



TUNITAS CREEK BEACH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

EXISTING CONDITIONS

April 2020





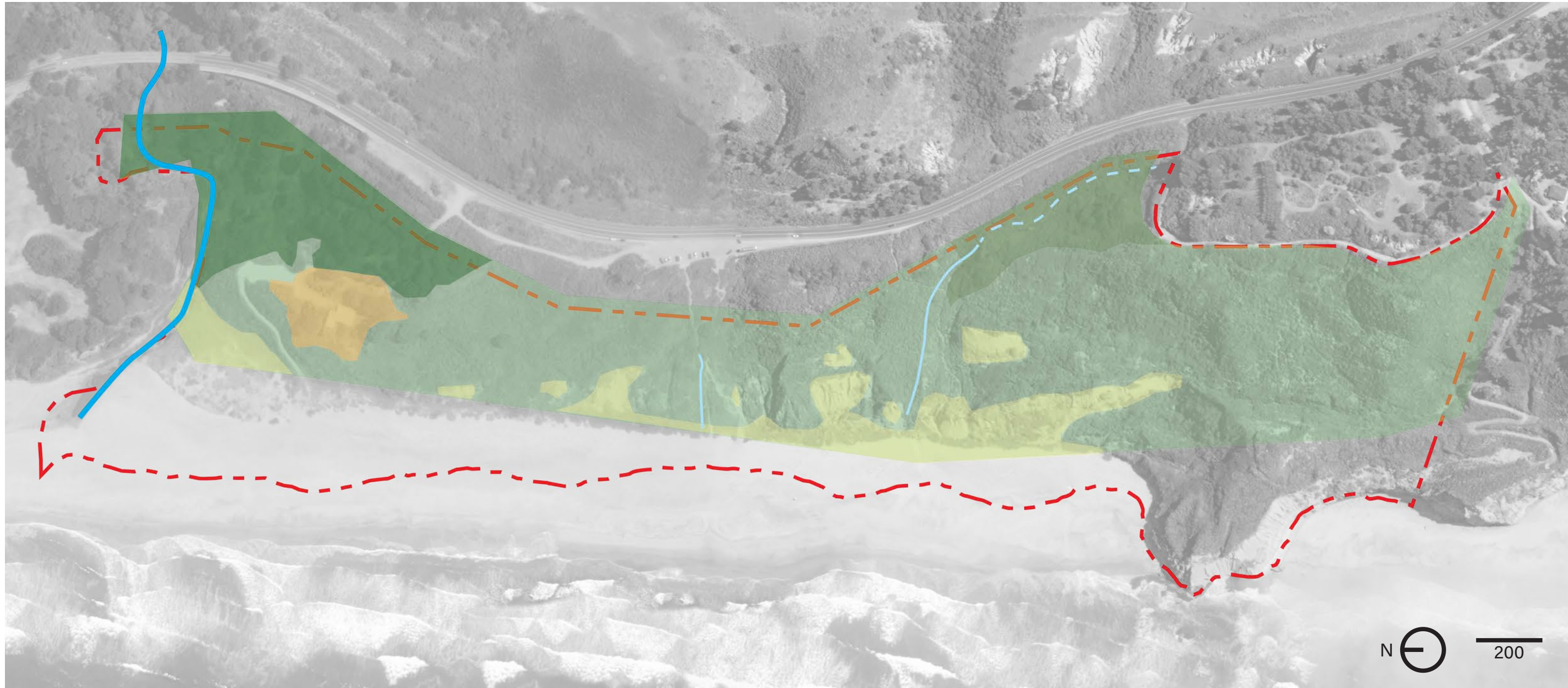
LEGEND

- - - - - Property Line
- 5' Contour

*Throughout the presentation, we will be using the term "mid-bluff" to refer to the relatively flat area near the existing residence



EXISTING HABITATS



LEGEND

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Property Line | Coastal Scrub | Perennial Stream |
| Dense Forest | Riparian Scrub | Ephemeral Stream |
| Coastal Strand/Dunes | Ornamental Planting | Intermittent Stream |

HABITAT TYPES



COASTAL SCRUB

Northern coast scrub comprises 34.6 acres of the 52 acre project site. Some areas are barren and devoid of vegetation, whereas others are densely vegetated with low-lying shrubs that range from 1 to 4 ft in height.



DENSE FOREST

Monterey pine forest habitat is confined to the northeastern section of the Project site, east of the existing residence. It is dominated by Monterey pine and Monterey cypress that reach up to 60 ft in height.



ORNAMENTAL PLANTING

Existing ornamental planting surrounds the existing house on the Project site. This habitat is primarily ornamental shrubs, herbs, and forbs.



