

County: Sonoma

USGS Quad: 7.5" Quad: Bodega Head, CA

Thomas Guide Location

Sonoma County

NOAA Chart: 18640

Latitude N

3 8 04

Longitude W

123 21

Last Page Update : 1/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Salmon Creek mouth is located within the Sonoma Coast State Park and is managed by California State Parks. Nearly two miles of fine to medium sandy beach. During low flow periods the mouth may be closed off from the ocean by a sandbar. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. A sandbar closes the mouth of this river during the summer and early fall when freshwater flow stops and a lagoon develops behind the bar. There are extensive freshwater wetlands on the north shore near the Hwy 1 bridge.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Fall and winter months are the most sensitive time of year due to concentrations of shorebirds, waterfowl and anadromous fishes.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The endangered species and marshes near the mouth of this creek and in the lagoon are an A priority all year. Migratory shorebirds and waterfowl use the shores and lagoon throughout the fall and winter. Anadromous fish migrate upstream October through April, while juvenile fish may be present in the lagoon throughout the spring and summer months (Feb.-June). The sand dunes along the beach and south river bank are vulnerable to personnel and vehicle traffic in the event of a spill response and cleanup.

The western snowy plover (Federally Threatened) forage and nest on the sand beach near the creek mouth all year. Migratory shorebirds and waterfowl use the shores and the lagoon throughout the fall and winter months. Peregrine falcons (Federally Endangered) are known to forage in this area.

River otters are present in the river system.

The tidewater goby (Federally Endangered) is present in the creek from the mouth to one mile upstream. Anadromous fishes (steelhead and coho salmon (State and Federally Threatened)) begin migrating into the river to spawn in October and continue through April. Salmon and steelhead smolts then reside in the river system and lagoon from February through June during out-migration.

Extensive freshwater marshes are present along the river banks. They are especially dense along the northern shore near the Hwy 1 bridge.

Extensively vegetated sand dunes are located along the south shore of the river and back beach.

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
E/T		CA State Parks Russian River District Office	(707) 865-2394
E/T		CA State Parks, Northern Comms Center (Dispatch)	(916) 358-0333
O	Jonathan Bishop Oil Spill Prgm Coord.	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5247
O	Alison Detmer	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5205
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-140 -A Site Strategy - Salmon Creek

County and Thomas Guide Location
Sonoma County Sonoma

NOAA CHART
18640

2-140 -A

Latitude N Longitude W
3 8 04 123 21

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

If oil gets into creek it may impact sensitive marsh habitat , anadromous fishes and other sensitive species. Snowy plovers (a threatened shorebird) nest along the foredune above the high tide line from March through August. All traffic must be kept out of this area when birds are present. Prevent and minimize foot and vehicle traffic through the sand dunes.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Steep cliff area - access is by steep trail.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-140.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering the creek and oiling marshes.

In addition to on-water recovery efforts, the following site specific protection measures should also be carried out:

For situations of low-flow or no-flow river conditions:

- Construct a sediment dike if the river is isolated from the ocean by a sand berm. Sediment should be taken from the beach face south of the river mouth (not the sand dunes). The washover terrace requiring reinforcement maybe 300 meters (1000 feet) wide. It is recommended that a shallow ditch (a runnel) be constructed on the backside of the dike to catch any oil that washes over the top.

Strategy 2-140.2 Objective: Exclude oil from entering and moving upstream in the creek and from oiling marshes.

In addition to on-water recovery efforts, the following site specific protection measures should also be carried out:

For situations when river is open to the ocean and tidal exchange occurs:

- Boom across the river will be necessary when tidal flows into the river may occur during flood tides. Deploy 2000 ft. of boom having at least 8 inches of freeboard/floatation and 6 inches of draft/skirt. Backup the primary boom with a second deployment to catch entrained oil.

The preferred oil collection location (north or south river bank) may vary depending on conditions. The south shore is sand beach yet more remote; while the north shore is mixed sand and gravel, but provides better logistical access below the parking area along Hwy 1. In all cases, responders must consider the wind direction and expected current velocity when determining boom deployment angles and shoreline recovery areas.

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
2-140.1	0								Bulldozers or front-end loaders (2-3)	10	
2-140.2	2000				12 12 / 20 lb.	0	4		1 crane	30	

LOGISTICS

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

Take Hwy 1 north of Bodega Bay. Turn into parking lot at north end of Salmon Creek mouth. Salmon Creek mouth is located within the Sonoma Coast State Park and is managed by California State Parks. Nearly two miles of fine to medium sandy beach. During low flow periods the mouth may be closed off from the ocean by a sandbar. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS: Good access to parking areas north and south of creek.

WATER LOGISTICS: Shallow creek, skiffs only.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Hand launch skiffs over south creek bank beach.
and Services Available:

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

State Park parking areas available on north and south sides of creek. Nearest facilities at Bodega Bay and Jenner.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

