

**1-416-A Site Summary - Hardy Creek****1-416-A****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - C - S01**NOAA Chart:** 18620**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.71068 -123.80753**Site Description:**

This site is a small tidal inlet at the mouth of Hardy Creek. The site is private property. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Small stream incises a sand and gravel beach and abuts a bedrock bluff on the north side of the valley. The narrow beach has a well developed storm berm. During severe storm conditions the entire beach is overwashed, as evidenced by the presence of large logs up in the marsh on the south side of valley. Any response at this location would occur when oil threatens to enter the marsh by overwashing the berm or when the inlet mouth is open. Marsh system behind beach forms small wetland.

Waterbirds, shorebirds and waterfowl utilize estuary and marsh habitat behind beach. Anadromous salmonids include chinook salmon (FT), coho salmon (FE/SE), steelhead trout (FT): all life stages, estuary use year round. Red abalone. Sensitive plants include bluff wallflower (CNPS 1B.2) and leafy reed grass (SR).

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

6B Riprap

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Birds	shorebirds		JUL-APR	
Birds	waterfowl		OCT-APR	
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Plants	bluff wallflower		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
T	/	California Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Fort Bragg	(707) 964-9078
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:**

The rugged coastline will prevent onshore response over most of this area. Off-site measures including dispersants should be considered when a spill threatens to impact this area. Overflights should be careful to maintain flight path and altitude clearance distances that are large enough to prevent the flushing of birds and marine mammals from their nests, roosts, and haulouts on the offshore rocks in this area.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Private property

**Site Strategies:**

**Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 1-416.1 Objective:** Fly over or visit site to determine if any response is needed

**Strategy:** This site will probably not benefit from on-site deployment of protection equipment. Site response will likely be limited to oil removal from off the beach.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
helicopter				1		

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** From Hwy 101 in Leggett, head south on Hwy 1 towards Fort Bragg for 21.6 miles to private road at M.P. 83.78 at Hardy Creek. Follow this access road towards the beach until it terminates at the head of the marsh/wetland. Road ends here, it does not access the beach. Proceed by foot. There is also beach access from a steep foot path from Hwy 1 at M.P. 83.53.

**Land Access:** Private property. Foot access only.

**On-Water Limitations:** Closest launch is in Fort Bragg.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Very small roadside turnout for staging limited local response equipment. No utilities or facilities.

**Communications Problems:** Remote, limited communications.

