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Montara State Beach/McNee Ranch

North of Montara on Highway 1, Montara State Beach is a wide sandy beach about eight-tenths of a mile long. The south end of Montara Beach has rich but mostly inaccessible tide pools. Harbor seals occasionally haul out at Montara. The beach is bounded by low hills both to the north and south. The granitic rocks of Montara Mountain are the main source of sand for this beach. As the sand travels such a short distance, the grains have not had a chance to weather into fine particles and tend to be quite coarse.



There are two beach access points from the bluff area. One access is off Highway 1 across from Second Street; the second access is located about a half mile north on the ocean side of highway. The paths down to the beach are steep.

Dogs are permitted provided they are controlled with a leash of no more than six feet at all times.

McNee Ranch

McNee Ranch, part of Montara State Beach, is located on the west face of Montara Mountain, north of Half Moon Bay and south of Pacifica. The mountain is a northern spur of the Santa Cruz Mountains and features the only undisturbed coastal mountain habitat found on over 100 miles of coastline. It is an ecological island of natural biological diversity. Its steep slopes have minimized human impact, and it is home to plant and animal communities found nowhere else in the world.

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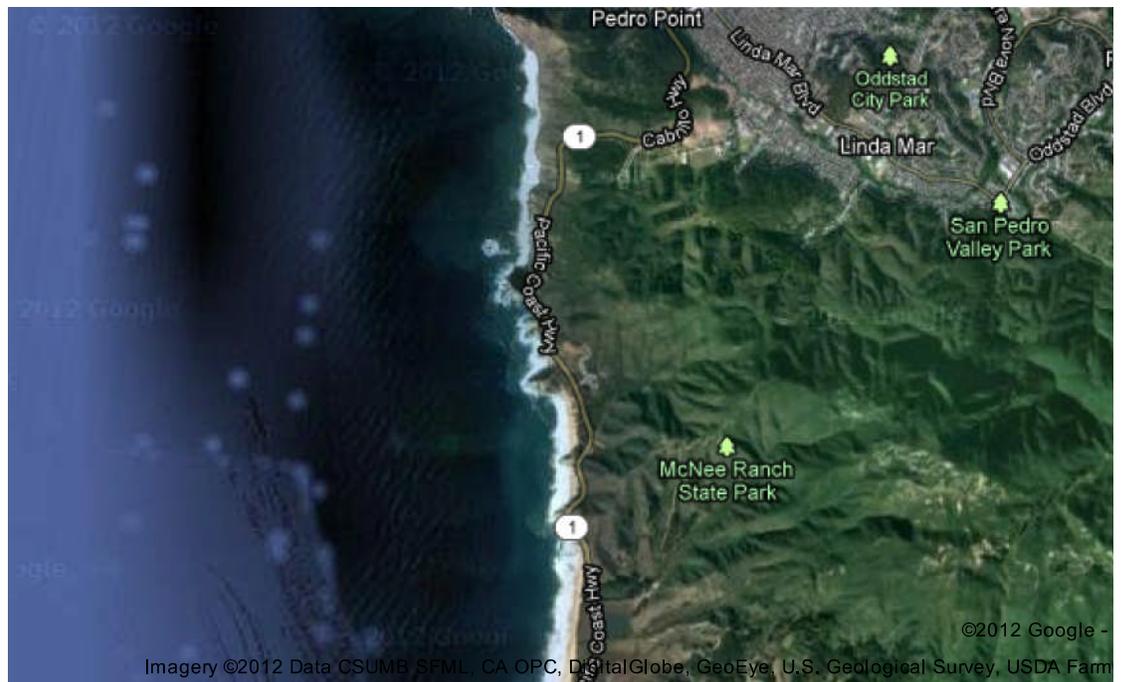


[Montara State Beach/McNee Ranch Web Site](#)



The park is open to hiking, biking, horseback riding, and walking dogs on leash. The trails are moderate to rigorous, offering spectacular views of the coast. Park trails lead to North Peak (1,898 feet) where, on a clear day, you can see the Pacific, the San Francisco Bay, Point Reyes, and Mount Diablo. Be prepared for the weather to change quickly with incoming fog and wind,

[Map to Montara State Beach](#)



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