

1-448-B Site Summary - South Fort Bragg**1-448-B****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - E - S002 MN - E - S003**NOAA Chart:** 18626**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.40819 -123.82613**Site Description:**

These sites include the mouths of four streams south of the town of Fort Bragg. Jug Handle Creek and beach are part of the Jug Handle State Natural Reserve owned and managed by State Parks. Jug Handle Cove at the mouth of the creek is designated as a State Area of Biological Significance protecting water quality and prohibiting stormwater and waste discharge. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Numerous private properties and parcels surround the other outlets. Four seasonal tidal inlets (Hare, Digger, Mitchell, and Jug Handle creeks) excising coastal bluffs and flowing across medium grained sandy beaches are found within this site. Small lagoons occasionally form within each creek, but because of their ephemeral nature, wetlands (marshes) have not formed. High tides probably overwash into the lagoons. These beaches provide public recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat.

Sensitive resources include migrating salmonids in the small creeks, shorebirds and seabirds including black oystercatcher. Red abalone, anadromous salmonids include chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FE,SE), steelhead (FT): all life stages, estuary use year round, groundfish (EFH). Lotis blue butterfly (FE) habitat.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Amphibians	foothill yellow-legged frog	SE, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Aug
Birds	shorebirds		Year-round	
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Insects	Lotis blue butterfly	FE	Year-round	
Plants	Howell's spineflower	FE, ST	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
O	/24hr	CalFire Howard Forest Emergency Command	(707) 459-5336
O	/	Ft. Bragg Police Department	(707) 964-0200
O	/	Mendocino County Sheriff's Department	(707) 463-4086
O	/Supervisor Ranger (24hr)	NORCOM State Parks Dispatch	(916) 358-1300
T	/	Bureau of Land Management	(707) 825-2300
T	/Sector Superintendent	California State Parks, Mendocino District	(707) 937-5804
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:

This is a highly populated area with many environmentally conscious neighbors who use these beaches for recreation. Environmentally friendly response efforts must be delivered quickly to prevent the local community from attempting to initiate their own clean-up efforts. Pre-cleaning and manual oil collection efforts should commence ASAP to minimize injury to the public. Contact State Parks for authorization prior to initiating any response in Jug Handle State Natural Reserve.

Hazard and Restrictions:

The nearshore waters around this area tend to be rocky reef habitat with many submerged rocks. High surf conditions are also common.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: II**

Strategy: 1-448.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

Strategy: Conventional on-scene response is not possible at this site. Protect with off-site response measures only. Response at these beaches will likely be limited to picking up oil that is stranded along the shoreline or pre-cleaning the swash line to minimize oiling of drift and debris.

Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update**Logistics:**

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to Willits, go west on Hwy 20 to Hwy 1 at Fort Bragg, turn south on Hwy 1. Hare Creek: from Hwy 1, just south of the Hare Creek bridge, turn southwest on Old Coast Road at M.P. 59.60. After .2 mile turn west on Cypress Road. Follow to 18700 Cypress Road. A small, steep foot trail leads to the creek. Equipment access on the north side of the creek. Turn west at signal light leading to College of the Redwoods and follow road to its end. Access will be difficult because of private property along river bank. Contact property owners. Some damage might occur to lawns and fences. Otherwise the slope to the river appears low enough to permit equipment access. Digger Creek may be accessed by foot or by car through the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens at 18050 Ocean Drive, just south of Hare Creek. The garden's phone number is (707) 964-4352 ext. 16. Additional light equipment access from the north side of Digger Creek can be made by first contacting Holly's Ocean Meadow, a private rental off Johnson Ln (707.972.6443). Mitchell Creek: from Hwy 1 south of Fort Bragg, turn west on Ocean Drive at M.P. 57.50, follow Ocean Drive .3 mile to Pine Beach Inn parking lot. Jug Handle Creek and beach: access by foot only from northwest side of Jug Handle SNR parking lot on west side of Hwy 1, south of Fort Bragg, at M.P. 56.00. May need to cross creek to access beach, depending on channel movement.

Land Access: Foot access. Multiple private properties-contact owner for permission to access.

On-Water Limitations: None. Closest launch is Noyo Harbor.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: No staging at these sites.

Communications Problems:

