

# Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Punta Gorda Lighthouse Petrolia, CA

Repair of the 113-year-old Punta Gorda Lighthouse

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## Project Overview

Sustainable Group key personnel performed on-site construction services during the repair of the remote Punta Gorda Lighthouse.

## Reference

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## Project Description

As one of the first Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) projects performed by BLM, this was a very high-profile project located along the very remote Lost Coast of Northern California. The Light Station was constructed around 1910 and originally consisted of 22 acres, with a concrete lighthouse building, concrete oil house building, and several wooden structures. The Lighthouse was deactivated in 1951 and the entire Station was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. At present, only the shell of the lighthouse building remains and is constructed of reinforced concrete with a second level consisting of a cast iron lantern room, catwalk and cupola.

Over the years the condition of the lighthouse building has deteriorated and the scope of work for this project fundamentally sought to return the lighthouse to its appearance in 1976 and to "like new" condition. Specific elements of work included, repair of spalled concrete areas; refinishing all concrete surfaces to protect against the harsh marine environment; repair of corroded metal components; removal and historical recreation of the cast iron spiral staircase, central column, and railing system; installation of new curved steel brackets to preserve structural stability; reconstruction of historical interior wooden trim; and regrading of the surrounding site to ensure positive drainage.

The project was also subject to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit due to the presence of protected species to include elephant seals who are abundant at the site. Biological monitors were on site each day and construction activities were



Punta Gorda historic photograph

**Key Personnel Certifications**

PE, LEED AP, PMP, CFM

Sustainable Group is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Corporation.



Scaffolding of the lighthouse



Sponge jetting activities

performed as quietly as possible so as not to disturb the animals. Other challenges related to this project included the 3-mile transit to and from the lighthouse from the Mattole Campground. This transit included one narrow area that could only be passed during mid to low tide and upon a very loose sand that would not compact even within the wave zone. Thus, specially outfitted ATVs with sand tires and tracked equipment was used to move personnel, equipment and materials to and from the site. Despite these unique challenges the project was completed with no safety or quality issues of any kind and well within the required work window. Sustainable Group (SGI) served as the General Contractor, the Project Manager, and the Direct Liaison to BLM and other project stakeholders to include an adjacent landowner who was very pleased with the crew's care regarding the elephant seals as well as the overall project, remarking the "lighthouse is the best it has looked in 40 years." In addition, Sustainable Group personnel and equipment performed all of the grading at the site and oversaw the demobilization efforts to ensure the site was left in pristine condition.



Metalwork restoration



Project complete

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Sustainable Group will become a highly valued and trusted resource that you'll rely upon to consistently provide expert, efficient and professional construction, remediation, demolition, LEED, and facility management consulting services. Contact us at your convenience; we look forward to discussing your needs.

For more information, call us at **925-899-9721**, or email [info@sustainable-group.com](mailto:info@sustainable-group.com).

**About Sustainable Group**

Headquartered in Moraga, California, Sustainable Group Inc. is a premier licensed General Contractor (CA #966993, HAZ) providing general construction environmental remediation, demolition, civil site development, and marine construction services. Sustainable Group also offers Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) expertise pertaining to renewable energy and sustainable sites, as well as overall facilities management consulting services. Sustainable Group key personnel have over 26 years of experience in successfully executing projects and performing expert facilities management for multiple Federal entities including the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, and the Army Corps of Engineers.