

County: **Del Norte**
 USGS Quad: **Smith River**

Thomas Guide Location
 CA Road Atlas
 NOAA Chart: **18602**

Latitude N Longitude W
 41 54' N 124 12'W

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Smith River mouth & the associated estuary provide good habitat for numerous species of fish and wildlife during all seasons of the year. Oil that threatens to enter the estuary from an off shore spill should be contained as close to the mouth as is feasible under the prevailing on scene conditions at the time of the incident. The beach and sand dunes between Smith River and Point St. George are managed by State Parks as Tolowa Dunes State Park. Fine to medium grained sand beach south of river mouth.

Response category 6. Site where immediate response is probably not necessary. Minimal damage would occur, but this does not preclude the need to clean after impacts.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Offshore rocks provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and haul out locations for marine mammals. Care should be taken so that response activities do not flush wildlife from these areas. The offshore rocks have cultural significance for local tribes.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Smith River has an extensive estuary where oil should be excluded from entering, when ever possible. The wetlands and associated wildlife are dynamic and highly vulnerable to damage from oil and response activities.

Harbor seals and pups swim inside river mouth

Anadromous salmonids includes Coho (FT,ST) and Chinook salmon, Steelhead, and Coastal Cutthroat Trout (SSC)

Surfperch spawning (04-06)

Surfsmelt spawning (04-07)

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) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or Mr. Bryan Much, Coordinator of the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
T		North Coast Redwoods District	(707) 445-6547
O		Northern Communications (24hr)	(916) 358-0333
T		Redwood National & State Parks	(707) 464-6101
C		Smith River Rancheria	(707) 487-9255
E		Del Norte County Sheriff's Dept	(707) 464-4191
E		Ship Ashore Resort	(707) 487-3141
E	Ned Burgess	Salmon Harbor Resort	(707) 487-3341
O	Troy Nicolini	National Weather Service Woodley Island	(707) 442-2171
T	Bob Pagliuco	NOAA/Nat'l Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 834-2215
T	Bill Pinnix	USFWS Arcata Field Office	(707) 845-6858

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).

1-115 -A Site Strategy - South Spit Smith River

County and Thomas Guide Location

CA Road Atlas Del Norte

NOAA CHART

18602

1-115 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

41 54' N 124 12'W

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Beach is steep and short in some areas.

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 Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
--------------------	----------------	---------------	--------------------	--------------	-------------------------------	--------------	-----------------	---------------------	--	-----------------	---------------

LOGISTICS

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

Go north on U.S. Hwy 101 through Crescent City to Northcrest Drive (M.P. 27.01). Turn left at the signal light and continue for 6.1 miles. (Note that Northcrest Dr. becomes 'Lake Earl Drive' after ~2 miles). Turn left on Lower Lake Road and go 2.5 miles and then turn left onto Kellogg Road. Continue on Kellogg Road to its end at the beach. Smith River spit is accessible by 4WD by going north on the beach. The Smith River mouth & the associated estuary provide good habitat for numerous species of fish and wildlife during all seasons of the year. Oil that threatens to enter the estuary from an off shore spill should be contained as close to the mouth as is feasible under the prevailing on scene conditions at the time of the incident. The beach and sand dunes between Smith River and Point St. George are managed by State Parks as Tolowa Dunes State Park.

LAND ACCESS:

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Small boat launch available at Ship Ashore resort.
and Services Available:

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

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

