

2-571-A Site Summary - Petaluma River Marshes**2-571-A****County:** Sonoma **ACP Division/Segment:** MR - W - S004 SN - S - S001**NOAA Chart:** 18654 San Pablo Bay **Map Book:** **Decimal Degrees:** 38.112692 -122.498698**Site Description:**

This site begins at the mouth of the river and includes all the salt-marshes between the river levees and all tidally exposed marshes including "Carl Wilcox" marsh just north of Hwy 37. Area is under jurisdiction of Marin County Open Space. The Petaluma River has been diked along its length and the river channels are maintained for vessel traffic up to the city of Petaluma. The marshes extend several miles up the river. There are diked ponds and extensive salt-marshes on either side of Petaluma river. At the rivermouth, near Hwy 37, there are numerous residences with private docks and the Port Sonoma Marina (currently closed) and a public boat ramp at Black Point. It is imperative that floating oil does not flow upstream on flood tides. River current velocity varies based upon current tide cycle and precipitation runoff volumes.

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

9B Vegetated low banks

8B Sheltered solid man-made structures

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	Year-round	Apr-Jun
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC		Mar-Oct
Birds	common yellowthroat	FP, SSC	Year-round	Jun-Aug
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	Nov-May
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Mammals	salt-marsh harvest mouse	FE, SE	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	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
E	/Emergency Service Coordinator	Marin County Office of Emergency Services	(415) 250-0267
E	/Chief Ranger	Marin County Parks, Open Space District	(415) 479-2311
E	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Sonoma County Sheriffs	(707) 565-2231
O	/Office	Audubon Society, Marin County Chapter	(415) 924-6057
T	/Environmental Program Manager	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Bay Delta Region	(707) 576-2837
T	/Agency Representative	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3232
T	/Research Wildlife Biologist	US Geological Survey, SF Bay Estuary	(415) 859-1511
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:

Water depths vary greatly depending on location and tidal cycles. Beware of submerged hazards and overhead powerlines.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

There are extensive salt-marshes both at the mouth the Petaluma River and extend upstream to the City of Petaluma. These strategies are intended to protect those marshes by excluding oil from moving north from the San Pablo Bay up the river and into the numerous tidal channels affecting the marsh habitat. Avoid trampling vegetation and oil into sediments. Be aware that small endangered plants and animals are present.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Air Operations: BEWARE of high power wires running parallel to Bay shoreline. There are shallows at margins and potentially submerged hazards.

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

Strategy: 2-571.1 Objective: Primary exclusion/collection strategy for Petaluma River and NW San Pablo Bay: divert oil to shore collection and boom tidal channels.

Strategy: a) The collection site is at the public access immediately south of the launch ramp. Direct oil to this site by running boom from the east bank just bayward (south) of the Railroad trellis to the channel (800'), and then continue boom in cascades (1800' in 800-300' cascades), gradually angling oil out of the channel to the collection pocket. The collection pocket should be lined with 6x6+ boom and parallel the cascaded boom for 400'. (Contact Marin County Parks and Open Space about excavating an improved collection pocket as necessary.) Back collection area with sorbent boom. Line the west shoreline with 6x6+ boom (outside the line of private docks) as far as the railroad bridge. In the cascaded boom, leave an overlap opening for vessel traffic.

b) There are about 15 tidal channels (11 on the east bank and 3 on the west bank) between the railroad bridge and the power lines including an opening just northeast of the Hwy bridge which require 6x6+ chevron exclusion booming.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch		2600	feet	
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		2800	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			300	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		15		
Vessel	Boom Boat			2		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
skimmer	self propelled			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			10		

Strategy: 2-571.2 Objective: Collection strategy for controlling oil threats to Petaluma River and NW San Pablo Bay by diverting to onwater skimmer.

Strategy: Deploy a 2500' diagonal of 9x9+ Hboom from the east side of the mouth of Petaluma River under the power lines (about 150' off shore) to the second dock on the west bank. Use cascading (500') to permit vessel passage. From the west bank run 500' of 9x9+ Hboom to the skimmer. These two boom arms result in a V-collection configuration directing oil across the current to a skimmer positioned just off the second dock. If the tidal openings have not been closed using the previous strategy: then there are about 15 tidal channels between the railroad bridge and the power lines plus an opening just northeast of the Hwy bridge which require chevron exclusion booming which will require an additional 800' of 6x6+ Hboom and 15 additional anchors and stakes.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch		2500	feet	
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		500	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		8		
Vessel	Boom Boat			1		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
skimmer	self propelled			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			7		

Strategy: 2-571.3 Objective: Deflection/collection for upstream oil threats or oil past exclusion strategies at the mouth, deploy collection at best possible locale.

Strategy: Execute strategy as described in strategy 571.2 at the most favorable locale available. A similar amount of equipment including on-water skimmer will be required.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch		2500	feet	
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		500	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		10		
Vessel	Boom Boat			1		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
skimmer	self propelled			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			7		

Logistics:

Directions: The Petaluma River mouth vicinity is accessible by Hwy 37 from either Vallejo or Novato. To Petaluma Point, turn off Hwy 37 at Harbor drive. Follow Harbor drive to Grandview Ave and turn onto Grandview Ave. Turn left on Murphy Lane and right onto Deibe road. Turn right on Norton Ave, turn left on Railroad Ave, and follow it out to the end. To reach the inlet by Channel drive, turn off Hwy 37 at Harbor drive and then turn on Channel drive. Follow it until the end.

Land Access: There is good access at Black Point off Hwy 37, otherwise by foot only.

On-Water Limitations: Channel is very navigable. Very shallow mudflats. Launching is available on site at Black Point Launch at Hwy 37 & Petaluma River Junction.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Black Point Public Launch area may also be used for staging and parking: no other facilities are present except public restrooms.

Communications Problems: Cell coverage may vary.

