Education & Outreach in the Expansion Area
At Your School Blitz’s

For the past three years:
7 schools, 903 students, 44 programs
LiMPETS – Five New Monitoring Sites

Rocky Shore
- Shell Beach, Sonoma
- Carmet Beach
- Duxbury Reef
- Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
- Pillar Point
- Pigeon Point

Sandy Beach
- Blind Beach
- Salmon Creek Beach - North
- Salmon Creek Beach - South
- Doran Beach
- Limantour Beach
- Stinson Beach
- Muir Beach
- Rodeo Beach - South

xx schools and xx students served
Out of School Youth Programs

2016 & 2017 Action Network Coastal Summer Camps
2018 Youth Exploring Sonoma Coast
Ocean Film Festivals
At Point Arena Theater

2016 & 2018
Yearly Sanctuary Explorations

SANCTUARY EXPLORATIONS
Whale & Wildflower Walk

2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018
Welcome to The Whale Trail

**Watch for Whales**

Situated on a peninsula that is the closest point on the continental United States to Hawaii, the Point Arena Light Station offers some of the most dramatic and diverse marine mammal watching on the northern California coast. Whales, seals, sea lions, porpoises and dolphins are frequently spotted from the bluffs of the 23-acre grounds, and it is always exciting to see them from the top of the 115-foot Lighthouse Tower, tallest on the Pacific coast.

The Lighthouse Tour Guides communicate between the Museum and Tower when they sight these marine mammals, and the aptly named Whale Watch Room includes binoculars to zoom in on the passing creatures.

**Gray Whale**  
Adult length: 35-50 feet  
Look for gray whales in winter and spring, as they migrate close to shore from their Arctic and northern feeding grounds to their Mexican and southern California calving areas.

**Humpback Whale**  
Adult length: 45-50 feet  
Commonly seen in summer and fall, humpback whales feast here on shrimp-like krill and schools of anchovies and sardines. They are famous for leaping clear of the water and landing with a thunderous splash.

**Risso’s Dolphin**  
Adult length: 8.5-13 feet  
Risso’s may be seen any time of year in pods ranging from ten to 1,000 animals. These active dolphins are deep divers and mainly hunt at night for squid.

**Orca (Killer Whale)**  
Adult length: 28-32 feet  
Orcas are the largest members of the dolphin family, and work together to catch their prey. Transient orcas hunt marine mammals such as gray whales and seals. Less commonly seen, endangered resident orcas search for salmon along this coast.

**Blue Whale**  
Adult length: 65-100 feet  
Endangered blue whales, the largest animals ever to have lived on Earth, feed here in summer and fall on huge swarms of krill. Scan the horizon for their tall, slender blows rising to more than 25 feet.

**California Sea Lion**  
Adult length: 6-7.5 feet  
Noisy sea lions pack onto rocks or rest together in the water in ‘rafts.’ Sleek and fast, they hunt offshore for fishes and squid.

**Harbor Seal**  
Adult length: 5-6 feet  
Shy and curious, harbor seals rest on offshore rocks and often watch people on the shore. In spring, they congregate on protected beaches to give birth and nurse their young.

**Spyhopping**  
**Breaching**  
**Fluking**  
**Blowing**
Discover The Coast Annual Event

2016, 2017 & 2018

Discover the Coast
California Coastal National Monument
Point Arena-Stornetta Unit

Saturday
June 9
2018
@ Point Arena-Stornetta

Discover Our Lands Event Map

Point Arena Lighthouse
Lobed Whales
Whoa! Bird Watch Station
Pema Dika Workshop
Food! Clown Chukar
Cocktails! $10000 Free
Net Sales! Pet Tour

Point Arena City Hall
San Francisco College Trail Station
(0.3 miles)

Schedule of Activities
10:00 Lighthouse Gates Open
10:15 to 11:15 Guided Walk: Geology from the Tower with Jim Johnson
11:30 to 12:30 Guided Walk: Native Plants with Juli Larrie
1:15 to 2:15 Guided Walk: Native Plants with Nancy Martin
2:45 to 4:00 Birds from the Tower
3:00 to 4:00 Guided Walk: Geology with Tom Cochran
All Day: Whoa! Bird Watch Station

Partners

Artwork by
Ellen Whately

Photo by Michael Beattie
Exploring Tidepools: Life at the Edge of the Sea

Come learn about the colorful anemones, sea stars, jewel-like sea urchins, elegant sea slugs, chitons, octopus and other creatures that call the rocky intertidal areas of the Mendocino coast home.

Through beautiful imagery and marine life artifacts, Carol Preston, Education and Outreach Coordinator, NOAA’s Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, will present new research, and discuss how algae and marine invertebrates compete for food, evade predators, and adapt to sometimes brutal and ever-changing sea conditions to survive.

Saturday, May 14, 4:00 p.m. in the Point Arena Lighthouse Fog Signal Building, 45500 Lighthouse Road. Admission, $5.00. Space is limited; for reservations or more information call 707-882-2809.
“Getting To the Bottom Of Things: the Dungeness Crab”

By Mary Jane Schuman

They met last spring. Perhaps it was the lovely weather conditions conducive to mating among crabs, or perhaps it was merely the beauty of the season. But whatever the reason, crabs were everywhere! They were seen bustling around their burrows, making sure they were ready for the long winter ahead. And they certainly were: crabs can survive for months without food or water! In fact, they are one of the few organisms able to do this.

DIRECTIONS: This species is known for its hasty manner (least said, so the least said). A quick dip in the saltwater creek, and then on to the next adventure. In Northern California and the Pacific Northwest, Dungeness are a traditional Thanksgiving specialty, and enjoyed throughout the ensuing season as well.

This HARVEST: Dungeness have been landed commercially since Gold Rush days. The fishery is regulated based on population and seasonal conditions. Government officials must ensure a sustainable harvest that balances economic needs with conservation goals. Dealing with climate change impacts, Dungeness populations struggle to adapt to rising temperatures and ocean acidification. Some experts believe this could lead to a decline in crab populations, affecting local economies and seafood industries.

WHALE IMPACTS: Unfortunately, the Dungeness crab and other shellfish species are vulnerable to commercial and recreational fishing. For more information on how commercial fishing is affecting Dungeness crabs, visit https://geo.sys.gov/EC/EC55S.
Visit Us Story Map

Six destination sites in Expansion area featured