



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Determination of Temporary Closure

36 CFR 1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

(a) Consistent with applicable legislation and federal administrative policies, and based upon a determination that such action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities, the Superintendent may:

- (1). Establish, for all or a portion of a park area, a reasonable schedule of visiting hours, impose public use limits, or close all or a portion of a park area to all public use or to a specific use activity.

1. Temporary Closure Location: Effective April 8, 2023, until further notice Drakes Beach is closed to public access, except for the cove directly in front of the Ken Patrick Visitor Center. This cove will only be closed daily from 4:00 pm to 10:00 am. The cove may be closed at any time if seals return to this beach or if staff/docents are unavailable to be onsite. Drakes Beach Road and parking lot will be closed during the hours that the cove in front of the Ken Patrick Visitor Center is closed.	
2. Duration of Temporary Closure: Until further notice.	
3. Who is affected by the Temporary Closure: All visitors.	
4. Justification for Temporary Closure: This emergency closure is designed to minimize the possibility of human and elephant seal interactions on Drakes Beach. More than 300 elephant seals are on this area of Drakes Beach.	
5. Additional Justification/Details for Temporary Closure: This closure is consistent with the park's Drakes Beach operations plan for 2023.	
Craig Kenkel /s/* Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore	Date: April 6, 2023

*The signed Determination of Temporary Closure is on file at park headquarters.