

County: **Mendocino**  
 USGS Quad: **Fort Bragg**

Thomas Guide Location  
 CA Road Atlas  
 NOAA Chart: **18626**

Latitude N Longitude W  
 39 24' 30" 123 49' 30"

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

These sites include the mouths of four streams south of the town of Fort Bragg. Jug Handle Creek and beach are part of the Jug Handle State Natural Reserve owned and managed by State Parks. Jug Handle Cove at the mouth of the creek is designated as a State Area of Biological Significance (prohibiting stormwater and waste discharge). Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Also private properties. Four seasonal tidal inlets (Hare, Digger, Mitchell, and Jug Handle creeks) excising coastal bluffs and flowing across medium grained sandy beaches are found within this site. Small lagoons occasionally form within each creek, but because of the ephemeral nature of the lagoons, wetlands (marshes) have not formed. High tides probably overwash into the lagoons.

#### SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

This is a highly populated area with many environmentally conscious neighbors who use these beaches for recreation.

#### RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Migrating salmonids in the small creeks; these beaches commonly provide recreational opportunities.

Shorebirds and seabirds including black oystercatcher

Lotis blue butterfly (FE) habitat

Anadromous salmonids:

Coho salmon (FE/SE), steelhead trout (FT), Chinook salmon (FT) - all life stages, estuary use year round  
 Groundfish (EFH)

Red abalone

#### 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
O		Northern Communications (24hr)	(916) 358-0333
T	Sector Superintendent	California State Parks Mendocino District	(707) 937-5804
O		Fort Bragg VFD 24-hour Dispatch	(707) 459-5336
O		Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept.	(707) 463-4086
O		Ft. Bragg Police Department	(707) 964-0200
T	David Ledig Manager	BLM California Coastal National Monument	(831) 630-5006
O	Troy Nicolini	National Weather Service Woodley Island	(707) 442-2171
T	Joe Pecharich	NOAA/Nat'l Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 583-3189
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](http://www.californiacoastline.org)).

# 1-448 -B Site Strategy - South Fort Bragg

County and Thomas Guide Location  
CA Road Atlas Mendocino

NOAA CHART  
18626

# 1-448 -B

Latitude N Longitude W  
39 24' 30 123 49' 30"

## CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

Environmentally friendly response efforts must be delivered quickly to prevent the local community from attempting to initiate their own clean-up efforts. Pre-cleaning and hand crew oil collection efforts should commence ASAP to minimize injury to the public. Contact State Parks for authorization prior to initiating any response in Jug Handle State Natural Reserve.

## HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

The nearshore waters around this area tend to be rocky reef habitat with many submerged rocks. High surf conditions are also common here.

## 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. Response at these beaches will likely be limited to picking up oil that is stranded along the shoreline or pre-cleaning the swash line to minimize oiling of drift and debris.

Strategy 1-448.1 Objective: Prevent spilled oil from floating to this site.

Conventional on-scene response is not possible at this site. Protect with off-site response measures only.

## 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
1-448.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Protect with off-site response measures only.		

## LOGISTICS

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

Take U.S. hwy 101 to Willits. Go west on state hwy 20 to state hwy 1 at Fort Bragg. Turn south on state hwy 1.

Hare Creek - From hwy 1, just south of the Hare Creek bridge, turn southwest on Old Coast Road at M.P. 59.60. After .2 mile turn west on Cypress Road. Follow to 18700 Cypress Road. A small, steep foot trail leads to the creek. Equipment access on the north side of the creek. Turn west at signal light leading to College of the Redwoods and follow road to its end. Access will be difficult because of private property along river bank. Contact property owners. Some damage might occur to lawns and fences. Otherwise the slope to the river appears low enough to permit equipment access.

Digger Creek may be accessed by foot or by car through the private botanical gardens at 18050 Ocean Drive, just south of Hare Creek. The garden's phone number is (707) 964-4352 ext. 16. Additional light equipment access from the North side of Digger Creek can be made by first contacting Holly Kucher @ Ft. Bragg Rental.

Mitchell Creek - from hwy 1, south of Fort Bragg, turn west on Ocean Drive at M.P. 57.50. Follow Ocean Drive .3 mile to Pine Beach Inn parking lot.

Jug Handle Creek and beach - Access by foot only from northwest side of Jug Handle SNR parking lot on west side of hwy 1, south of Fort Bragg, at M.P. 56.00. May need to cross creek to access beach, depending on channel movement. These sites include the mouths of four streams south of the town of Fort Bragg. Jug Handle Creek and beach are part of the Jug Handle State Natural Reserve owned and managed by State Parks. Jug Handle Cove at the mouth of the creek is designated as a State Area of Biological Significance (prohibiting stormwater and waste discharge). Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Also private properties.

**LAND ACCESS:** Foot access. Some private properties - need owner permission

**WATER LOGISTICS:** None.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Closest launch is Noyo Harbor  
and Services Available:

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

No staging at these sites

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:**

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

