

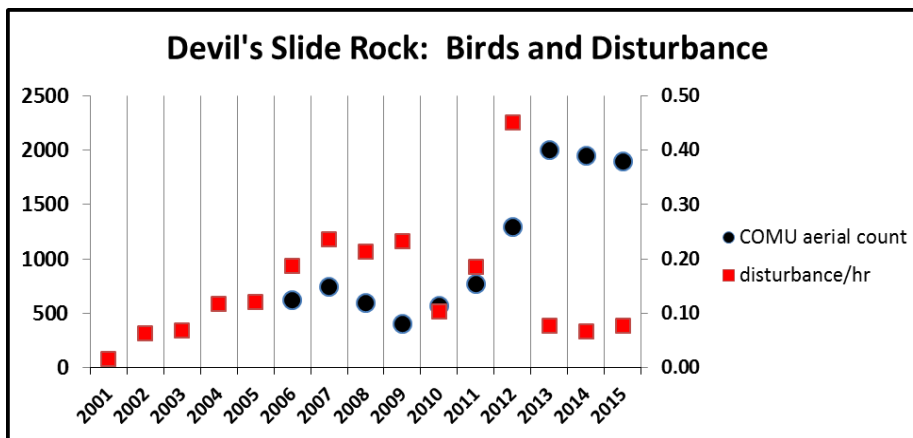
Background



The natural resource Trustees have been awarded \$22.9 million to implement 13 restoration projects. The funds come from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund managed by the US Coast Guard. The projects are intended to compensate for injuries caused by oil leaks from the *S.S. Jacob Luckenbach*, a vessel that sank off the coast of San Francisco in 1953. Most of the projects are underway.

Restoration Project Highlights

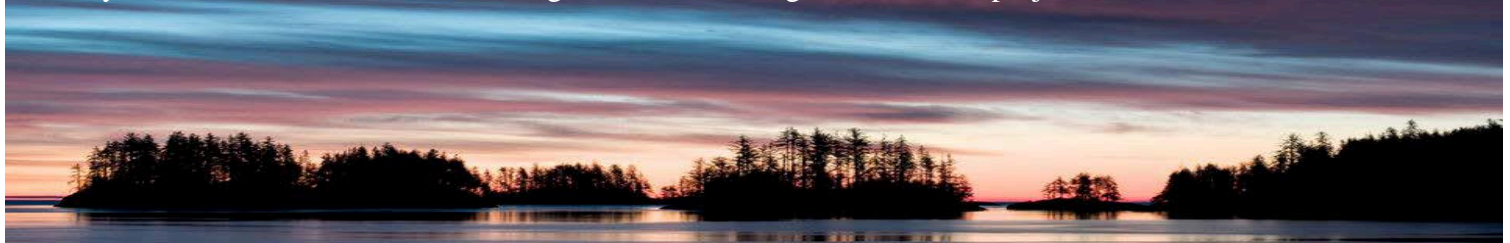
Seabird Protection Network



The Seabird Protection Network, implemented by the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, has forged a partnership with the Half Moon Bay Airport to reduce aircraft disturbance of the Devil's Slide Rock Common Murre colony. The past three years have seen a marked decrease in disturbance and an increase in murre nesting on the rock. The colony is now close to its historical maximum size.

Rat Eradication at Haida Gwaii, Canada

After several years of monitoring, Arichika and the Bischoff Islands have officially been declared rat-free and once again offer prime breeding habitat for Ancient Murrelets. Parks Canada and the Haida Nation have used the success from this project as a springboard to launch additional rat eradication work at the larger Murchison and Faraday Islands. A short video, called [Night Birds Returning](#), describes the projects.



Grebe Colony Protection

California Audubon, working with their Redbud, Altacal, and Plumas chapters, has cultivated strong community bonds with local boaters, anglers, and others to help protect nesting grebes at Clear Lake, Thermolito Afterbay, and Lake Almanor. While human disturbance has been minimized, the grebe colonies have suffered from historic low water levels due to the drought and wind storms.



Luckenbach Trustee Council Budget

Initial restoration award	\$22,501,555
Additional contingency funds	\$376,177

Total Amount Received: \$22,877,732

<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Status of Project</u>
Kokechik Flats Protection	\$83,503	Completed 2 years of 10-year project
Grebe Colony Protection	\$774,060	Completed 6 years of 10-year project
Farallon Is Mouse Eradication	\$805,980	Environmental compliance on-going
Taiaroa Head Shearwater Colony	\$58,095	Complete
Baja Is Seabird Enhancement	\$2,591,542	Completed 3 years of 5-year project
Point Reyes Dunes	\$370,835	Complete
Seabird Protection Network	\$4,327,451	Completed 5 years of 20-year project
Point Reyes Corvid Management	\$400,000	Almost complete
Murrelets—Habitat Protection	\$0	Pending
Murrelets—Corvid Management	\$935,606	Completed 5 years of 12-year project
Haida Gwaii Rat Eradication	\$222,455	Almost complete
Año Nuevo Island Restoration	\$1,125,490	Completed 7 years of 10-year project
Sea Otter Pathogens Education	\$121,155	Complete
Agency Oversight	\$1,063,967	

Total Amount Allocated: \$12,809,140

Total Amount Remaining: \$10,068,592

Other Restoration News

The Coast Guard has approved the Trustees' contingency request for \$191,115 to address additional costs for the Kokechik Flats, grebe colony protection and Año Nuevo Island projects. This brings the total contingency funds received to \$376,197. The Trustees will be seeking additional contingency funds in 2016 for a few projects.

Is the *S.S. Luckenbach* still leaking?

Yes, the *S.S. Jacob Luckenbach* apparently still leaks some oil during very high swell events, including during a swell event on Dec 9-11, 2015. Nine oiled birds (7 Common Murres, 1 Red-necked Grebe, and 1 Western Grebe) were picked up on beaches from Santa Cruz to Monterey. The oil on the birds was tested and matched the fingerprint of the oil from the *S.S. Jacob Luckenbach*. No additional oiled birds have since been found. CDFW continues to monitor the vessel by testing oiled birds after large storms.

Natural Resource Trustee Agencies

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
National Park Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
California Department of Fish and Wildlife



For more information and monitoring reports:

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/NRDA/Jacob-Luckenbach>