

2-370-A Site Summary - Palo Alto Marsh**2-370-A****County:** Santa Clara **ACP Division/Segment:** SM - A - S001 SC - Z - S001**NOAA Chart:** 18654 San Francisco Bay Southern Part **Map Book:** AAA San Mateo C **Decimal Degrees:** 37.467976 -122.11849**Site Description:**

Palo Alto Marsh lies on the southwest shore of South San Francisco Bay, immediately south of the Dumbarton Bridge to Mayfield Slough. This site is included in the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) and is part of the City of Palo Alto's Baylands Nature Preserve. Cordgrass salt-marsh and mudflats are bisected by several channels, including San Francisquito Creek. The site is fronted by extensive very shallow mudflats.

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

9B Vegetated low banks

9A Sheltered tidal flats

List of Resources at Risk:

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

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	/Solar Plant Manager	Cargill Salt	(541) 261-9719
E	/Supervising Ranger	City of Palo Alto, Baylands Nature Preserve	(650) 304-4094
O	/Office	Point Blue Conservation Science	(707) 781-2555
O	/Dispatch, 24-hr	San Mateo Co. Dept. of Emergency Management	(650) 363-4963
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:

Several sensitive plant species reside in the area. This is one of the largest and few remaining steelhead trout runs in the San Francisco Bay.

A wide variety of bird species utilize this location year-round and in large numbers during fall and winter.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Primary concern is to exclude oil from entering the interior marsh via channels. Second concern is oiling of this low energy marsh front. Also of concern is damage to marsh from response activities: trampling marsh vegetation, disturbing sensitive species, and trampling of oil into sediments.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Aircraft beware of airport traffic and overhead power lines nearby; vessels beware of shallow water; pilings and debris in sloughs and adjacent mudflats.

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

Strategy: 2-370.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering the entrances to Palo Alto Marsh and San Francisquito Creek, if time to impact does not permit its deployment or if tidal barrier boom (strategy 2-370.2) should fail.

Strategy: ALTERNATIVES: It is critical that channel entrances leading into Palo Alto Marsh (Baylands Nature Preserve) and San Francisquito Creek be blocked, and also, the small tidal inlets to the marsh north of Cooley Landing. Deploy 100' lengths of appropriate curtain boom and block channel mouths with Harbor boom, swamp boom and sorbent boom, or combination thereof.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch		500	feet	
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		500	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			500	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		8		
Anchor	Stakes			5		
Vessel	Boom Boat			1		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			5		

Strategy: 2-370.2 Objective: Protective booming of marsh front to keep oil from impacting marsh and mudflats.

Strategy: Deploy 9,000 - 10,000 ft of exclusionary 9X9+ Hboom across the mudflat from Cooley Landing around Sand Point to Mayfield Slough.

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Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch		10000	feet	
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		1000	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			1000	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		50		
Vessel	Boom Boat			5		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			3		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			20		

Logistics:

Directions: Vehicle access is available at two points: Cooley Landing - from Hwy 84 or Hwy 101, exit on University Ave and then bayward on Bay Rd; Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve - from Hwy 101 exit on Embarcadero Rd and proceed bayward to terminus.

Land Access: All weather, all vehicle road to site.

On-Water Limitations: Launch at Mayfield Slough and at Cooley Landing. Larger craft may launch at Redwood City Marina or Harbor.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Staging at Palo Alto Boat Works and Redwood City Marina or Harbor. Also, at public access at mouth of Mayfield Slough.

Communications Problems: Cell reception strong throughout south bay.

