





Seabird Protection Network

- Pilot outreach and education...
 - 4,000 posters & other pilot products distributed
- Website

BOATERS

Steer Clear of Seabirds

Be aware—stay 1,000 feet from cliffs, offshore rocks & islands where birds nest & rest

Observe birds—head-bobbing or wing-fluttering means “move away,” you are too close

Avoid harm—put fishing line in the trash, cover bait & use barbless hooks or artificial lures

Take precautions—prevent oil & fuel spills; use non-toxic cleaners on your boat

Increase your awareness—use binoculars to watch seabirds from a distance

Nothing overboard—prevent marine pollution & marine debris

Get informed—www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa—Special Closures are closed to all watercraft

KNOW THE LAW!
Do not disturb or harass seabirds, marine mammals or sea turtles.



SEABIRD PROTECTION NETWORK
—Helping Seabirds Thrive—

PILOTS

Help Seabirds Thrive



Fly High to protect coastal wildlife!

A minimum of 1,000 feet above ground level (AGL) is required in overflight regulation zones within California National Marine Sanctuaries. Failure to comply with this minimum altitude prohibition is presumed to disturb marine mammals and seabirds and is a violation of federal regulations. ^{15 C.F.R. 922.102(a)(8)}

Noise and shadows from low flying aircraft can scare seabirds, causing them to panic & fly, increasing the chance of a bird strike, nest abandonment or the death of young birds.

IT'S THE LAW!
The use of aircraft to disturb or harass any bird is prohibited.



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PADDLERS

Steer Clear of Seabirds

Pass so animals are not affected by your presence

Avoid Special Closures—areas closed to all watercraft—www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa

Discreet viewing—use binoculars and stay back 1,000 feet (3 football fields)

Depart immediately when you observe wildlife behavior changes

Leave wildlife alone and do not attempt to rescue them

Explain to others—protecting wildlife protects paddling access

KNOW THE LAW!
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

September 17, 2012

Dear Aviation Community Member,

When Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries were designated (1981 and 1992, respectively), a federal regulation by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was implemented to protect seabird colonies and marine mammal rookeries from aircraft disturbance. These regulations prohibit motorized flights below 1,000 feet AGL within specific zones of the sanctuaries; however the overflight prohibition zones were not depicted on aeronautical charts prior to 2012.

After extensive discussions between NOAA and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials, NOAA agreed in 2010 to change the wording of the regulations to clarify that the 1,000-foot delineation is an altitude disturbance threshold for federally protected marine mammals and seabirds – not an FAA airspace restriction. In other words, flying below 1,000 feet AGL in any sanctuary overflight prohibition zone triggers a natural resource violation – not a flight rule violation.

In response to NOAA's regulatory changes (finalized in February 2012), the FAA recently updated the Los Angeles and San Francisco sectional and terminal area charts to advise pilots of NOAA's regulations and to accurately display sanctuary overflight prohibition zones along the coast. Now that the aeronautical charts accurately reflect NOAA's regulations, pilots will be held more accountable for complying with NOAA's federal overflight regulations. Below are examples of the language depicted on the updated aeronautical charts.



NOAA has created a web page on the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' web site that describes the recent changes to several west coast sectional and terminal area charts. For a description of chart changes and the reasons behind them, go to <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/flight/welcome.html>.

The following resources are also available on-line or upon request:

- For a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about central California overflight regulations, go to <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/flight/faqs.html>
- For a large-scale map of the central California overflight prohibition zones, go to <http://farallones.noaa.gov/eco/seabird/media/overflightemaple.jpg>
- For sanctuary regulatory descriptions of central California's overflight prohibition zones, go to http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/7FR3919_Overflightfinalrule.pdf

If you have any further questions about the regulation or chart changes, or if you would like a presentation to your group about this topic, we invite you to contact us at California.Seabird@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Paul Michel

Paul Michel, Superintendent

Maria Brown

Maria Brown, Superintendent



- Pilot outreach and education...
 - Annual mailings to pilots since 2006
 - Presentations to over 2,500 pilots
 - Public Service Announcement

Pilots PSA

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