

County: **Humboldt**
 USGS Quad: **Fern Canyon**

Thomas Guide Location
 CA Road Atlas
 NOAA Chart: **18600**

Latitude N Longitude W
 41 24' 124 04'

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Gold Bluffs Beach is within Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. This park, along with Del Norte Coast, Jedediah Smith, and the National Park Service's Redwood National Park, are managed cooperatively by the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Gold Bluffs Beach is a pristine public beach that stretches from Ossagon Creek at the north end to Freshwater Lagoon in the south. The area is mostly comprized of wide sandy beaches where oil clean up would be fairly straight forward. Espa Lagoon is located here, but far enough from the beach that impacts are unlikely.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

This is a popular camping destination with lots of public use in the dry months.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Sensitive dunes and pocket dune wetlands.

Snowy plover (FT)(01-12), nesting (03-09)

The back dunes provide grazing opportunities for Roosevelt Elk.

Surfperch spawn (4-6)

Surf smelt spawn (5-7)

Native dune vegetation including restoration areas.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

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) 653-4082 and State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or Ms. Vicki Bates, Coordinator of the North Coast Information Center (707) 482-1822.

KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
O		NORCOM State Parks Dispatch 24-hours	(916) 358-1300
T		Redwood National & State Parks	(707) 464-6101
O	Troy Nicolini	National Weather Service Woodley Island	(707) 442-2171

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).

1-205 -A Site Strategy - Gold Bluffs Beach

County and Thomas Guide Location

CA Road Atlas Humboldt

NOAA CHART

18600

1-205 -A

Latitude N

41 24'

Longitude W

124 04'

Last Page Update :

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

This is an important public recreational area that can be difficult to access in winter when the single lane dirt road becomes tricky to drive on. Oil clean up from the sandy beaches would require either heavy earth moving equipment or lots of laborers to pick up stranded oil. Any activity would need to be coordinated with the Park to avoid conflicts with wildlife or park users.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

The road from hwy 101 to the beach is narrow, winding, and mostly unpaved. This road may have closures due to wash outs, flooding, and/or slides. Humboldt County and Redwood Parks should be able to advise.

SITE STRATEGIES

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

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special No and	Equipment or kinds comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
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LOGISTICS

DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)

From Eureka, go north on U.S. Hwy 101 to Davidson Road M.P. 123.82. Go west to Gold Bluffs Beach. The road to the beach is unpaved for 3.2 miles. Gold Bluffs Beach is within Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. This park, along with Del Norte Coast, Jedediah Smith, and the National Park Service's Redwood National Park, are managed cooperatively by the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

LAND ACCESS: Dirt road may require 4 wheel drive in wet season.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking

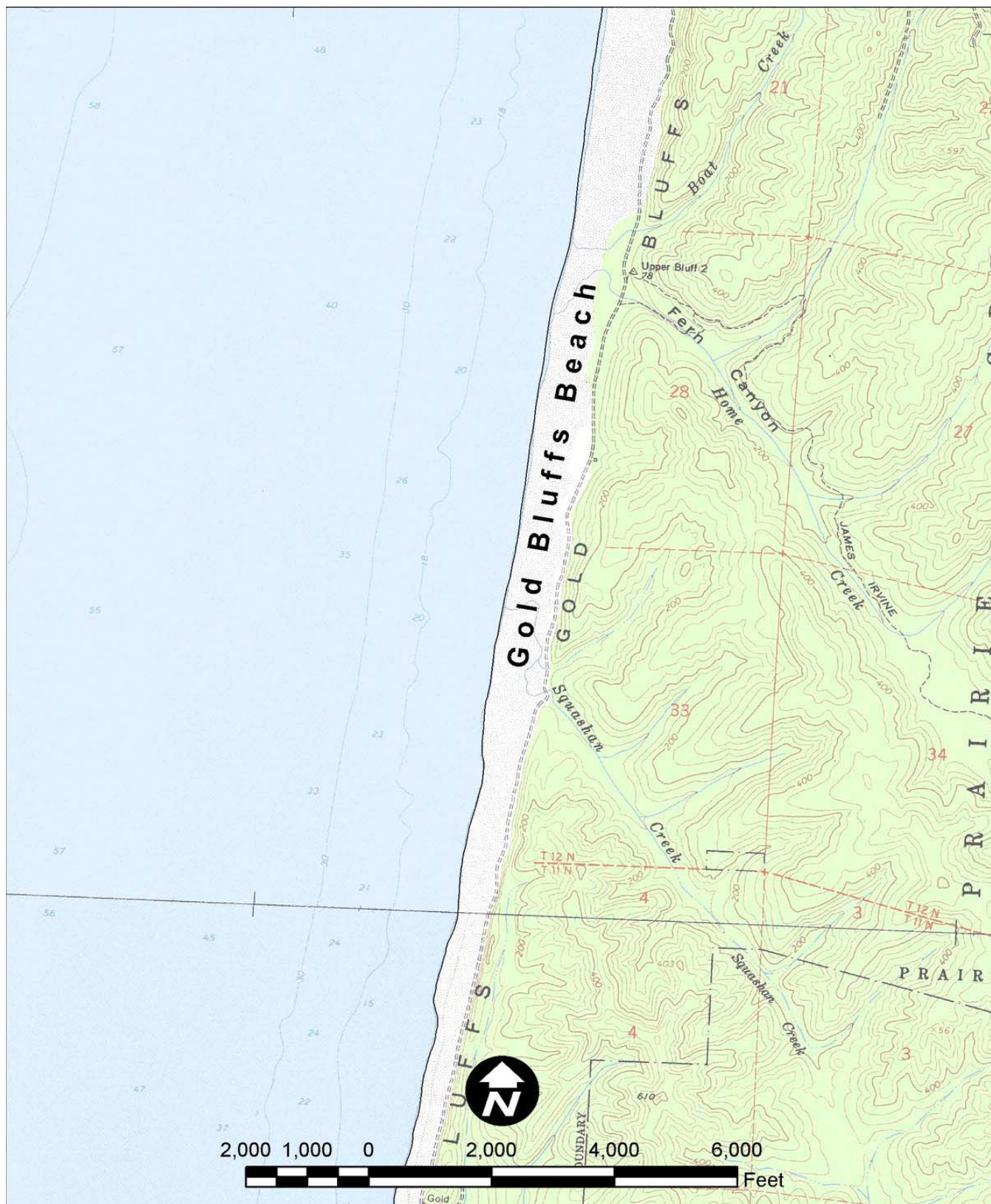
and Services Available:

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

There are camping areas inside of the park which could serve as staging areas for local beach response purposes.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: Remote, limited communications

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS: Locked gates to beach.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME (OSPR) and UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
 Site: 1-205 Site Name: Gold Bluffs Beach

Jeff Dayton (OSPR) & Greg Ewing (OSPR)
 Date: March 8, 2011

