an amazing and diverse population of seabirds. Join our network of ocean enthusiasts and discover ways to be "seabird safe" while **flying, boating, paddling** or **hiking along the coast**.

Seabirds gather in great colonies to nest and rest on offshore rocks, cliffs and islands all along the California Coast. **Find a colony near you!** (6.05 MB PDF). Seabirds are sensitive to our actions, which can interrupt their natural behavior, such as feeding or caring for their chicks, when we get too close to their colonies.

Did you know that disturbances to seabirds during breeding season can:

- Scare birds off their nests
- Dislodge eggs and chicks from nest sites
- Allow predators access to eggs and chicks



“Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees, and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there.”