

County: **San Joaquin**  
 USGS Quad: **Holt**

Thomas Guide Location

SF Bay and Delt

Latitude N

38 02.3

Longitude W

121 29.4

NOAA Chart: **18661 SACRAMENTO / SAN JOAQUIN RIVER**

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Site is an island complex along the Deep Water Channel from light R8 to light R16. These include Tinsley, Ward, Headreach, Fern, Little Venice Islands and many small unnamed channel and berm islands. This is a DMRP designated Natural Resource Area with Significant Habitat Values. Though some parts of the islands are partially developed, most are in very natural states varying from marsh to shrub scrub to riparian. The channels bordering agricultural islands have heavily ripped levees.

#### SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Rich marsh and riparian areas here have "A" priority all year. Special Status Species occur here: Delta smelt (FT/SE) and winter run chinook (F/SE) occur in modest numbers in fall to spring; rare plants.

#### RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The islands here are very natural, varying from marshy to upland riparian. Some of the islands have flooded interiors with channels communicating with the river. Aquatic environment supports diverse freshwater community.

This is extremely diverse and valuable bird habitat. The black rail (ST) occurs here.

Other vertebrates include riverine and marsh species of all kinds. Western pond turtle occurs here.

This area has modest occurrence of Delta Smelt during fall/winter and a moderate density of winter-run chinook smolts from mid Oct to June. Juvenile and adult striped bass are typical as are warm water species.

Valley elderberry long horn beetle (FT) has been found here.

Rare plants are found throughout this site. These include California hibiscus, Mason's lilaeopsis, and Suisun marsh aster.

#### CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison (916) 653-9125), and the Northwest Information Center, (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College (707) 332-1117) for specific information on historic or cultural resources in this area.

#### KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E	Gilbert Cosio	Webb Tract Reclamation District	(209) 943-5551
E	Dominick Gulli	Terminus Tract Reclamation District	(209) 478-6525
	John Henderson F/W Biologist	US Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Contam	(916) 414-6595
	Eric Larson	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Bay/Delta	(707) 944-5528
E	Chris Neudeck	Mandeville Island Reclamation District	(209) 946-0268
OEL	Dab Nomellini President	Central Delta Water Agency	(209) 465-5883

#### ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**2-050 -A Site Strategy - San Joaquin River, Ward Cut Islands Complex****2-050 -A**

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**CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

The major oil issues here are oiling of vegetation and marshes and penetration into burrows and riprap.

**HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:**

Waters are deep draft except in narrow channels between islands, beware of snags and pilings in the shallows. Aerial traffic beware of power wires. Slips, trips and falls.

**SITE STRATEGIES**

Strategy 2-050.1 Objective: EAST End: Exclude/Divert/Collect boom ( at light R16) and divert oil to shore for collection.

Set 1300ft of 9X9+ exclusion/diversion booms across the main channel at a diagonal. Deploy to favor collection of oil on the Rindge Tract shore if possible. Be prepared to execute secondary booming on the three channels at the east end if the primary boom is not adequate: 500' of 9x9+ boom from Rindge Tract levee to opposite isle tip on north side. Set a second 550' boom from McDonald Isl to Tule Isl. Anchor near shore leaving a trailing boom length to maintain seal during tidal changes. Back with sorbent. Shoreside skimming from Rindge Tract (or McDonald Isl). Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS), 100ft of sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate. Contact IC if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities.

Strategy 2-050.2 Objective: WEST END: Exclude/Divert/Collect boom. Wind waves are typically a problem here

At R6 set 1200 ft of 9X9+ boom in a long diagonal to divert oil to shore for land-side collection. Favor land-based skim/collect oil at the Venice Isl levee if wind and oil movement permit. Anchor near shore leaving a trailing length for shore seal. Back with sorbent.

Strategy 2-050.3 Objective: Sorbent and exclusion boom included islands as necessary.

boom various sites, small sloughs, and marsh fronts as indicated in the strategy diagrams. Execute adjacent site strategies.

Strategy 2-050.4 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

Deploy skimmer from Rindge Tract (or McDonald Isl) when oil accumulates in skimmable quantities. Get authorization from IC prior to the initiation of this strategy.

**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
2-050.1	2350		50 OS	2100	5 2/25/, 1/50/ & 2/15/DANFORTH	2	1			8	
2-050.2	1200			1200	5 4/25/ & 1/50/danforth	2	1			8	
2-050.3	0	4000		4000	14 14/15lbs/danforths.	0	2			4	
2-050.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 SSS	0		

**LOGISTICS**

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

Key access to site (lights R8- R16) is by boat accessible from Herman & Helen's Marina or other central & east delta marinas. Vehicle access is from bordering levees: only Empire Tract is easily accessible via 8-mile Road from I-5. Site is an island complex along the Deep Water Channel from light R8 to light R16. These include Tinsley, Ward, Headreach, Fern, Little Venice Islands and many small unnamed channel and berm islands.

**LAND ACCESS:** ROADS SEASONAL

**WATER LOGISTICS:** deep draft, except near shore

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest marine facilities, fuel and launch are Herman & Helens at the end of 8-mile Rd, Paradise Point Marina (Rio Blanco Rd) and River Point Landing Marina (Buckley Cove).

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

Good deployment staging site at tip of Empire Tract on San Joaquin River. Facilities on Empire Tract include rental boats and houseboats, fuel, moorage, restaurant, electricity and water, marine supply and repair and some camping.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:** none known

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

