

County: **San Mateo**
 USGS Quad: **San Gregorio**

Thomas Guide Location
 AAA San Mateo C

Latitude N
 37 19
 Longitude W
 122 24

NOAA Chart: **18680 Point Sur to San Francisco Bay**

Last Page Update : 1/1/2000

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site is San Gregorio Creek itself and the lagoon and marsh landward of the beach which extends some distance upstream from the Hwy 1 bridge. Both sides of this site are on State Park land; there is a kiosk and parking lot on the beach side. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The creek flows to the ocean most of the year. Medium-grained sand beach and berm is active and gets reworked by waves. The lagoon under the Hwy 1 bridge is present year round. There is a well developed open marsh landward of bridge.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year round "A" priority. The environmental resources at risk include the tidewater goby, juvenile steelhead and salmon, and the marshes within the creek and lagoon drainage. Nov. - May steelhead trout and coho (silver) salmon migrate through the creek.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Well developed marshes are present from near the mouth of the creek and extending upstream, and are highly sensitive to oil contamination. The lagoon waters are important fish habitat.

Snowy plovers have nested in the wrack and debris of the south half of the lagoon berm. Waterfowl and wading birds are abundant in the lagoon and the stream outflow.

The tidewater goby is a federally endangered species that lives in the creek from the mouth to one mile upstream. San Gregorio Creek is one of the principle steelhead trout and coho salmon production areas for the San Mateo coast. They migrate upstream from Nov.- Jan., while downstream migrants use the creek from Feb. - May, and smolts are present year round.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Ohlone cultural sites nearby. 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	Santa Cruz District	CA State Parks	(831) 335-6390
T	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
E	San Mateo Coast Sector	CA State Parks	(650) 726-8819
E		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

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-273 -A Site Strategy - San Gregorio Creek

County and Thomas Guide Location

AAA San Mateo C San Mateo

NOAA CHART

18680 Point Sur to San Francisco Bay

2-273 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 7 19

122 24

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

The primary concern is preventing oil washing into San Gregorio Creek and the large marsh which extends landward from the beach and well upstream of the highway. Oil in this lagoon would be very destructive to the surrounding marshy vegetation and the fish and wildlife living in or using the marsh and lagoon. Also be aware that a small group of endangered sandpipers & snowy plovers are sometimes found nesting and resting in the debris at the mouth of the lagoon. Please avoid trampling plants and treading oil into the ground. Location of creek mouth changes frequently. Responders must adapt strategy to the situation they find but should advise IC before proceeding to improvise.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

The surf occasionally washes people and equipment out to sea. The rising tide can trap people and equipment on isolated beaches. The eroding cliff face is unstable, do not stand on the edge of the cliff, and when on the beach beware of falling rocks.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-273.1 Objective: Exclude oil by diking the mouth of the creek when heavy oil impacts are expected.

When heavy oiling is expected, the preferred option is to close off inlet with a sediment dike backed by collection trench (medium-grained sand). The dike would have to be about 500 feet long. Sediment may be in short supply, especially after storms. If outflow is high enough to washout the dike, a culvert or culverts must be installed in the dike.

Strategy 2-273.2 Objective: Exclusion booming at the mouth of San Gregorio Creek, when level of oiling does not merit diking disturbance or as back-up to diking (2-273.1).

Exclude oil from moving upstream in the lagoon by deploying exclusion-deflection boom at the mouth near the beach. Divert oil washing into lagoon to catchment areas on south shore of lagoon and on the landward side of the high berm. Depending upon configuration of creek mouth this strategy may require 600 to 1500 feet of swamp boom. 3,000 feet of oil snare on a rope (SN) should be deployed where waves are expected to wash over into the lagoon.

Strategy 2-273.3 Objective: Contain/collect oil at seaward end of lagoon, when oil has been washed into lagoon - to keep oil from marshy areas east of Hwy 1 bridge.

When oil is threatening to move upstream past the bridge, use collection booms anchored to north and/or south bridge pilings to divert oil to a collection and recovery area. 600 feet of swamp boom and 600 feet of sorbent may be adequate for this strategy. Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS) and/or 100ft of sorbent boom to collect oil. If oil begins to accumulate in skimmable quantity, consult IC.

Strategy 2-273.4 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

Deploy skimmer if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities as a result of strategy .3. Use skimmer head and pump to storage on beach or truck on highway. Consult IC prior to initiating 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 and	Equipment or kinds	comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-273.1	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0			earth moving equipment, Visquene, culverts		4	
2-273.2	0	1500	3000	SN	0	32 30 Stakes & 1/7#+ anchor + 1000 lin	0	2	0	0				6	2
2-273.3	0	600	50	OS	700	0	0	1		0		lift pumps may be necessary		4	2
2-273.4	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	1	SFS	0				

LOGISTICS

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

From Oakland take Hwy 880 south, turn west onto Hwy 92 to Half Moon Bay. At Half Moon Bay turn south onto Hwy 1, and continue 10 miles south to San Gregorio Beach parking lot. This site is San Gregorio Creek itself and the lagoon and marsh landward of the beach which extends some distance upstream from the Hwy 1 bridge. Both sides of this site are on State Park land; there is a kiosk and parking lot on the beach side. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

LAND ACCESS: Foot only around lagoon. 4WD vehicles may be able to travel on beach.

WATER LOGISTICS: none identified.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: For skiffs in the lagoon, small skiffs can be carried down a steep slope from parking area. Nearest boat facilities are in Half Moon Bay.

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

The San Gregorio State Park parking lot is suitable for a small staging area or field post. A highway 1 pull-out on a hill to the south provides better communications, and the Half Moon Bay airport is suitable for a large staging area. San Mateo County OES can identify an appropriate command post.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

2-273 -A Strategy Diagram- San Gregorio Creek

2-273 -A

