

**2-326-A Site Summary - Coyote Hills Slough -Alameda Flood Control Channel****2-326-A****County:** Alameda **ACP Division/Segment:** AL - G - S005 AL - H - S001**NOAA Chart:** San Francisco Bay, Southern Part **Map Book:** AAA Hayward - U **Decimal Degrees:** 37.59384 -122.142999**Site Description:**

Coyote Hills Slough, a flood control channel, begins at I-880 and extends 5 miles to the bay front mouth (about 3.5 miles south of the San Mateo Bridge and 2 miles south of Alameda Creek mouth). At the mouth, the channel is one-third mile wide. It is bounded by flood control levees and includes over 440 acres of salt-marsh and several adjacent marshes and salt ponds draw water from the channel. This channel is owned and maintained by Alameda County. The narrow portions of the channel are over 500 feet wide, and the waterway itself is only a small portion of the total channel. The north half of the channel had historic levees which separated it from the bay and from the old slough, but these levees are now compromised, and small finger channels provide tidal exchange. Most of the channel is salt-marsh and is tidally influenced. Of the adjacent properties which draw water from the Slough, the land to the north is mostly Eden Landing Ecological Reserve land (CA DFW); property on the south side of the channel is mostly East Bay Regional Parks District land on the east end (Coyote Hills Regional Park); and toward the bay, USFWS land (currently leased to Cargill Salt). Alameda Creek Trails EBRPD maintains trails on both levees. The watershed of this large channel drains several hundred square miles including urban areas; so, urban threats are also a concern here. The levees are year-round roads all the way to the bay front.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 6B Riprap

9B Vegetated low banks

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	California Ridgeway's rail	FE, SE	Year-round	Feb-Aug
Birds	California black rail	FP, ST	Year-round	Mar-Aug
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Apr-Sep	Apr-Jun
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Oct
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	Nov-May
Mammals	salt-marsh harvest mouse	FE, SE	Year-round	
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round	Mar-May

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
E	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Alameda County Flood Control	(510) 670-5500
E	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Alameda County Sheriffs Department	(510) 667-7721
E	/Solar Plant Manager	Cargill Salt	(541) 261-9719
E	/Dispatch, 24-hr	East Bay Regional Park District	(510) 881-1833
O	/Office	Point Blue Conservation Science	(415) 663-8032
T	/Oil Spill Point of Contact	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 480-3496
T	/Spill Response Coordinator	USFWS, SF Bay-Delta Office	(916) 799-0588

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

**Additional Site Summary Comments:**

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Oil from the bay or inland poses a threat to over 430 acres of marsh lands which are habitat for many species including rare and endangered birds and small mammals. Concern is to stop oil from entering the waterway and marshes from the bay, or for inland oil, minimize impacts and keep oil from leaving the channel. Minimize trampling of vegetation and disturbance of wildlife. Avoid trampling oil into sediment.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Shallow water and extensive mudflats at mouth. Seas to 3 feet at bayfront during windy conditions. Aircraft beware of highpower wires crossing the channel about 2 miles east of waterfront.

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

**Strategy: 2-326.1 Objective:** Primary: Exclusion booming when oil threat is from bay.

*Strategy:* a. Exclude oil from entering main channel: deploy boom at the mouth in a chevron and deflect as much as possible to natural collection site south of mouth. 1400 ft of 6X6+ Sboom (9X9+ Hboom may be substituted). Back with a 500 ft diagonal of sorbent boom. This action is best addressed from water or from south levee.

b. Exclude oil from entering the marsh area north of the stream mouth by booming from the chevron above, to the north levee. 1300 ft of 6X6+ boom (9X9+ Hboom may be substituted). There is a low partially destroyed dike which extends from the north channel levee to the mouth of main channel; several small finger channels enable flow throughout this large pickleweed marsh section: block each of this with a bat of sorbent boom and stake in place. This action is best addressed from water or from north levee.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	9x9 inch		2700	feet	
Boom	Sorbent	6x6 inch		500	feet	
anchors	Danforth	22 lbs		8		
Vessel	Boom Boat			1		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			2		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			8		
Staff	Staff to Tend			2		

**Strategy: 2-326.2 Objective:** Backup primary bay exclusion: secondary layer of exclusion booming for oil threat from bay under windy conditions or major oil threat. This is a repeat of primary strategy minus sorbent boom.

