

County: **Contra Costa**  
 USGS Quad: **San Quentin**

Thomas Guide Location

AAA Richmond

NOAA Chart: **Entrance to San Francisco Bay 18649**

Latitude N

03 7 58

Longitude W

122 24

Last Page Update : 10/1/2005

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site includes all shallow (<10 feet), soft bottom, areas along the east shore of San Francisco Bay from Pt. San Pablo south along the Richmond Peninsula to Pt. Richmond. The Richmond - San Rafael Bridge (highway 580) bisects the site. Most of the shoreline is in ownership of Chevron, EBRPD, and the City of Richmond. Extensive eelgrass beds are present in shallow (<10 feet) nearshore areas from Pt. San Pablo south along the Richmond Peninsula to Pt. Richmond. Six rocky headlands separate five beaches along this shoreline. The beaches south of Point Molate are of fine grained sand while those to the north are of coarse sand to pebbles and shell. Numerous pilings and pier structures exist and should be used as anchoring points for the boom.

#### SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The eelgrass beds are most vulnerable at low tide. Waterfowl are most abundant from early fall through early spring.

#### RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This is an A priority all year. The eelgrass beds are most vulnerable to oil during the growing season of spring and summer when the leaves lay on the surface, especially at low tide. Eelgrass beds are an extremely valuable habitat in San Francisco Bay for spawning of herring in the winter, food for waterfowl in spring, and as nursery areas to fish and invertebrates throughout summer and fall.

Various species of waterfowl can be found at this site in the spring time. Large numbers of waterfowl use the coves during winter migration.

Herring spawn in the eelgrass during the winter months (Nov-Feb) and viable eggs (Feb-Apr).

There are extensive eelgrass beds in each of the coves. Some of the beds are so shallow that some plants are totally exposed during some low tides. Location and size of eelgrass beds distribution varies annually.

#### CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Ohlone cultural sites may be nearby, and there are historical buildings on the former Point Molate US Naval Fuel Depot. The entire shoreline was intensively used at one time or another, and a chinese fishing village was one of the uses. 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
EL	Chevron Long Wharf	Chevron Corp., Operations Control Room (24hrs.)	(510) 242-4494
BT	Liam Davis	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	(707) 644-2812
EL	Dispatch/Watch Command	Richmond, City of, Police Department	(510) 620-6643
E/T	EBRPD Dispatch EBRP	East Bay Regional Park District	(510) 881-1833
E/T	Shoreline Park Supervisor	East Bay Regional Park District	(510) 544-3172
EL	Mike Williams	Port of Richmond	(510) 778-3325

#### ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

## 2-452 -A Site Strategy - Richmond Eelgrass Beds

County and Thomas Guide Location

AAA Richmond Contra Costa

NOAA CHART

Entrance to San Francisco Bay 18649

## 2-452 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

03 7 58

122 24

Last Page Update : 1/21/2014

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Should eelgrass become heavily oiled it may produce a sheen for several weeks unless removed. Surface oil can be expected to produce injury and death to waterfowl in area.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Hazards include shallow water with debris, wrecks, and pilings throughout the area. Areas near Pt. Molate and Castro Pt. are inside a restricted area with access under the control of Richmond PD.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Shallow water and submerged obstacles

Strategy 2-452.1 Objective: Exclude oil from pocket marsh at Castro Pt.

Exclude oil from small pocket marsh just north of Castro Pt using 300' of swamp boom anchored or staked to high beach. There is land access but boom delivery via land is difficult. Water delivery is recommended but must contend with submerged obstructions and shallows.

Strategy 2-452.2 Objective: Exclude oil from emergent eelgrass bed in coves between Molate Pt and Pt Orient.

Deploy 4000ft of 9X9+Hboom in a chevron from just east of Molate Pt to shore near the base of pier at Pt Orient. Remain outside of Eelgrass beds which can extend up to 1500' offshore from shore in middle of cove.

Strategy 2-452.3 Objective: Deflect to Collection/confinement at shoreline when oil impacts are likely to be heavy and unavoidable at this site

Deploy deflection boom from headlands where there is access for oil recovery equipment and skimming recovery. Locations include:

- a) near Castro Point, 1,500' 9X9+ Hboom from base of Richmond-San Rafael Bridge toward Castro Rocks.
- b) from Point Molate, 2,000' 9X9+ Hboom in a southwesterly direction to collect and recover oil at Pt. Molate.
- c) from Point Orient, 1000 feet of 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
2-452.1	0	300			2 stakes or anchors	0	1			2	
2-452.2	4000				8 22#+ with chain	2	1			6	
2-452.3	4500	500			22 22#+ w/ 10' 1" chain	3	2	3 SSS	2,500' 1/2" anchor line	11	

### LOGISTICS

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

Primary access by vessel. By land take Hwy 80 to Hwy 580 west. Before toll booth of the Richmond-San Rafael bridge turn right onto Western Drive. Proceed to beach areas. To access from Hwy 580 eastbound take Cutting Blvd to Garrard Blvd. South, through tunnel to Western Drive and shoreline. This site includes all shallow (<10 feet), soft bottom, areas along the east shore of San Francisco Bay from Pt. San Pablo south along the Richmond Peninsula to Pt. Richmond. The Richmond - San Rafael Bridge (highway 580) bisects the site. Most of the shoreline is in ownership of Chevron, EBRPD, and the City of Richmond.

**LAND ACCESS:** Good access for all vehicles along the main road (Western Drive).

**WATER LOGISTICS:** This is a shallow water site

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Launch ramps are available in the Richmond Harbor and at Chevron Refinery, docking facilities are available at the Pt. San Pablo Yacht Harbor (located NW of Pt Orient) and Richmond Marina.

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

Numerous staging areas and locations for field posts exist along Western Drive, at the Chevron Long Wharf and in Richmond harbor and marina.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:** none known

### ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