COASTAL DUNES

The dune habitat includes all northern foredunes and active coastal dunes located on the Project site. Dune habitat contains barren mobile sand accumulations and sparse and scattered patches of perennial grasses.



COASTAL STRAND

The coastal strand habitat comprises a narrow band of densely-growing sea fig that extends from the high tide line landward to the base of the coastal dunes (left).



PERENNIAL STREAM HABITAT

Tunitas Creek is a 6.6-mile fast-flowing perennial stream that runs from King's Mountain to Tunitas Beach. The active wetted channel is approximately 20 ft wide and ranges from several inches to several feet deep.

VEGETATION



MONTEREY CYPRESS

Monterey cypress, along with Monterey pine, is the dominant species in the dense forest located near the existing residence to the north of the site.



CALIFORNIA SAGEBRUSH

California sagebrush is one of the dominant species of the northern coastal scrub habitat.



COASTAL MARSH MILK-VETCH

Coastal marsh milk-vetch is listed as a special-status plant by the California Native Plant Society and may still occur on the Project site.



COYOTE BRUSH

Coyote brush is one of the dominant species of the northern coastal scrub habitat.



MONKEY BUSH

Monkey bush is one of the dominant species of the northern coastal scrub habitat.



CALIFORNIA COFFEEBERRY

California coffeeberry is one of the dominant species of the northern coastal scrub habitat.



WESTERN SNOWY PLOVER

Critical habitat for the western snowy plover, federally listed as threatened, is located ~8 miles north of the Project site. Suitable nesting and foraging habitat is present on the sandy beach and dunes.



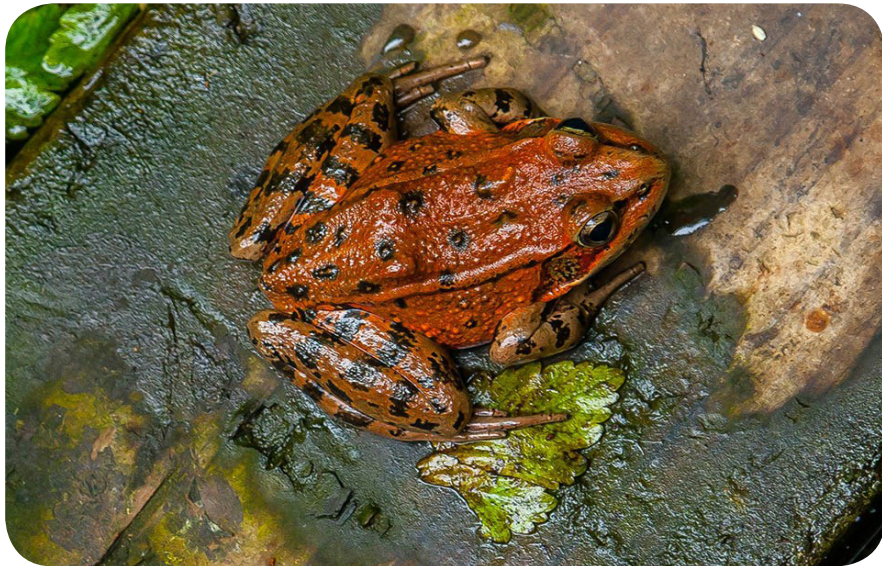
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT

The San Francisco common yellowthroat, a California species of special concern, is likely to breed on site.



SAN FRANCISCO GARTER SNAKE

The garter snake, a federal and state listed species, is well documented in the Project region and could occur along Tunitas Creek.



CALIFORNIA RED-LEGGED FROG

The California red-legged frog, a federally listed threatened species and California species of special concern, uses Tunitas Creek as nonbreeding aquatic habitat and is likely to disperse across the entire site.



