

County: **Solano**  
USGS Quad: **Honker Bay**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N  
3 8 04

Longitude W  
121 55

NOAA Chart: **SUISUN BAY 18652/18656**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

This site is the southerly exposure of Chips Island to Suisun Bay and all the associated interior island channels. The entire margin of the island is emergent saline marsh. Some exposed portions are eroding but most margins are accreting. There are about a dozen pockets and inlets along this two mile length. Some of these openings lead to extensive inner channels or to interiors of marshes. These are paths which, if left open, would permit widespread impacts. This is excellent marsh habitat for a wide variety of marsh species including several Special Status Species.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

The site is an "A" priority year-round. Several Special Status Species occur here.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

This extensive saline-fresh marsh system is good habitat for marsh birds and mammals of all kinds.

This is nesting and foraging habitat for all manner of waterfowl and marsh birds including the Special Status Species: California black rail (ST).

The marsh also supports a wide diversity of marsh mammals and other vertebrates including Special Status Species: saltmarsh harvest mouse (F/SE).

**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
	John Henderson F/W Biologist	US Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Contam	(916) 414-6595
	Eric Larson	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Bay/Delta	(707) 944-5528
	Staff Office	Suisun Resource Conservation District	(707) 425-9302

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-752 -A Site Strategy - Chips Island, Southern Side

County and Thomas Guide Location

Solano

NOAA CHART  
SUISUN BAY 18652/18656

## 2-752 -A

Latitude N Longitude W

3 8 04 121 55

Last Page Update : 10/1/2005

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary concern is oil entering the interior marsh channels (which parallels the island margin) and interior marshes. Oiling of emergent marshes and banks on outer margins is secondary concern. Avoid trampling vegetation: small endangered plants and animals are present.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Vessels beware of submerged objects and shallows at margins.

### SITE STRATEGIES

There are many pilings and shallows along this margin: watercraft should be very shallow draft and capable of grounding.

Strategy 2-752.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering inner channels and marshes by exclusion booming of the openings of the outer levee.

Place 8x8+ curtain boom across each of the 9 openings. Anchor near shore but leave a trailing end to maintain tidal seal. Use 300' Harbor boom (9X9) or double boom or back with sorbent to catch escaping oil for west tip where wind chop is likely to lift oil over the boom flotation. 1500 ft of boom needed per NRC exercise of strategy

Strategy 2-752.2 Objective: Protect emergent marsh at east tip and pocket cove near west tip against oil penetration

This strategy is based on the predominant winds which blow waves away from this shore rather than onto it: if waves are from the south or southwest, larger boom (9x9+) and double booming will be necessary. Under mild wind exposures, lay 600 ft of 4x4 harbor boom across pocket cove mouth which is 1000 ft east of west end. Lay 2500 ft of 4x4 boom from east tip to west along the edge of the emergent vegetation and shore: (this protective boom should be linked to protective strategy for Spoonbill Creek east mouth). Run boom ends landward to complete a tidal seal.

### 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
2-752.1	300		1200	300	30 12/12+/danforths & 18 stakes	2	1		Bboat: shallow draft	8	
2-752.2	0	3100			5 5/22+/anchors & stakes	3	2		Bboats: shallow draft	13	

### LOGISTICS

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

Site has only water access. Water access is one mile west from Pittsburg or 2 miles east of McAvoy's. This site is the southerly exposure of Chips Island to Suisun Bay and all the associated interior island channels.

**LAND ACCESS:** NO VEHICLE ACCESS

**WATER LOGISTICS:** SHALLOW AND PILINGS

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Launch and complete marina facilities are available at Harris' or McAvoy's Marinas 2 miles west, and at Pittsburg Marina and public ramp to east.

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

Both Pittsburg and Harris' or McAvoy's provide excellent staging or deployment sites. Diverse facilities are available at both. Security can be an issue at Pittsburg.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:** none known

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

