

1-324-A Site Summary - Arcata Bay Sloughs**1-324-A****County:** Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment:** HM - G - S07 HM - G - S08 HM - G - S06**NOAA Chart:** 18622**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 40.8538 -124.0937**Site Description:**

This site includes the tidal estuaries of five small coastal streams that enter Arcata Bay (McDaniel Slough, Jolly Giant Creek at Butcher Slough, Jacoby Creek, Gannon Slough and Rocky Gulch). Ownership and management includes City of Arcata, CDFW, and Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. High public use area at Arcata Marsh with extensive trails on the waterfront, the other sites provide less public access but are adjacent to Highway 101 and the Humboldt Bay Trail. Site is shallow and most of it will be exposed mudflats at lower tides. Strong tidal movements and the shallow mudflats will make spill control very challenging in this habitat. Extensive eelgrass beds are the subject of much public interest and concern.

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 the stream inlets near the site is of primary concern, their salt marsh systems, estuaries 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. Fisheries include eulachon (FT), green sturgeon (FT,SSC) may be present in North Bay channels (06-10); longfin smelt (ST), Pacific lamprey (SSC), anadromous salmonids including chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FT,ST), coastal cutthroat trout (SSC) and steelhead (FT): spawning runs (08-06), juveniles/smolts (02-08); tidewater goby (FE,SSC, Critical Habitat), Pacific herring spawn on eelgrass, Dungeness crab, groundfish (EFH), Pacific oyster aquaculture in area; northern red-legged frogs (SSC) in Arcata Marsh; extensive eelgrass beds nearby in North Humboldt Bay; sensitive vegetation near the site includes western lily (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
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	
Plants	Humboldt Bay owl's-clover	SSSP	Year-round	Apr-Aug

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
O	/	Humboldt Bay Harbor District	(707) 443-0801
T	/Agency Representative	California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Eureka	(707) 445-6493
T	/	City of Arcata	(707) 822-5951
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.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Much of the bay is shallow with abraded channels at low tide. Extensive oyster culture near the Samoa Channel should be avoided by boat traffic. Old tidegate, exposed metal edges, and submerged rip-rap with rebar hazards at McDaniel Slough.

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

Strategy: 1-324.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Jacoby Creek

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of the creek.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	500 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 5/24/2018
Boom	Sorbent	100 feet				<i>Last Test:</i>
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

Strategy: 1-324.2 Objective: Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Gannon Slough

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	500 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 5/24/2018
Boom	Sorbent	100 feet				<i>Last Test:</i>
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

Strategy: 1-324.3 Objective: Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Jolly Giant Creek at Butchers Slough.

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	300 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 5/24/2018
Boom	Sorbent	100 feet				<i>Last Test:</i>
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

Strategy: 1-324.4 Objective: Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially McDaniel Slough.

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	300 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 5/24/2018
Boom	Sorbent	50 feet				<i>Last Test:</i> 9/24/2014
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

Strategy: 1-324.5 Objective: Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Rocky Gulch.

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of Rocky Gulch from Bracut Industrial Park.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	300	feet			<i>Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018</i>
Boom	Sorbent	100	feet			<i>Last Test: 10/17/2017</i>
T-Posts						
Staff				4		

Logistics:

Directions: Arcata Bay is at the northern end of Humboldt Bay adjacent to Highway 101 between the cities of Arcata and Eureka. Highway 255 passes over it on the south end of Arcata Bay. Jacoby Creek and Gannon sloughs can be accessed from Highway 101 between Bayside Cutoff and South G Streets. Butcher Slough and McDaniel sloughs can be accessed from the Arcata Marsh at the south end of I Street in Arcata. Butcher Slough can also be accessed from South G Street. Rocky Gulch can be accessed from Bracut Industrial Park along Highway 101.

Land Access: Vehicles can drive near sloughs, foot or shallow draft vessels required for deployment.

On-Water Limitations: Shallow mudflats, small launch at Arcata Marsh, and hand launch at Rocky Gulch

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Parking areas at Arcata Marsh may be appropriate.

Communications Problems: none

Additional Operational Comments: Shallow sloughs, extensive mudflats. Depth limitations may complicate vessel access and boom deployment (minimum 3' tide needed). Contact City of Arcata to facilitate access.