TIDEWATER GOBY

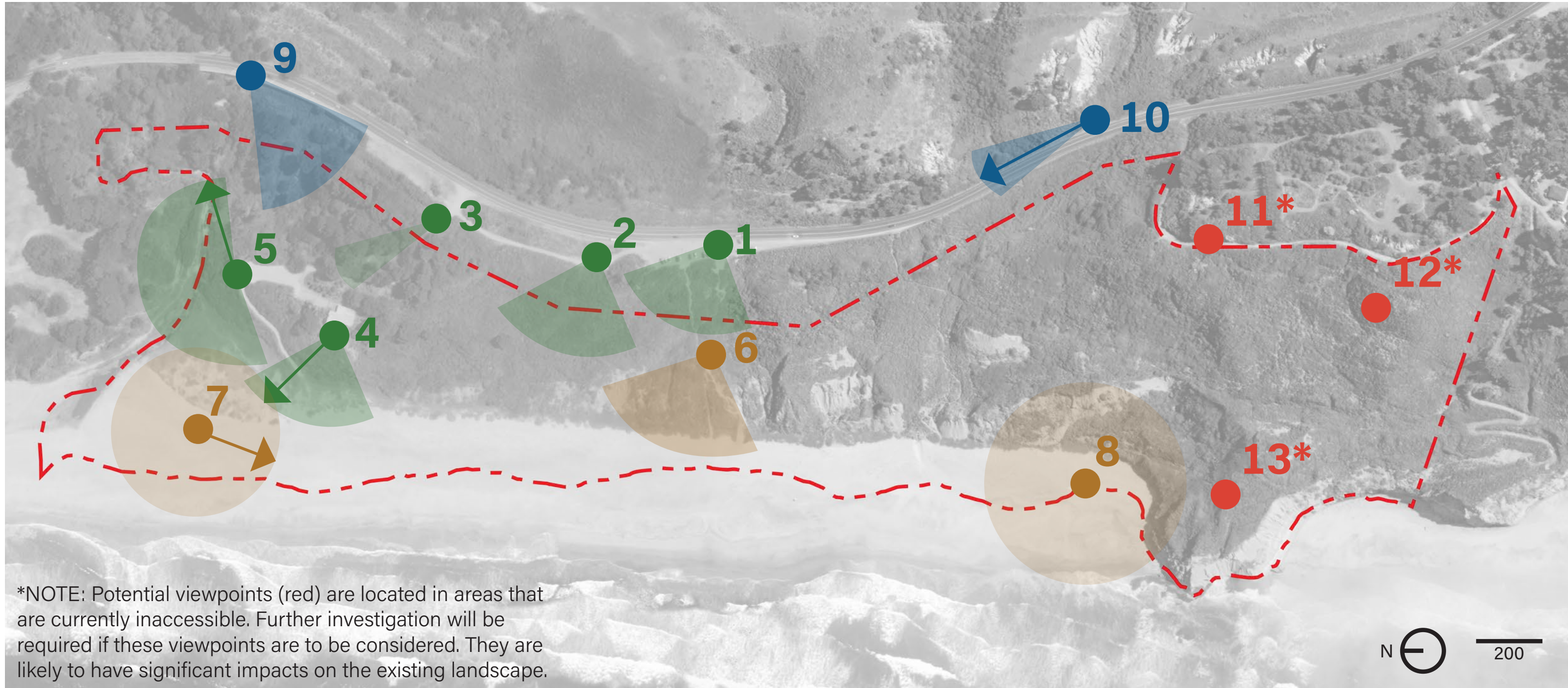
The tidewater goby, a federally listed as threatened and a California species of special concern, has been observed in similar habitats as Tunitas Creek.



MONARCH BUTTERFLY

The monarch butterfly, a US Fish & Wildlife Service listed sensitive species, has potential to form winter roosts on the Project site in the Monterey pine forest.

EXISTING VIEWS



LEGEND

- - - - - Property Line
- Primary Pedestrian Viewpoints
- Secondary Pedestrian Viewpoints
- Vehicular Viewpoints
- Potential Viewpoints (Currently Inaccessible)



