

County: **Alameda**
 USGS Quad: **Mountain View**

Thomas Guide Location

AAA Fremont - N

Latitude N

37 30.0

Longitude W

122 05.0

NOAA Chart: **18654 San Francisco Bay Southern Part**

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Newark Slough and Plummer Creek join and form one outlet to South San Francisco Bay two miles SE of Dumbarton Bridge. Extensive salt marsh areas with numerous tidal channels extend over a mile to the north and south of the inlet. The entire area including much of the offshore mudflats is part of the USFWS San Francisco Bay Wildlife Refuge. Mudflats are shallow and extensive and are cut with deep tidal channels. Bay frontage is cordgrass marsh. Newark Slough and Plummer Creek are leveed and bordered by Cargill salt ponds.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority year-round for marshes, harbor seals, and California clapper rail.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The endangered California clapper rail, California least tern, also known to occur onsite: California brown pelican and American peregrine.

The endangered saltmarsh harvest mouse is present. Harbor seals use the west shore of Newark Slough near the mouth as a haulout and rookery area. There is a moderate risk year round and high risks to pups during lactation due to possible ingestion of petroleum products from female's fur. Spring breeding season runs from approximately 15 March - 10 June. Lactation period is 3 to 5 weeks long. Spring approximately 100 adults and pups; Fall/Winter approximately 5-40 seals

The intertidal mudflats are important to fish and shellfish, primarily clams

Species of Special Concern: Hairless Allocarya (aka Hairless popcornflower plant).

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Ohlone cultural sites are 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
O		SF Bird Observatory	(408) 946-6548
T	Joy Albertson	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222
E	Pat Metelli	Cargill Salt	(510) 790-8610
E/T	Eric Mruz Mgr - Don Edwards NWR	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-342 -A Site Strategy - Newark/Plummer Creek

County and Thomas Guide Location
AAA Fremont - N Alameda

NOAA CHART
18654 San Francisco Bay Southern Part

2-342 -A
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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

The primary concern is oil penetrating the marsh by being carried up creeks and small tidal channels. The secondary concern is oiling of harbor seals and impacts to marsh plants and wildlife. First objective is to exclude oil from entering marsh via tidal channels; secondary objective is to deflect oil away from marsh; and the final objective is protective booming of marshfront. There is always the concern that response and cleanup activity will damage marshes: trampling of vegetation, trampling oil into sediments, and disturbing wildlife.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Shallow water. Levee roads impassable in winter.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-342.1 Objective: Exclusion/Diversion boom to prevent oil from entering channel between bay and site.

- a) Offshore skimming by on-water task force (see GRP-2-400).
- b) Deflection booming off mudflat break with 9X9+ Hboom.
- c) "Plug" small finger sloughs and channels inside Newark Slough with fence boom, sorbent, and swamp boom.
- d) Deploy curtain boom from west side of mouth back into Plummer Creek's eastern shore. Also deploy harbor boom along east shore of mouth from bayfront back to skimmer pocket.
- e) Use skimmer in channel or possibly vac truck with skimmer from shore levee in Plummer Creek (dry season only).

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
2-342.1	8000	1000		5000	40 40-25#w/10'chain each	14	4	1		18	

LOGISTICS

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

Take Hwy 880 south to the Thornton Avenue exit. Proceed east on Marshland Road. Need San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge assistance for access via Levee Road. Access to Newark Slough possible through the Cargill Plant.
NOTE: Access to levee only during dry months. Access may be limited to small vehicles. Tractor trailer rigs may not be able to access area. Newark Slough and Plummer Creek join and form one outlet to South San Francisco Bay two miles SE of Dumbarton Bridge. Extensive salt marsh areas with numerous tidal channels extend over a mile to the north and south of the inlet.

LAND ACCESS: 2WD,4WD,ATV,FT DRY SEASON ONLY, hovercraft in wet season

WATER LOGISTICS: SHALLOW DRAFT VESSELS <6'

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Launch ramps at Redwood City for large vessels
Small boat launch (punts, airboats, kayaks) at SFBNWR HQ on Newark Slough

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

Large staging area available at Redwood City Harbor. Small staging area and field post possible at National Wildlife Refuge HQ. Command Post available at Alameda County OES.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

