

County: **Mendocino**
 USGS Quad: **Mendocino**

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

Latitude N Longitude W
 39 15' 30" 123 47' 30"

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site is comprised of the small bay south of the community of Mendocino. The north shoreline of the bay is included in Mendocino Headlands State Park. The estuary and beach parking area are also a part of the State Park (east side of Hwy 1 bridge). Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Large crescent shaped bay opening to the west. Big River enters the ocean at this point. Offshore rocks.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Breeding seabirds will use these rocks for nesting in the spring. 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

The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round, especially during nesting season (03-09) when the adults are on eggs and until the young have fledged from the nest.

Seabird rookeries (03-09): Brandt's and pelagic cormorants, Black oystercatcher, Western gull, Pigeon guillemot, Tufted puffin (SSC). Roosts (01-12)

Marine mammals use area for haul-outs

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		Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept.	(707) 463-4086
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).

1-462 -B Site Strategy - Mendocino Bay

County and Thomas Guide Location
CA Road Atlas Mendocino

NOAA CHART
18626

1-462 -B

Latitude N Longitude W
39 15' 30 123 47' 30"

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

The rugged coastline will prevent on shore response over most of this area. Off site measures including dispersants should be considered when a spill threatens to impact this area. Overflights should be careful to maintain flight path and altitude clearance distances that are large enough to prevent the flushing of birds and marine mammals from their nests, roosts, and haul outs sanctuaries on the offshore rocks in this area.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Extreme current, high energy shoreline, offshore rocks

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.

Strategy 1-462.1 Objective: Off site dispersion may be the only option. Response in this area would be difficult under typical sea conditions.

Apply dispersants to off site oil before it arrives at this sensitive site.

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
1-462.1	0	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.)

From U.S. hwy 101 at Willits, take state hwy 20 to state hwy 1 at Fort Bragg. Go south on hwy 1. From hwy 1, south side of hwy 1 bridge over Big River at Mendocino, go east on North Big River Road. Follow road .2 miles to parking lot. This site is comprised of the small bay south of the community of Mendocino. The north shoreline of the bay is included in Mendocino Headlands State Park. The estuary and beach parking area are also a part of the State Park (east side of Hwy 1 bridge). Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument.

LAND ACCESS:

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Small boat launch at Big River
and Services Available:

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

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

