

County: **Marin**
 USGS Quad: **San Quentin**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 7 58

122 28

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

Last Page Update : 1/1/2000

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site includes both of Marin Islands and the surrounding waters of San Rafael Bay. This site is part of Marin Islands State Marine Park. The islands are under management of the US Fish & Wildlife Service. This site is one of the most ecologically important and sensitive sites in the San Francisco Bay. These islands support one of the largest heron rookeries in northern California. It is the rookery for the herons and egrets of San Francisco Bay. Each island is less than one quarter mile in diameter and covered with trees. The Ciconiformes nest here, fledge their offspring, and roost in the evenings. The islands rise steeply and are cliffy. The surrounding shores are gravel, cobble, and boulder. The islands are owned by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and maintained as a wildlife preserve. The narrow channel is located south of the islands, provides access to San Rafael / San Rafael Creek boat traffic.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The site is an A priority throughout the year due to the singular use of this site by herons in the S.F. Bay area.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

These islands support one of the largest heron rookeries in northern California. The habitat risk is linked to this breeding - roosting habitat for herons and other birds. Although there are many ecological values to shore lines, the rocky, gravelly shoreline here is of greatest concern as rearing habitat for fledglings.

This is the nesting and roosting site for great egret, black crowned night heron, great blue heron and snowy egrets in the SF Bay area. Black oystercatchers, western gull, mallard ducks and Canada geese have also nested here.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - OOffice 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	John Henderson F/W Biologist	US Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Contam	(916) 414-6595
E	Marin County OES (Office Main	Marin, County of, Sheriff/Office of Emergency Serv	(415) 473-6584
B	Barbra Salzman	Audubon Society, Marin County Chapter	(415) 924-6057
TB	John Takekawa	US Geological Survey, SF Bay Estuary Field Station	(707) 562-2000

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-427 -A Site Strategy - Marin Islands

County and Thomas Guide Location

Marin

NOAA CHART

18649 Entrance to SF Bay

2-427 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 7 58

122 28

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 7/1/2002

This site is one of the most ecologically important and sensitive sites in the San Francisco Bay. These islands support one of the largest heron rookeries in northern California. Although oil can't reach the nest sites, the disturbance of protection and cleanup could be devastating. For this reason, deploy strategy with as little disturbance and noise as practical and do not get on the islands without explicit instructions from ICS and accompanying USFWS staff.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

This is a shallow water site. There are submerged rocks.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-427.1 Objective: Deflect oil past islands with chevron at east end.

Deploy a deflection chevron close to the east tip of East Marin Island: 3000' 9X9+ Harbor boom. Deploy as close to east tip as practical. Anchor with suitable anchors for wind and wave conditions.

Strategy 2-427.2 Objective: protective enclosure booming of both islands in the event of heavy oil threat.

Wrap both islands completely by linking to existing chevron (see 2-427.1) Secure boom to chevron legs at least 100' back from tips and surround islands (4000' 9X9+ Hboom).

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
2-427.1	3000				7 7/22+/danforths + chain.	3	0			9	
2-427.2	4000				7 7/22+/danforths + chain	4	0			12	

LOGISTICS

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

There is no land access to this site: water access only. The islands are northwest from the San Rafael Bridge. The islands are just north of the channel from the San Rafael Creek and about one half mile offshore of the Marin Peninsula. This site includes both of Marin Islands and the surrounding waters of San Rafael Bay. This site is part of Marin Islands State Marine Park. The islands are under management of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

LAND ACCESS: Site only accessible from boat.

WATER LOGISTICS: Mud flats, rocks and shallow water surround these islands.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest launch is Loch Lomond Marina at 110 Loch Lomond Drive. Numerous marinas & facilities etc. are located in San Rafael.

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

The staging site will depend on the spill scenario. Numerous marinas can be used as staging areas and boat launch sites in San Rafael. The Richmond Marina / Santa Fe Channel is a major staging and field post site.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS: The islands are owned by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and maintained as a wildlife fY2 [Y"

