

**1-330-A Site Summary - Indian Island****1-330-A****County:** Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment:** HM - G - S23**NOAA Chart:** 18622**Map Book:** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees:** 40.81571 -124.16812**Site Description:**

Indian Island, also known as Tuluwat Island, is adjacent to Woodley Island in North Humboldt Bay. Ownership and management includes the Wiyot Tribe, City of Eureka and a handful of private residences. The site is a low elevation island that has large wetlands that can be submerged at higher tides. The protection strategies here and nearby are designed to exclude oil from the interior wetlands by diversion and exclusionary booming. Extensive marsh system and wetlands are vulnerable to oiling. This is the largest island in Humboldt Bay, it is a sacred site for the Wiyot Tribe. The site has significant cultural and historical value that must also be protected. Strong tidal currents in the Samoa Channel transport most of the water in and out of Arcata Bay.

There are multiple subtidal aquaculture sites along the west side of the Samoa Channel and baywater intakes at Redwood Marine Terminal II and Red Tank Docks that supply upland aquaculture and other industrial users nearby. See the Humboldt Bay Shoreline Response Plan for additional information and site contact information for aquaculture.

This is popular and important habitat for wildlife and a high bird use area year-round. Excluding oil from this site is of primary concern. Extensive salt marsh system and wetlands are vulnerable to oiling. Natural resources nearby include waterfowl, shorebirds, large bird rookery including herons and egrets; seabirds and waterbirds including brown pelican, cormorants, grebes, gulls, loons; yellow rail (SSC); bank swallow (ST); brant present Nov-Apr; raptors include bald eagle (SE), northern harrier, osprey and peregrine falcon. Marine mammals including California sea lions, harbor seals and river otters; fisheries nearby include eulachon (FT), green sturgeon (FT,SSC), longfin smelt (ST), groundfish (EFH), Pacific lamprey (SSC), salmonids including chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FT,ST), coastal cutthroat trout (SSC) and steelhead (FT), tidewater goby (FE, SSC, Critical Habitat), Pacific herring spawn on eelgrass, Dungeness crab, oyster aquaculture in area, extensive eelgrass beds. Sensitive vegetation nearby including Humboldt Bay owls-clover, dark-eyed gilia, perennial goldfields, Point Reyes salty bird's-beak, round-headed Chinese-houses (all CNPS 1B.2); western bumble bee.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 9A Sheltered tidal flats

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Presence</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round	
Fish	green sturgeon - Southern	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	Pacific lamprey	SSC	Year-round	
Fish	eulachon	FT	Year-round	
Fish	salmonids		Year-round	
Plants	Humboldt Bay owl's-clover	SSSP	Year-round	Apr-Aug

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
C	/	The Wiyot Tribe	(707) 733-5055
E	/	City of Eureka	(707) 441-4203
O	/	Humboldt Bay Harbor District	(707) 443-0801
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](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:**

Oiling of sloughs and marsh complex could cause long term damage to important habitats. Avoid anchoring in eelgrass beds.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Be aware and avoid submerged cables identified on diagram. This is a sacred site, do not enter without permission and supervision of the Wiyot Tribe. Shallow water at low tide, swift currents, extensive mudflats.

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

**Strategy: 1-330.1 Objective:** Stop oil from entering the island's wetlands after a skimmer and boom have been placed in the North Bay at site 1-310

**Strategy:** Add a short leg of boom from the west shore (anchor point) of the island to deflect oil away from Indian Island into the channel and towards strategy 1-310 for collection on the west side of the Samoa Channel at Redwood Dock. Consider adding additional 400-ft cascades of swamp boom if necessary to improve deflection toward 1-310 collection site across the channel.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	500 feet				
boat	Boom Boat			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			2		
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		2		

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** Indian Island is only accessible by boat from Eureka or Woodley Island. Do not walk on the Island.

**Land Access:** No land access

**On-Water Limitations:** The island is accessible by boat, and depth is variable. There are private docks on the east side, but permission to access the island should be obtained before landing.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** none

**Communications Problems:** none

**Additional Operational Comments:** Shallow sloughs, extensive mudflats. Depth limitations may complicate vessel access.

