

County: Sonoma

USGS Quad: 7.5" Quad: Arched Rock, CA

Thomas Guide Location

Sonoma County

NOAA Chart: 18640

Latitude N

3 8 28

Longitude W

123 07

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

This large coastal river has a mouth that may vary from a few yards wide in summer to more than 100 yards wide in winter. Tidal influence reaches several miles upriver. Russian River Inlet – Mouth and Estuary is located within the Sonoma Coast State Park and is managed by California State Parks. Principal area of concern is the reach between the beach and Hwy 1 bridge which includes the Russian River State Marine Recreational Management Area. Beyond the mouth exists the Russian River State Marine Conservation Area. This is a large river inlet with sandy beaches to either side of the opening. Opening may close during the drier summer months, although large waves will wash over sand spit. Marshes are on both banks of the river. The town of Jenner is located along the northern river bank.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Priority "A" site all year.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Freshwater marsh and riparian habitat. A major harbor seal haul-out area on the beach at the river mouth all year (100's of seals). Anadromous fish migrate through the river and reside in the lagoon. Waterfowl and wading birds use the river for nesting and foraging.

Cormorants, shorebirds, and waterfowl (dabbling and diving ducks, mergansers, grebes, loons).

Harbor seals, river otters.

Salmon (Chinook & Coho) and steelhead trout.

Freshwater marshes are present along both sides of the river. Some riparian habitat is present along the south shore.

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

Historically, a rich area of human inhabitation. 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
T		CA State Parks, Northern Comms Center (Dispatch)	(916) 358-0333
T		CA State Parks Russian River District Office	(707) 865-2394
O	Jonathan Bishop Oil Spill Prgm Coord.	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5247
O	Alison Detmer	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5205
O	Becky Ota Marine Conservation MGR	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
O	Steve Wertz Senior Env.Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-122 -A Site Strategy - Russian River Inlet - Mouth and Estuary

County and Thomas Guide Location  
Sonoma County Sonoma

NOAA CHART  
18640

## 2-122 -A

Latitude N Longitude W  
3 8 28 123 07

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Prevent penetration of coarse sediments along riprap on north side of river. The concerns are oil contamination and response activity impacts to wetlands, rare and endangered species, and other vulnerable plants and wildlife which are present throughout the year. The primary objective is to minimize the exposure of oil to plants, animals and habitats present at this site. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities. Avoid trampling wetlands, sensitive plants and animals, and soft mudflats, causing penetration of oil into the sediments and further injury to the environment.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Extreme surf and swift current. Location and size of river mouth varies throughout the year.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-122.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering river.

a) Under low flow conditions, neap tides, non-stormy seas: Construct sediment dike (coarse-grained sand) across river mouth. Build up berm.

b) Under other conditions (more typical): Deploy a line of deflection booms to divert oil to coarse-grained sand catchment area on south shore of river channel. Use 50ft oil snares, 100ft sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate. If skimmable oil accumulates contact IC.

Strategy 2-122.2 Objective: Prevent spread of oil to river and beach area.

If catchment area is too limited, extend deflection booms from both sides of channel and divert oil to 50ft oil snares, 100ft sorbent boom. If skimmable oil accumulates contact IC.

Strategy 2-122.3 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

Use skimmer to collect oil when it accumulates in skimmable quantities. Get authorization from IC prior to using this collection 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 and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-122.1	1200		50 os	100	12 9-12 / 25lb Danforth	0	3		dozer	12	
2-122.2	1200		50 os	100	12 9-12 / 25lb Danforth					10	
2-122.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0		

### LOGISTICS

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

The inlet is located along Hwy 1 at Jenner. Access from Santa Rosa through Guerneville or from Bodega Bay. Take Hwy 1 to Goat Rock Rd to reach the peninsula on the south side of the river mouth. This large coastal river has a mouth that may vary from a few yards wide in summer to more than 100 yards wide in winter. Tidal influence reaches several miles upriver. Russian River Inlet – Mouth and Estuary is located within the Sonoma Coast State Park and is managed by California State Parks. Principal area of concern is the reach between the beach and Hwy 1 bridge which includes the Russian River State Marine Recreational Management Area. Beyond the mouth exists the Russian River State Marine Conservation Area.

**LAND ACCESS:** Goat Rock Rd; Rivers End Resort, County Ramp - off Hwy 1

**WATER LOGISTICS:** River shallow in areas, large surf offshore

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking  
and Services Available: Rivers End launch ramp on north side of river - Hwy marker 19  
County ramp near Jenner Post Office, also north side of river.

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

Main staging area would be at Goat Rock State Park. Satellite staging area at River's End Resort.

### COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:** Access is difficult under adverse conditions.

