



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 March 11, 2022 until further notice Drakes Beach is closed from the beach area directly in front of the Ken Patrick Visitor Center to where it reaches the seasonal closure west of the main beach area at the cove's edge.	
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. A large number of elephant seal weanlings (more than 50) and 5 subadult and adult male elephant seals have moved into the area making it difficult for visitors to get around them safely.	
5. Additional Justification/Details for Temporary Closure: This closure is consistent with the park's Drakes Beach operations plan for winter season 2022.	
Brannon Ketcham /s/*	
Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore acting for Superintendent Craig Kenkel	Date: March 11, 2022

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