

**1-324-A Site Summary - Arcata Bay Sloughs****1-324-A****County :** Humboldt **ACP Division/Segment :** HM - G - S07 HM - G - S08**NOAA Chart :** 18622**Map Book :** CA Road Atlas**Decimal Degrees** 40.8538 -124.0937**Site Description:**

This site includes the tidal estuaries of five small coastal streams that enter Arcata Bay. Ownership and management includes City of Arcata, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. High public use area at Arcata Marsh. Site is shallow; and most of it will be exposed mudflats at lower tides. Strong tidal movements and shallow mudflats will make spill control very challenging in this habitat. High bird use area year round. Extensive eel grass beds are the subject of much public interest and concern. Brant use these areas for foraging Nov-Apr. Harbor seals and river otters may be present year round. Anadromous salmonids spawn upstream Sept-Apr. Green sturgeon may be present in North Bay channels June-Oct.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

9A Sheltered tidal flats

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Birds	waterfowl		Year-round
Birds	shorebirds		Year-round
Birds	wading birds		Year-round
Birds	black brant		Nov-Apr
Fish	coho salmon - north of Punta Gorda	FT, ST	Year-round
Fish	chinook salmon - California coastal	FT	Year-round
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round
Fish	coastal cutthroat trout		Year-round
Fish	tidewater goby	FE	Year-round
Fish	Pacific lamprey		Year-round
Fish	green sturgeon		June-Oct
Fish	longfin smelt		Year-round
Fish	Pacific herring		Year-round
Plants	eelgrass		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	/	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/	Northwest Historical Resources Information Center	(707) 588-8455
C	/	Table Bluff Reservation Wiyot Tribe	(707) 733-5055
O	/	Humboldt Bay Harbor District	(707) 443-0801
T	/	CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife Eureka Field Office	(707) 445-6493
T	/	City of Arcata	(707) 822-5951
T	/	Humboldt Bay NWR Complex	(707) 733-5406

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)).

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

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

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Much of the bay is shallow with abraded channels at low tide. Extensive oyster culture near the Samoa Channel should be avoided by boat traffic. Old tidegate, exposed metal edges, and submerged rip-rap with rebar hazards at McDaniel Slough.

**Site Strategies:**

**Strategy: 1-324.1 Objective:** Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Jacoby Creek  
**Strategy:** Exclusion boom the mouth of the creek.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor			500	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018</i> <i>Last Test:</i>
Boom	Sorbent			100	feet	
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

**Strategy: 1-324.2 Objective:** Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Gannon Slough  
**Strategy:** Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor			500	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018</i> <i>Last Test:</i>
Boom	Sorbent			100	feet	
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

**Strategy: 1-324.3 Objective:** Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially Butcher slough.  
**Strategy:** Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor			300	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018</i> <i>Last Test:</i>
Boom	Sorbent			100	feet	
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

**Strategy: 1-324.4 Objective:** Exclude oil from entering surrounding sloughs, especially McDaniel slough.  
**Strategy:** Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor			300	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018</i> <i>Last Test: 9/24/2014</i>
Boom	Sorbent			50	feet	
Stakes, Shovels, Hammers						
Staff				6		

**Strategy: 1-324.5 Objective:** Exclude oil from entering Rocky Gulch.

**Strategy:** Exclusion boom the mouth of the slough from Bracut Industrial Park.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp			300	feet	Strategy Updated: 5/24/2018
Boom	Sorbent			100	feet	Last Test: 10/17/2017
T-Posts						
Staff				4		

### Logistics:

**Directions:** Arcata Bay is at the northern end of Humboldt Bay, and adjacent to Highway 101, near the cities of Arcata and Eureka. Highway 255 passes over it on the south end of Arcata Bay. Jacoby Creek and Gannon sloughs can be accessed from Highway 101 between Bayside Cutoff and South G Streets. Butcher Slough and McDaniel sloughs can be accessed from the Arcata Marsh at the south end of I Street in Arcata. Butcher Slough can also be accessed from South G Street. Rocky Gulch can be accessed from Bracut Industrial Park.

**Land Access:** Vehicles can drive near sloughs, foot or shallow draft vessels required.

**On-Water Limitations:** Shallow mudflats, small launch at Arcata Marsh, and hand launch at Rocky Gulch

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Parking areas at Arcata Marsh may be appropriate.

**Communications Problems:**

**Additional Operational Comments:** Shallow sloughs, extensive mudflats. Depth limitations may complicate vessel access and boom deployment (minimum 3' tide needed). Contact City of Arcata to facilitate access.



Imagery: NAIP 2012 (Summer) 4-Band