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2003 SEA BIRD COLONY MONITORING EFFORT REPORT NOTE Redwood National and State Parks

June 2004

Keith Bensen, Fish and Wildlife Biologist

The productive coastal waters of Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP) contain some of the most important seabird breeding and foraging habitat in California. Found within RNSP, False Klamath Rock is the fourth largest seabird colony in California (approximately 30,000 birds) while White Rock is the largest California brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*) non-breeding roosting site in the state (approximately 1000+ birds) (Sowls et al. 1980). Colonial nesting species found within RNSP (excluding burrow nesting seabirds) include: Common murre (*Uria aalge*), pigeon guillemot (*Cephus columba*), double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), Brandt's cormorant (*P. penicillatus*), pelagic cormorant (*P. pelagicus*) and western gull (*Larus occidentalis*).

Nine separate counts of White Rock and False Klamath Cove Rock were made between 30 April and 21 July 2003. In late 2003 and early 2004 RNSP underwent a marine inventory and monitoring planning effort which specifically identified the False Klamath Cove Rock common murre colony as a monitoring priority. Due to this change in focus, the 2003 data will not be reported separately but will instead be combined with data collected in 2004. All pertinent background information, past seabird colony inventories, methodologies, analyses and discussions will be included in this combined report.

Literature Cited

Sowls, A.L., A.R. DeGange, J.W. Nelson and G.S. Lester. 1980. Catalog of California Seabird Colonies. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Biological Services Program. FWS/OBS/ 37/80. 371 pp.