

**1-404-A Site Summary - Jackass Creek****1-404-A****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - A - S02**NOAA Chart:** 18620**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.88077 -123.91574**Site Description:**

Jackass Creek is a remote location with a very small tidal inlet within Sinkyone Wilderness State Park near the historic logging camp of Wheeler. Site is also associated with BLM's California Coastal National Monument resources. Any response is limited to offshore access or by foot traffic only. Small tidal estuary within the Sinkyone Wilderness. Trustees recommend against on-site response. Habitat damage could result from intrusive response. The inlet shoreline consists of coarse-grained sand and granules. Sensitive habitats, oiling of estuary is primary concern (01-12). Offshore rocks in area.

Shorebirds and seabirds abundant (01-12), peregrine falcon (01-12), Pacific harbor seals abundant in area, anadromous salmonids include coho (FE/SE) and chinook (FT) salmon, steelhead trout (FT): all life stages, estuary use year round, leafy reed grass (SR) and Oregon coast paintbrush (CNPS List 2B.2)(01-12).

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

1A Exposed Rocky Shore

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round	
Plants	leafy reed grass	SR	Year-round	May-Sep

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
O	/24hr	CalFire Howard Forest Emergency Command	(707) 459-5336
O	/	Mendocino County Sheriff's Department	(707) 463-4086
O	/Supervisor Ranger (24hr)	NORCOM State Parks Dispatch	(916) 358-1300
O	/	Sinkyone Intertribal Wilderness Council	(707) 468-9500
T	/	California State Parks North Coast District	(707) 445-6547
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:**

Breeding seabirds will use these rocks for nesting in the spring. Offshore rocks provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and haulout locations for marine mammals. Care should be taken so that response activities do not flush wildlife from these areas. The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round, especially during nesting season (03-09) when the adults are on eggs and until the young have fledged from the nest. The offshore rocks have cultural significance for local tribes.

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](http://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:**

Trustees advise against on-site response. Habitat damage could result from intrusive response.

**Hazard and Restrictions:****Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 1-404.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** This site is best protected by preventing the oil from arriving here, when possible. Off-site response options including dispersants should be considered.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update****Logistics:**

**Directions:** Take Hwy 101 to Hwy 1 at Leggett, go south on Hwy for 14.6 miles 1 to M.P. 90.91. Take Usal Road (4WD may be required at times) north 9.5 miles to Usal Beach Campground and the southern Sinkyone trailhead. Access to Jackass Creek is limited to foot traffic only from either here or the Bear Harbor trailhead (see site 1-400) in the north. Maintenance of roads to Jackass Creek ceased when the area became a State Park Wilderness. Contact Sinkyone State Park to discuss access.

**Land Access:** Very limited, foot access only

**On-Water Limitations:** Bear Harbor is not improved. Shallow draft vessels only. Nearest launch is Shelter Cove or Noyo Harbor.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Small unimproved State Parks campground at Usal Creek.

**Communications Problems:** Remote, limited communications

**Additional Operational Comments:** Usal Rd is poorly marked at Hwy 1. Site is within designated Wilderness. Response and access is limited.