EXISTING VIEWS



VIEWPOINT #2: PANORAMIC VIEW FROM DIRT PATH NEXT TO PARKING AREA



EXISTING VIEWS



VIEWPOINT #5: VIEW FROM THE GRAVEL ROAD LOOKING TOWARD HIGHWAY 1 BRIDGE OVER TUNITAS CREEK CORRIDOR



EXISTING VIEWS



VIEWPOINT #7: VIEW FROM THE BEACH LOOKING SOUTH TOWARD MUSSEL ROCK



EXISTING VIEWS

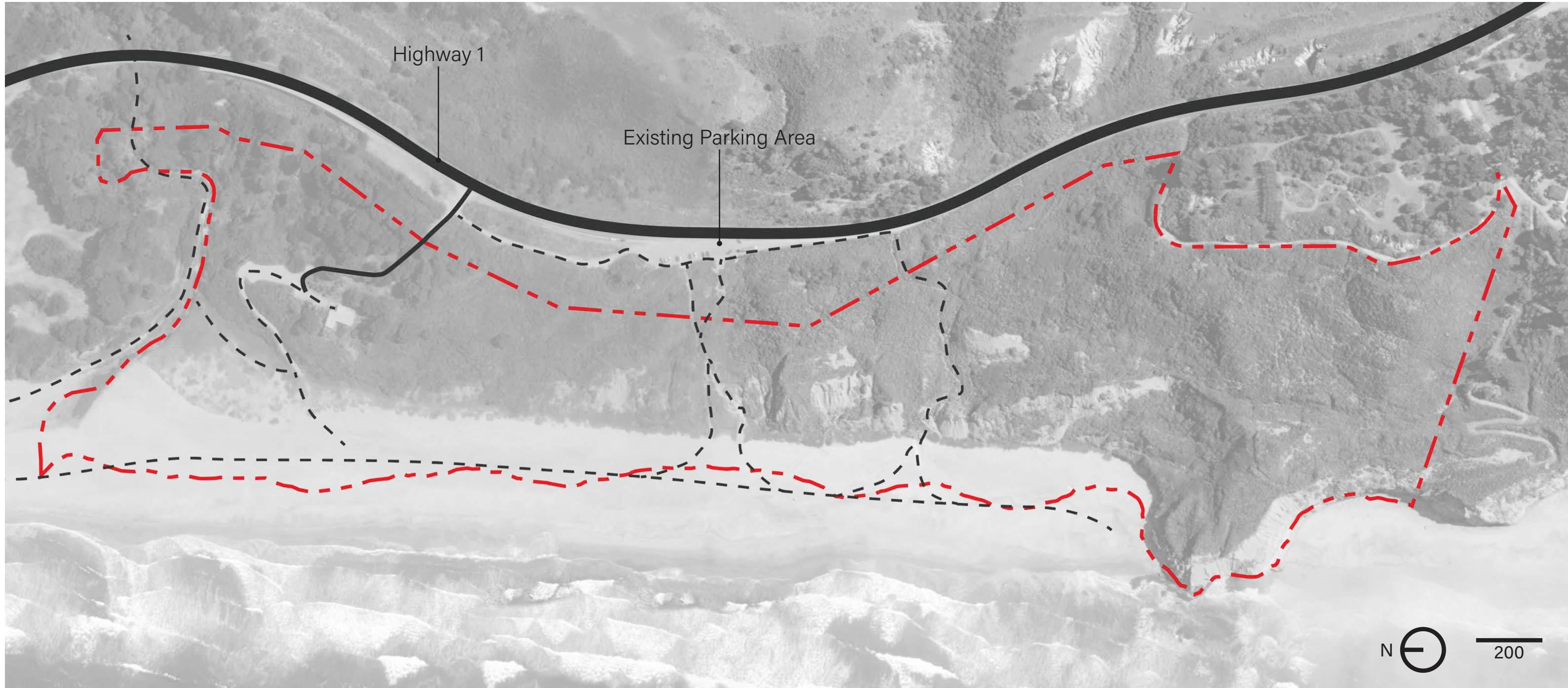


VIEWPOINT #9: VIEW FROM HIGHWAY 1 DRIVING NORTH

IMAGE FROM GOOGLE STREET VIEW



EXISTING TRAILS AND ROADS



LEGEND

- - - - - Property Line
- Existing Access Road
- - - Informal Trails

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



EXISTING INFORMAL DIRT PARKING

Currently, most cars park in the informal roadside dirt lot at the top of the bluff. Up to 60 cars park here at a time on the busiest days of the week.



EXISTING ACCESS ROAD

An existing closed-off access road currently allows rangers and emergency vehicles to get down to the site of the existing residence and the beach.



OTHER INFORMAL PARKING AREAS

Some cars will park on the dirt trail leading from the access road to the informal dirt parking area and pull close to the edge of the bluff.



GRAVEL PARKING AT MID-BLUFF

The existing closed-off access road leads to an informal gravel parking area near the site of the existing residence.



BIKE CIRCULATION



IMAGE FROM GOOGLE STREET VIEW

BIKING AT TUNITAS CREEK BEACH

No formal biking trails exist at Tunitas Creek Beach today. Some bikers bike alongside Highway 1 down the peninsula and pass by Tunitas Creek Beach.



REGIONAL COASTAL TRAILS

While no bike trail exists at Tunitas Creek Beach, there are several nearby bike-friendly trails, such as the Cowell-Purisima Coastal Trail (left) and the Half Moon Bay Coastal Trail (right). Some of these trails have the potential to be connected to Tunitas as part of the Ohlone-Portola heritage trail.

PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



EXISTING PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE BEACH

Currently, the only paths to Tunitas Creek Beach from the parking area at the top of the bluff are unsanctioned, eroding, and unsafe footpaths.



ACCESS ROAD TO THE BEACH

While not open to the public, an access road created for emergency vehicles to get to the beach currently exists and will become a pedestrian trail when the park opens.



