

County: **San Mateo**
 USGS Quad: **Redwood Point, California**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N
3 7 31

Longitude W
122 12

NOAA Chart: **18649/18650 Entrance to SF Bay**

Last Page Update : 1/15/2007

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site extends from the mouth of Redwood Creek to the Dumbarton Bridge and includes Greco Island, Ravenswood Slough and the marsh between the slough and Ravenswood Point. This site is part of USFWS SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Greco Island is a saltmarsh island on the southwest shore of South San Francisco Bay, one mile northwest of the Dumbarton Bridge. It is bounded on the northwest by Redwood Creek and on the southwest by Westpoint Slough. Ravenswood Slough opens to the Bay south of Greco Island near Westpoint Slough. Fringing cordgrass/pickleweed marshes line the mouth and banks. The Greco Island site was combined with formerly designated Ravenswood Slough site due to their close proximity to each other, similar sensitivities, and combined response protection strategy.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

"A" priority all year. Endangered species are present all year. The greatest risk to harbor seals is during spring breeding season 15 March - 10 June: pups can ingest oil on female's fur during nursing; disturbance during brief lactation period (3-5 weeks) can reduce pup's survival after weaning. Moderate risk year-round from inhalation of volatile oil fractions and ingestion of contaminated prey.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Habitats at risk include the pickleweed and cordgrass marshes of the islands and slough margins, high marsh suitable for seal rookery and haulout, and extensive mudflats, particularly on bayward margins.

Sensitive bird species found here include: Endangered - California clapper rail, California least tern; California Species of Special Concern: saltmarsh common yellowthroat, Alameda song sparrow. California brown pelican & peregrine falcon frequent site. Also, large numbers of a wide variety of birds nest and winter here: shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds, and waterbirds.

Sensitive mammals species found here include: salt marsh harvest mouse and salt marsh wandering shrew. Greco Island is a harbor seal haulout and rookery site. Seal number - Spring/breeding 25-60 adults + pups; nonbreeding 5-25 adults.

The sloughs and mudflats are important habitat for fish, shellfish and infauna.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

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	Joy Albertson	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222
E/T	Anne Morkill SF NWR Complex Mgr	USFWS - SF	(510) 792-0222
E/T	Eric Mruz Mgr - Don Edwards NWR	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-367 -A Site Strategy - Greco Island/Ravenswood Slough

County and Thomas Guide Location

San Mateo

NOAA CHART

18649/18650 Entrance to SF Bay

2-367 -A

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

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The concern is oil and response impacts to marsh, wildlife, including seal pups and adults, and rare and endangered birds, animals and plants which are present year-round. Primary objective is to minimize exposure by excluding oil from entering Ravenswood Slough, Westpoint Slough and small tidal sloughs. Secondary objective is to minimize exposure and impacts to bay frontage marshes by protective booming. Always of concern is the impacts resulting from response and cleanup: avoid trampling marsh and sensitive plants and animals, avoid disturbing soft mudflats, and avoid trampling oil into marsh and mud.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Aircraft beware of overhead power lines nearby. Vessels be aware of shallow water.

SITE STRATEGIES

Protection of this site requires the use of deflection booming off the Redwood Creek channel markers as described in the Redwood Creek strategy (A-2-365). Since site is part of USFWS NWR, activity at this site should be coordinated with refuge personnel (510)792-0222.

Strategy 2-367.1 Objective: exclude oil from entering main sloughs and outer margin bay approach booming.

- a) At entrances to Ravenswood and Westpoint Sloughs, deploy chevron exclusions using swamp boom. (about 1200' total).
- b) Additionally, deploy 8,000 ft of 9X9+ Hboom with 2,000 ft of swamp boom (or intertidal barrier boom) for shore connections, along the outer edge of the mudflat from the prominent point by side of Greco Island south to the point on the levee between Ravenswood Point and Ravenswood Slough.
- c) Coordinate with SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge staff to insure closure of tidal gates, pumps, syphons, and other water structures admitting water (and oil) to wetlands behind levees.

Strategy 2-367.2 Objective: Exclusion/protection of bay marsh front of Greco and Ravenswood Isls.

Deploy 10,000 ft of exclusionary tidal barrier boom or swamp boom across the upper portion of the mudflat fronting the marsh of Greco Island and connect boom at the north end with Redwood Creek strategy.

ALTERNATIVES: It is critical that channel entrances leading into Greco Island be blocked. If tidal barrier boom should fail or time to impact does not permit its deployment. Block channel mouths with curtain boom, swamp boom, sorbent boom, or combination thereof.

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
2-367.1	8000	2000		2000	60 60/22+/danforths & stakes	6	10	0	very shallow Bboats	40	
2-367.2	0	0	10000 TBB	0	50 stakes	6	2	0	20		

LOGISTICS

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

There is no vehicle access to this site. Nearest vehicle access is Port of Redwood City: Exit Hwy 101 at Seaport Blvd. and continue bayward to Port or marina. Water access is from Port or Marina immediately to the south from Redwood Creek. This site extends from the mouth of Redwood Creek to the Dumbarton Bridge and includes Greco Island, Ravenswood Slough and the marsh between the slough and Ravenswood Point. This site is part of USFWS SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

LAND ACCESS: No road access.

WATER LOGISTICS: Very shallow mudflats.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Redwood City marina and Port.
and Services Available:

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

Staging at Redwood City marina, harbor.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

