GIS layers based on drone imagery that Tom Bell and Max Castorani collected from Drakes Estero in 2017, 2018, and 2019. There are separate layers for dense seagrass (> 70% cover), moderate seagrass (30-70% cover), and sparse seagrass (< 30% cover). Because we were unable to image all sections of the Estero in all years (due to weather), we have presented a composite of this 3-year period that captures a conservative picture of all known seagrass within the Estero at that time. Please note that we did not image the southern portion and mouth of Drakes Estero, or Estero de Limantour.

We have also included layers for oyster rack “scars” from each year measured (note again that not all racks were successfully imaged in all years). These layers can be subtracted from the 2017-2019 seagrass composite image, or simply overlay them (depending on what year and rack-scars are of interest). For both seagrass and rack-scars, measurements were made by hand from the orthorectified drone imagery.

The Excel file that shows the area of each traced seagrass polygon and the total area of seagrass within each density class. It also shows the total composite scar (unvegetated) area. If scars were imaged and traced in multiple years, we have reported the scar area from the image with the most confidence in tracing (due to water clarity, motion blur, etc.), or the most recent image when multiple years of good images were available. If the unvegetated rack area measurements are subtracted from the seagrass area measurements, you will arrive at the estimated total area of seagrass within the Estero during 2017-2019 (about 350 hectares).

Also included are the detailed measurements of the unvegetated area of each rack in each year it was imaged and traceable (“Rack Areas.xlsx”).