

From: [Gerry McChesney](#)
To: gabrielle.feldman@islandconservation.org; [Jonathan Shore](#); [Russ Bradley](#)
Subject: Farallon cultural resources
Date: 10/16/2012 12:40 PM

Gabrielle,

Table 6 on Page 61 of the Farallon CCP has a list of potential and cultural resources. Those with status = "contributing historical element" are listed in the national registry. Element #16, Water Storage Tanks, were evaluated in September 2012 and were deemed not eligible. The summary on pp. 59-60 provide some good info.

In addition, the U.S. Navy built several structures on SEFI between about 1905 and WWII that were used as a radio facility, barracks, and offices. Of those, only the building known as the Carpenter Shed still exists. All others were removed prior to refuge establishment. Impacts of their construction is unknown, but probably resulted in substantial disturbance and destruction of seabird nesting habitat. The personnel stationed on the island during that time likely caused substantial damage to the islands resources. Removal of structures has largely restored breeding habitat, especially for Western Gulls. Where building foundations still exist is taking up potential habitat for burrow nesters, although the area of this is limited.

For all structures built on the island, it could be stated that their construction likely caused substantial habitat disturbance/removal as well as substantial disturbance to individual birds on the islands, but that is unclear at this time to what extent. Impacts of the remaining structures are relatively low, but they do take up small amounts of breeding habitat for gulls and burrow nesting species. The water catchment pad and concrete landing pads both take up a substantial amount of space and impact both gull and burrow nesting habitat, but do provide roosting areas for large numbers of gulls. But the rock walls surrounding them provide habitat for storm-petrels and Cassin's Auklets.

All of the remaining buildings take up habitat that could be used at least by breeding gulls.

Jonathan, do you have any other info you can add?

Gerry

Gerry McChesney
Manager, Farallon National Wildlife Refuge and
Common Murre Restoration Project
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1 Marshlands Road
Fremont, CA 94555
Phone: 510-792-0222, ext. 222, cell: 510-435-9151
Fax: 510-745-9285
Email: Gerry_McChesney@fws.gov
<http://www.fws.gov/sfbayrefuges/murre/murrehome.htm>
<http://www.fws.gov/sfbayrefuges/Farallon/>
