

**1-468-A Site Summary - Albion River****1-468-A****County:** Mendocino **ACP Division/Segment:** MN - F - S04 MN - F - S05**NOAA Chart:** 18626**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 39.2271 -123.77033**Site Description:**

The site to protect is from the mouth of the Albion River upstream to the upper extent of tidal influence. The outer coast has a small semiprotected harbor that is open to navigation to shallow draft vessels. There are offshore rocks and an extensive submerged reef in the nearshore area around the mouth. The shoreline north and south of the mouth is characterized by vertical seawalls and steep rocky bluffs. Offshore rocks near Albion Cove are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument but the shoreline is privately owned with a popular campground near the river mouth.

The site has a sensitive tidal marsh upstream and is a popular tourist attraction and should be protected from oiling. The river has a viable population of salmonids. Seabird rookeries (03-09) on rocky headlands, offshore rocks, and seastacks include pelagic cormorant, pigeon guillemot; osprey (01-12); anadromous salmonids include chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FE,SE), steelhead (FT): spawning runs (09-06), juveniles/smolts (02-08); tidewater goby (FE), groundfish (EFH), striped surfperch nursery; red abalone; red-bellied newt (SSC) upstream; eelgrass and associated communities in estuary, extensive areas of surfgrass along vertical seawalls on northern side of entrance bay, fringing marsh within estuary. Sensitive plant communities nearby include Mendocino Coast paintbrush (CNPS 1B.2).

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 8B Sheltered solid man-made structures

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	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
E	/	Albion River Campground	(707) 937-0606
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

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:**

Excluding oil from impacting this estuary and popular boating and fishing port is a primary concern of this strategy.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Water in the river is shallow at the boat ramp.

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

**Strategy: 1-468.1 Objective:** Diversionary boom. Deflect oil away from sensitive habitat.

*Strategy:* Diversionary boom could be used to deflect oil out of the current and onto the shore or to a suitable collection point where a skimmer can be operated. Place sorbent boom or pompoms upstream of the oil to limit spread on incoming tides.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	300 feet				
Boom	Sorbent	300 feet				
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		12		
boat	Skiff			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			5		

**Strategy: 1-468.2 Objective:** Minimize impacts to shoreline in impractical response locations, or when site conditions preclude mechanical recovery.

*Strategy:* Minimize impacts to shoreline in impractical response locations, or when site conditions preclude mechanical recovery. No strategy will be successful under prevailing conditions. Offshore dispersants should be considered.

Table of Response Resources

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

*Directions:* From Hwy 101 at Cloverdale, take Hwy 128 west to Hwy 1 at the mouth of the Navarro River, go north 3.6 miles on Hwy 1 to M.P. 45.47 at north end of the Albion River bridge, turn east on Albion River North Side Road here and follow road downhill to Albion River Campground.

*Land Access:* Large truck access is possible but access is narrow and winding. Beach shoreline accessible from campground.

*On-Water Limitations:* The site has a boat ramp for shallow draft vessels.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* The harbor area has adequate staging to provide for local area response needs including a rugged small boat ramp. Public phones are available, but lodging, food and other utilities are very limited on site. For these missing items, please note that it is only a short drive to Ft. Bragg.

*Communications Problems:* Remote, limited communications

