

County: Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment:** HM - G - S10**NOAA Chart:** 18622**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 40.8103 -124.1465**Site Description:**

Eureka Slough is a large tidal slough on the northern end of the city of Eureka accessible behind the Target store. The response site is northwest of the Highway 101 bridge and extends to the mouth of the slough in the channel east of Daby Island. The slough is tidally influenced for miles upstream of the Highway 101 bridge. Any response should try and exclude oil from moving in with the tides beyond the bridge. Land ownership and management includes Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and City of Eureka. The water is shallow in much of the slough and large percentages of the total volume are exchanged on average tide cycles. High public use area with Eureka's Waterfront Trail transiting the south edge of the slough.

This area on Humboldt Bay is a popular and important habitat for wildlife and a high bird use area year-round. Excluding oil from Eureka Slough on the flood tide is of primary concern. Extensive salt marsh system upstream 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; bank swallow (ST), brant (SSC) present nearby Nov-Apr; raptors include bald eagle (SE), northern harrier, osprey, and peregrine falcon; yellow rail (SSC). Marine mammals include harbor seals and river otters; fish include eulachon (FT), green sturgeon (FT,SSC), longfin smelt (ST), western and Pacific lamprey (both 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; eelgrass beds in slough and extensive eelgrass beds nearby in North Humboldt Bay; sensitive vegetation nearby includes Humboldt Bay owl's-clover, perennial goldfields, Point Reyes salty bird's-beak, round-headed Chinese-houses (all CNPS 1B.2); western bumble bee.

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

9A Sheltered tidal flats

9B Vegetated low banks

8C Sheltered riprap

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Fish	green sturgeon - Southern	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	salmonids		Year-round	Aug-Jun
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	Pacific lamprey	SSC	Year-round	
Fish	Western brook lamprey	SSC	Year-round	
Fish	eulachon	FT	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	/	City of Eureka	(707) 441-4203
E	/	Eureka Police Department	(707) 441-4044
E	/	Target Store	(707) 442-0201
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:

Extensive marsh habitat upstream of the mouth of the slough and Highway 101 bridge makes this site a prime target for exclusion booming. Oiling of slough and marsh complex could cause long term damage to important habitats. Avoid anchoring in eelgrass beds.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Homeless encampments in area. Shallow water at low tide, swift currents, extensive mudflats. Depth limitations may complicate vessel access. Railway trestle can be hazardous.

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

Strategy: 1-326.1 Objective: Exclude oil from the slough.

Strategy: Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough. The boom can be deployed either to exclude oil from entering or in a manner that diverts oil (see 1-326.2) to the shore behind the Target store where it can be collected with a skimmer. The response area behind the Target store is accessible and large enough to allow vacuum trucks to work there. Extensive tidal flats at lower tides will make boom deployment difficult at this site.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	1000 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> <i>Last Test: 9/29/2015</i>
Boom	Swamp	200 feet				
Boom	Sorbent	100 feet				
boat	Boom Boat					
Staff	Staff to Deploy			6		

Strategy: 1-326.2 Objective: Collect oil

Strategy: Collect oil using a skimmer. The oil should be diverted from out of the channel and toward the small launch ramp behind the Target Store using boom to deflect oil to the collection location on the flood tide. This site is accessible with a vacuum truck, if needed. Boom can be hand launched here.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	1000 feet				<i>Strategy Updated:</i> <i>Last Test: 9/29/2015</i>
Boom	Sorbent	100 feet				
skimmer	sss			1		
collection and containment package				1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			6		

Logistics:

Directions: Eureka Slough is 1/4 mi NE from the boat launch below the Hwy 255 Bridge on Waterfront drive. The Target store is at Hwy 101 and Y Street with a small skiff launch behind the store near the Hwy 101 bridge that can be used for site access and boom deployment.

Land Access: Easy drive up access behind the Target store for large trucks.

On-Water Limitations: Water depths are shallow over most of this response area. Boat launching for eastern response efforts can be made below the Hwy 255 bridge. Skiffs can also be hand launched behind the Target store.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: The Target parking lot behind the store is large enough for staging local response equipment only.

Communications Problems: None

Additional Operational Comments: Contact the Target store manager when using this site for response purposes.

