

Black Oystercatchers from Alaska to about Oregon are entirely black, but southward from there birds show increasing amounts of white feathers and browner (less black) abdomens.

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Black Oystercatcher

Haematopus bachmani

World range

Mostly resident on rocky seacoasts and islands along Pacific Coast from southern Alaska southward to Baja California. Resident of most of breeding range, but some move into southern California in winter.

Where to see it on Alcatraz

One pair nests at the Seawall below the Laundry Building. Can be found year-round feeding in the intertidal zones around the island.

Common disturbances while nesting

Easily scared from nest by approaching humans or boats. Nests prone to predation by gulls. Vulnerable throughout breeding season, especially during its early stages.



Breeding cycle

