

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

Thomas Guide Location
 AAA San Mateo C
 NOAA Chart: **Pt Sur - S Francisco**

Latitude N
 37 07
 Longitude W
 122 19

Last Page Update : 1/1/2000

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site is limited to Pomponio Creek from 50 feet upstream of the highway 1 bridge to the ocean surf. 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. The channel configuration changes with seasonality.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

A priority year around.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Pomponio Creek and Lagoon provide habitat and nursery for salmonids and various birds, reptiles & amphibians.

In addition to western snowy plover nesting, a variety of shore birds forage here. Both sea birds and riparian birds use these areas for foraging and nesting.

Coho salmon and steelhead smolts reside in the lagoon all year.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

There are probably historic and cultural sites present. 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	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:

2-277 -A Site Strategy - Pomponio Creek

County and Thomas Guide Location

AAA San Mateo C San Mateo

NOAA CHART

Pt Sur - S Francisco

2-277 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 7 07

122 19

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

Oil in the lagoon may kill or severely injure salmon smolts. To minimize impacts to snowy plovers responders should stay on the wet portion of the beach unless they must be higher on the beach to implement the response strategy.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Beware of surf: it occasionally washes people and equipment out to sea.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-277.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering the lagoon. If oil does enter the lagoon, remove it promptly.

Location of lagoon changes occasionally. Responders must adapt the strategy to the situation they find.

A) 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 yards long. Consider constructing a collecting trench on the back side of the berm if oil is expected to wash over the top of the berm. Sediment may be in short supply, especially after storms, and the dike could wash out during periods of high runoff, consider underflow dam.

If dike doesn't hold or there is insufficient sand to construct one, backup strategy consists of:

B) try to keep oil on seaward side of Route 1 bridge by setting up deflection boom system to divert oil to catchment areas on south shore of lagoon and on the landward side of the high berm, or if there is sufficient flow of water out of the lagoon, deflect oil to outlet and back to the sea. Depending upon configuration of creek mouth this strategy may require 600 to 1500 feet of swamp boom. Up to 3,000 feet of oil snare on a rope should be deployed where waves are expected to wash over into the lagoon.

C) If there is risk of oil passing through the double culverts under highway 1, deploy swamp boom and sorbents across the creek on both sides of highway 1. If there is little or no flow of water through the culverts, dam the culverts with sediment. Use PVC pipe fitted with a 90 degree elbow to allow freshwater to flow through the dam.

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
2-277.1	0	2100	0	3600	30 stakes, 1000' 3/8" line	0	0		earth moving equipment, dozer, ATV	10	

LOGISTICS

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

Take Hwy 92 to Halfmoon Bay. Turn south onto Hwy 1. Drive down the coast approximately 15 miles. This site is limited to Pomponio Creek from 50 feet upstream of the highway 1 bridge to the ocean surf. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

LAND ACCESS: Foot traffic only

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest boat facilities are in Half Moon Bay, fifteen miles to the north

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

The Pomponio beach parking lot is suitable for a small staging area or field post. Responders may have to travel north or south on highway 1 to find a location where they can communicate with the command post. 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:

