

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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**Fisk's Mill Landing Historical and Archaeological District
(Northern California Doghole Ports Maritime Cultural Landscape MPS)
Jenner (vicinity), Sonoma County**

**THIS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION
CONTAINS RESTRICTED INFORMATION**

Archaeological locations are considered confidential and public access to such information is restricted by law (Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 9(a) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act; Executive Order 13007; Section 6254.10 of the California State Government Code). The following summary of the description and significance of the above-named property is available for public access.

Fisk's Mill Landing Historical and Archaeological District encompasses 398 acres along the Sonoma County coast within Salt Point State Park and adjacent waters within Stewarts Point State Marine Reserve and Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. The district includes the coastal terrace to the southwest, headlands and coastline surrounding Fisk's Mill Cove, and waters of Fisk's Mill Cove along with a small sliver of the slope on the inland side of US Highway 1 heading northeast towards the ridgetop. Seventeen contributing sites include both archaeological remains and remnants of collapsed buildings all associated with the use of Fisk's Mill as a doghole port, one individual landing within an interrelated network of several coastal enterprises within Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. Resources key to this operation include the Fisk/Helmke/Kruse Ranch Complex and the archaeological remains of the Fisk's Mill sawmill and lumber chute along Fisk's Mill Cove's southwest side.

Resources associated with the transportation network, including the railway grades, roadbeds, and bridges, along with the Kruse Ranch townsite represent an established center of business and local community necessary for the doghole port's success and longevity. Archaeological fieldwork and surveys of the built environment, combined with historical maps and archival documentation, provided evidence of their use associated with Fisk's Mill Landing. Fifteen noncontributing resources—one building and fourteen sites—postdate the period of significance or do not contribute to the significance for which the district is nominated. The district retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Fisk's Mill Landing Historical and Archaeological District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the state level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Maritime History, Commerce, Transportation, and Engineering for its association with the California timber trade and maritime commerce through the area's use as a doghole port. The district is also eligible at the state level of significance under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology: Historic–Non-Aboriginal as a property that has

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yielded and has the potential to yield information important to the understanding of the doghole port network and its role in maritime trade.

As a property type in Sonoma County associated with the doghole ports transportation network including maritime commerce and the timber industry, the district meets the registration requirements of the *Northern California Doghole Ports Maritime Cultural Landscape* Multiple Property Submission. The period of significance begins in 1863 when the first export of timber products from Fisk's Mill Landing by a vessel occurred and closes when the chute was abandoned in 1904 and vessels no longer loaded products at the doghole port.