

County: **Solano**
 USGS Quad: **Benicia**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

3 8 04

122 11

NOAA Chart: **18656 Suisun Bay**

Last Page Update : 4/4/2017

SITE DESCRIPTION:

The site extends from Dillon Point to the unnamed point (with dwellings) just west of Commodore Jones Point. Most of the site is Benicia State Recreation Area (managed by California State Parks) though some is in private or roadside right-of-way in the most easterly portion. Benicia State Recreation Area includes Southampton Bay Wetland Natural Preserve. Southampton Bay is shallow bay open to Carquinez Strait with a large prograding wetland. The bay is very shallow and is an extensive mudflat at low tides. The margin of the bay is tule-sedge. The back marsh is saltgrass and pickleweed grading to freshwater marsh in those portions receiving freshwater flow from the surrounding drainage and creek. Remnant dikes in the easterly mudflats are covered with water except at low tides.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERNS

The marshes are an "A" priority all year.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This is a large tidal marsh (80+ acres) fed by a stream from land and a tidal slough. The marsh is saltmarsh in the front and freshwater marsh in the rear. There is high ground around the margins. The entire marshfront has extensive mudflats which are exposed for a hundred+ yards at lower tides.

The marshes are habitat for the endangered California clapper rail, the threatened California black rail. This is breeding habitat and wintering habitat for many species. In the winter, cavasback ducks are common.

The endangered salt marsh harvest mouse probably occurs here.

A Federally Endangered plant, the soft bird's beak, also occurs in the marsh at this site

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
E/T	Environmental Scientist	CA State Parks	(831) 335-6382
C	Archaeologist	CA State Parks (use ext 216)	(707) 769-5652
E/T	California State Parks DISPATCH	California State Parks, Diablo Vista District	(707) 769-5665

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-651 -A Site Strategy - Southampton Bay

County and Thomas Guide Location

Solano

NOAA CHART
18656 Suisun Bay

2-651 -A

Latitude N Longitude W

3 8 04 122 11

Last Page Update : 4/1/2017

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

This very shallow bay has extensive sensitive marshy shoreline, which if oiled, would be nearly impossible to clean or rehabilitate. The intent is to keep oil out of the bay by deflection or, failing that, by exclusion/protection booming along the marshfront. Respond in shallows only at high tide with very shallow boats or airboat/hovercraft. Avoid trampling vegetation and beware of trampling oil into muds. This is a state park and a natural preserve supporting multiple federally endangered species.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

The bay is extremely shallow at its margins and recesses. There is a remnant of an old dike extending from the land to the east side of the bay (near the dwellings). Aircraft beware of high power wires in the area.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strong currents flow close to shore at Dillon Pt. An eddy often forms just west of Dillon Pt. Waters in the Strait are very deep. In the bay, waters near shore are very shallow: note hazards.

Strategy 2-651.1 Objective: On Flood tide, deflect boom past the site on the current contour line.

Deflection Booming: To keep oil in the main channel where it is accessible to the skimmers, deploy 1200 ft of deflection boom extending easterly along the 20 foot isobath from Dillon Point to deflect oil away from Southampton Bay and back into Carquinez Strait on the flood tide. Deflection boom should also be deployed to the east of Southampton Bay to deflect oil away from the Bay and into Carquinez Strait during the ebb tide. Benicia Point appears to be a logical location from this boom. Recommended 600 ft of boom be deployed along the southeast side of the islands off this point and extend 600 ft northwesterly (285-T) from Daymark #23 along the 20 foot depth line.

Strategy 2-651.2 Objective: Protective booming of marshy exposure. The main focus of protection should be the inner marsh.

Deploying swamp boom (6X6+) across Southampton Bay preventing oiling of the marsh shoreline habitat. West anchor: N38.064999 W122.193074, East anchor: N38.066185, W122.182742

Strategy 2-651.3 Objective: Shoreline containment and recovery with shoreside skimming

The small cove immediately west of Dillon Pt. appears to be a potential containment and recovery site. Oil and debris on the gravel beach indicate it is a natural collection point, and there is vehicle access to the beach. To assist natural collection at this point, 300 ft of deflection boom extending westerly from Dillon Pt. (Daymark #21) during the flood tide or easterly from the small unnamed point approximately 1000 ft west on the ebb may be beneficial. These short lengths of boom should be set so as to direct oil into the cove. Oil may be recovered from the water with a Shoreside Skimming System (SSS) such as an oil-mop skimmer and pumped to a fast tank on beach or other methods.

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
2-651.1	1200				3 3/22+/danforths + chain	2				6	
2-651.2	0	3200		3200	6 6/22+/danforths + chain & stakes	3	2		Bboats: very shallow draft	8	
2-651.3	300				2 2/22+/danforth + chain	1	1	1 SSS		4	

LOGISTICS

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

By boat, proceed 3 miles west from Martinez Marina. By land, take the Columbus Parkway Exit off Hwy 780 and drive into Benicia State Recreation Area on the south side of the freeway. There is a park roadway that goes to Dillon point. The site extends from Dillon Point to the unnamed point (with dwellings) just west of Commodore Jones Point. Most of the site is Benicia State Recreation Area (managed by California State Parks) though some is in private or roadside right-of-way in the most easterly portion. Benicia State Recreation Area includes Southampton Bay Wetland Natural Preserve.

LAND ACCESS: paved road around perimeter. Foot only in marsh.

WATER LOGISTICS: Extremely shallow and obstructions

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest launch is at Benicia public ramp 1/4 th mile east. Launch, fuel, boat services, moorage at nearby marinas at Martinez, Benicia, Crockett.

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

Staging locales: on-site at Dillon Pt, or Benicia public boat ramp. Staging areas at Benicia, Martinez, Exxon Wharf. Support services: lodging and food available at Martinez or Benicia.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS: Gate to park is locked at night.



Imagery: NAIP 2012 (Summer) 4-Band

