

1-320-A Site Summary - Mad River Slough**1-320-A****County:** Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment:** HM - G - S05 HM - G - S06**NOAA Chart:** 18622**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 40.87485 -124.14477**Site Description:**

Mad River Slough enters Arcata Bay at this site. Property ownership in the area includes Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, CDFW, and the shuttered Sierra Pacific Industries mill site and other private property. Extensive marsh complexes and estuary, mudflats. Extensive slough habitat beyond the Highway 255 bridge should be excluded from oiling if possible.

This area on North Humboldt Bay is a popular and important habitat for wildlife and a high bird use area year-round. Excluding oil from this site is of primary concern. Extensive salt marsh system and wetlands are vulnerable to oiling. Sensitive natural resources nearby include waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds including herons and egrets, seabirds and waterbirds including brown pelican, grebes, gulls, loons, cormorants; brant (SSC) present nearby Nov-Apr; raptors include bald eagle (SE), northern harrier, osprey, and peregrine falcon. Marine mammals include harbor seals and river otters; muskrat and beaver have also been reported nearby; eulachon (FT), green sturgeon (FT,SSC), longfin smelt (ST), salmonids including chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FT,ST), coastal cutthroat trout (SSC) and steelhead (FT), tidewater goby (FE, SSC, Critical Habitat), Pacific herring spawn on eelgrass, Dungeness crab, groundfish (EFH), Pacific oyster aquaculture in area; eelgrass beds in slough and extensive eelgrass beds nearby in North Humboldt Bay. Sensitive vegetation near the site includes beach layia (FE,SE, CNPS 1B.1), Humboldt Bay owl's-clover, Point Reyes salty bird's-beak (both CNPS 1B.2); western bumble bee.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

9A Sheltered tidal flats

8C Sheltered riprap

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Amphibians	Northern red-legged frog	SSC	Year-round	Nov-Feb
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Fish	green sturgeon - Southern	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	Pacific lamprey	SSC	Year-round	
Fish	eulachon	FT	Year-round	
Fish	salmonids		Year-round	

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

List of Key Contacts:

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
C	/	The Wiyot Tribe	(707) 733-5055
E	/	Humboldt County Sheriff	(707) 445-7251
O	/	Humboldt Bay Harbor District	(707) 443-0801
T	/Agency Representative	California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Eureka	(707) 445-6493
T	/	Humboldt Bay NWR Complex	(707) 733-5406
T	/	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service-Arcata	(707) 822-7201
T	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service-Arcata Field Office	(707) 822-7201

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

Additional Site Summary Comments:

For further information about coastal access in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Commission's California Coastal Access Guide. For photos of the coastline in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Records Project (www.californiacoastline.org).

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Oiling of slough and marsh complex could cause long term damage to important habitats. Avoid anchoring in eelgrass beds. Monitor drainage channel north of trestle bridge, protect with sorbent boom to avoid oiling channel if necessary. Shallow sloughs, extensive mudflats. Depth limitations may complicate vessel access. Deploy boom on high tide if possible. Sheriff may be able to provide access to launch boom or recover product from west side of slough from the former SPI yard. Suggest pulling out all boom necessary with skiff heading east up channel before securing anchor location on eastern shore of channel.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Shallow water at low & high tides. Extensive mudflats. Swift currents. Private property.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: III**

Strategy: 1-320.1 Objective: Exclusion booming to exclude the oil from the site.

Strategy: Stretch a boom from one side of the channel to the other. Workers may have to walk upon the mudflats to complete this installation. Hip waders and extreme caution is advised when walking on mudflats. Strategy will be effective on ebb tide by modifying collection location.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	1200 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> <i>Last Test: 9/25/2013</i>
Boom	Swamp	100 feet				
Boom	Sorbent	1200 feet				
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		4		
boat	Skiff				1	
Staff	Staff to Deploy				6	

Strategy: 1-320.2 Objective: Collect oil when a significant quantity is present.

Strategy: Collect oil from the water surface by employing a skimmer.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
skimmer	SSS				1	
Staff	Staff to Deploy				2	

Logistics:

Directions: Mad River Slough is accessible by land from Highway 255 or from shallow draft boat in the slough at the north end of Humboldt Bay.

Land Access: Vehicle access to site from Highway 255. Locked gates to access west side of slough in shuttered SPI mill.

On-Water Limitations: Shallow slough, small boat launch at site between railroad trestle and Hwy 255 bridge.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Parking area adjacent to slough at Highway 255, no facilities.

Communications Problems: none

Additional Operational Comments: Contact Humboldt Sheriff for access to area west of slough and north of Hwy 255 restricted by locked gates.