*Strategy:* a. Back-up exclusion on main channel: deploy boom at the mouth in a chevron and deflect as much as possible to natural collection site south of mouth, behind primary exclusion. 1400 ft of 6X6+ boom (harbor boom may be substituted). This action is best addressed from water or from south levee.

B. Back-up exclusion from entering the marsh area north of the stream mouth by booming from the chevron above, to the north levee, behind primary exclusion. 1300 ft of 6X6+ boom (harbor boom may be substituted). This action is best addressed from water or from north levee.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Sorbent	6x6 inch		2700	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lbs		7		
Vessel	Boom Boat			1		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			2		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			7		
Staff	Staff to Tend			2		

**Strategy: 2-326.3 Objective:** Skimming operations at this site. Natural skim pocket with access just south of mouth.

**Strategy:** There is a natural skimming pocket surrounded by low dikes just to south of channel mouth. Strategy 2-326.1 and .2 should direct skimmable oil to this location. Use 600 ft of Sboom with sorbent backing to devise a skimming pocket to trap and hold oil in the pocket (also Oil Snare for trapping on ebb). It may be necessary to excavate a depression to enable skimming head. Storage tank or vacuum truck will be necessary for oil collection. Light stations will be needed for night operations including skimming. NOTE: if oil is too light for effective skimming, on-scene staff should contact IC to consider passive collection with Oil Snare.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		600	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			400	feet	
Boom	Oil Snare (pom-pom)			100	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lbs		2		
Anchor	Stakes			10		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
skimmer	shoreside			1		
Vac truck				1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			3		
Staff	Staff to Tend			2		

**Strategy: 2-326.4 Objective:** Inland oil threats: exclusion, deflection, collection.

**Strategy:** In the event of inland oil threats, seek collection site offering best advantage in current management and access and create a skim pocket. (Excavation of pocket may be necessary to keep oil from entraining or re-entering current.) Use diagonal booming (Sboom) to move oil into collection pocket, and back deflection with sorbent. Line skim pocket with light boom and sorbent. Use Oil Snare to collect oil as needed. Shoreside skimming (SSS) will require on-site storage or vacuum truck. Light stations will be needed for night operations including skimming. Actual amount of boom needed will depend on where oil can be controlled: 700 ft of Sboom and 100 ft of oil snare should be adequate.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		700	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			700	feet	
Boom	Oil Snare (pom-pom)			100	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lbs		5		
Anchor	Stakes			10		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
skimmer	shoreside			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			3		
Staff	Staff to Tend			2		

### Logistics:

**Directions:** Access to northside levee: exit I-880 at Alvarado, north (right) and after crossing the flood control channel, turn left on Lowry Rd and continue to Newark Blvd (Union City Blvd): on the opposite side of the Blvd is an East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) access parking area: the flood control levee is accessible though a locked gate (call EBRPD or Alameda County Flood Control). Access directly by boat (very shallow on low tides).

**Land Access:** All season gravel roads to bay front on Alameda Co Flood Control levees. Coordinate access thru Alameda Co Flood Control District or EBRPD Personnel.

**On-Water Limitations:** Shallow draft vessels<3' Boat launching available at San Leandro Marina or Redwood City Harbor.

Small skiffs may be launched from levees: south levee is closer to

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Large staging area available at Redwood City Harbor. Four small local staging on north and south levees at East Bay Regional Park - Alameda Creek Trails (5 acres, parking, chem toilets: 2250 Issherwood, Fremont). Additional staging area and field post possible at National Wildlife Refuge HQ or EBRPD Coyote Hills Regional Park. Full Command Post available through Alameda County OES.

*Communications Problems:* Good cell reception.

*Additional Operational Comments:* Vehicle access is controlled by Alameda County Flood Control District.