PEDESTRIAN ACCESS ALONG THE BEACH

There are currently no formal access paths along the beach, but people often walk along the beach to get to the southern bluffs.

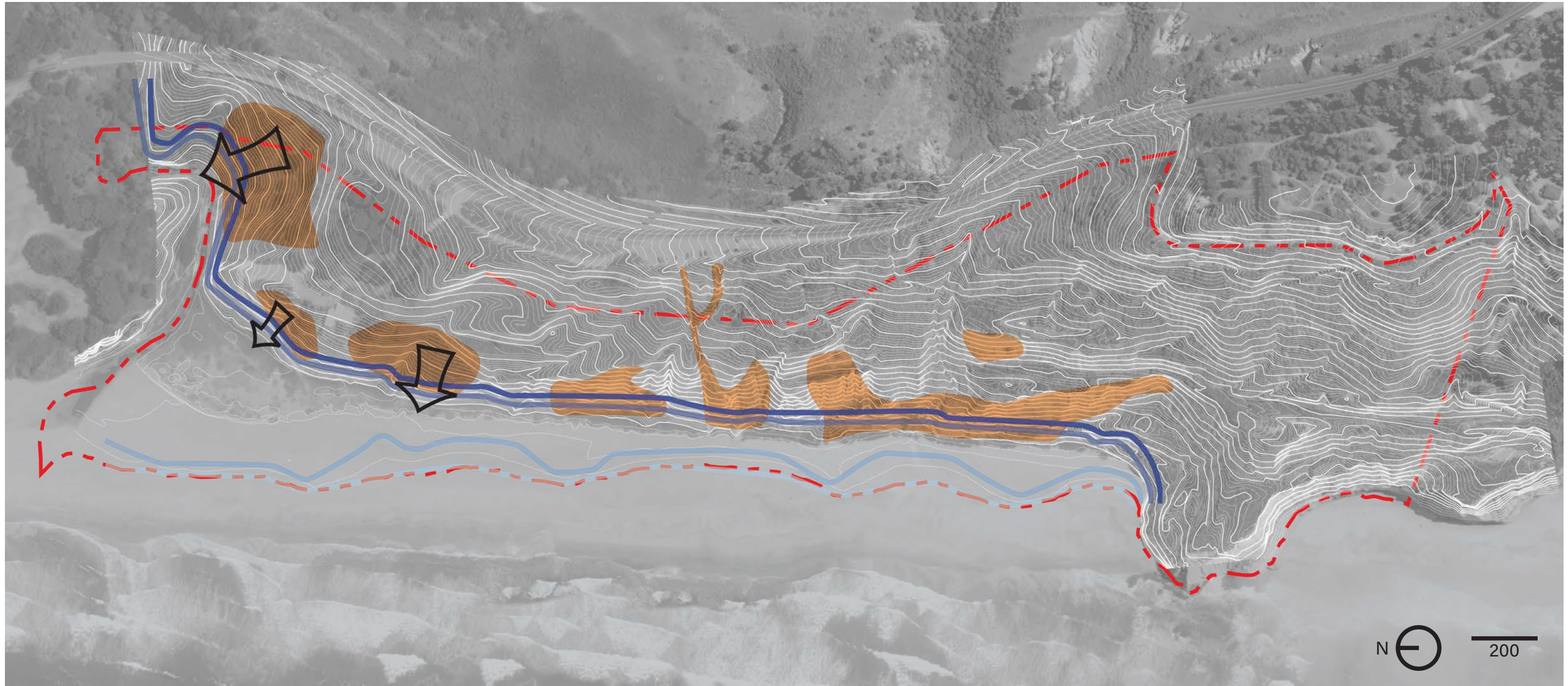


REGIONAL COASTAL TRAILS

The nearby Cowell-Purisima coastal trail features walking and biking paths and may potentially be connected to a pedestrian trail at Tunitas Creek Beach.



EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS



LEGEND

- - - - - Property Line
- Landslide
- Eroded slopes
- — — — — Mean High Water (8.57')
- — — — — Mean High Water + Sea Level Rise (13.17')
- — — — — Base Flood Elevation (36.0')
- — — — — Base Flood Elevation + Sea Level Rise (40.6')

EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS



ERODING COASTAL DUNES



STEEP SLOPE TO BEACH



ACTIVE LANDSLIDE IN NORTHEAST AREA OF SITE



ERODED FOOTPATH TO BEACH



ERODED FOOTPATH TO BEACH



EROSION NEAR TUNITAS CREEK



END OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

Click on "Design Scenarios" to move to the next module.

