

County: **Sacramento**USGS Quad: **Rio Vista**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

3 8 00

Longitude W

121 00

NOAA Chart: **18661 Sacramento & San Joaquin River**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Site extends from the Sacramento mouth of 3-mile Slough to reunion of Horseshoe Bend at south tip of Decker Island and includes a restored (2001) wetland at the north tip of Decker Island (DWR). This wide riverine habitat is confined between leveed banks. The reach has emergent tule marshes along most of its length and is premium Delta smelt spawning habitat. Uplands are trees and shrubs including many mature trees. Water margins are shallow and marshy with some extensive emergent patches particularly near the mouth. Portions are riprapped. The restored marsh at the north tip opens on the Horse Bend side of the Island. There are two islands in the reach which have been developed as residences or marina/mobile parks, but most of the shoreline is undeveloped and natural.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Marshy areas at this site have "A" priority at all times. Seven Special Status Species occur at or near this locale.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

There are some extensive emergent marshy habitats, along both margins of the channel, which have great value for Delta smelt spawning as well as typical marsh values. Uplands have well developed riparian growth. Even revegetations have well developed grasses, shrubby and trees. The aquatic habitat varies from deep and swift to shallow warm pockets.

Many raptor, canopy and riparian bird species occur here. Greater sand hill cranes winter in the neighboring interior of Sherman Island. The area also supports a diversity of waterbirds and marsh birds.

This site is excellent habitat for semiaquatic species of mammals and reptiles, amphibians and possibly western pond turtles.

A wide variety of fish, particularly migrant fish use this habitat. This is in the zone of high concern for winter-run chinook (F/SE) smolts and has relatively high abundance of Delta smelt (FT/SE) during November and December.

In the luxuriant riparian and emergent vegetation here, Mason's lilaeopsis (SR), and Suisun marsh aster can be found.

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
TL	Ron Breen	CA Dept. of Parks & Recreation	(916) 445-7373
O	Robert Clark	North Delta Water Agency	(916) 446-0197
	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

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-804 -A Site Strategy - Sacramento River, Horseshoe Bend, Decker Island**2-804 -A**

County and Thomas Guide Location

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

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Concern for this site is secondary to keeping oil in Sacto River from moving into Threemile Slough and spreading to San Joaquin side of the Delta. Concerns within the site is oil penetrating the small marsh in the tip of Decker Island and the emergent marshes along the length. Beaver burrows and riprap are also places where oil may become lodged.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Roads are narrow and winding with narrow shoulders and low visibility curves in spots, and traffic on Hwy 160 (east levee) is fast and poses hazards: traffic control should be implemented at this site. Channel margins have thick vegetation, shallows and soft bottoms. Aerial traffic beware of occasional power wire crossings.

SITE STRATEGIES

The open area of Sacramento River at north end and south end is subject to strong currents and winds commonly exceeding 20 knots. Waters in lee of Decker Island is relatively protected from wind and waves. Boom can be delivered to Brannon Isl State Park or levees.

Strategy 2-804.1 Objective: deflection-exclusion booming: keep oil in main Sacramento River channel and out of 3-mile Slough and Horseshoe Bend.

Deploy deflection-exclusion boom in wide chevron to deflect oil past site and keep it in main channel. Use 4800 of 9X9+ curtain boom leaving trailing boom ends to maintain tidal seal.

Strategy 2-804.2 Objective: Exclude oil from north mouth and divert it to shore for collection.

Deploy 1700 ft 9x9+ exclusion-collection boom from the north tip of Decker Island at a diagonal to the Sherman Island levee for collection. Use 50 ft Oil Snare (OS), 100 ft of sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate. Contact IC if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities.

Strategy 2-804.3 Objective: Exclude/deflect past at south mouth of Slough.

Deploy 2300 ft of 9X9+ exclusion-deflection boom across mouth in a shallow chevron from Sherman Island to Decker Island, leaving trailing ends to ensure tidal seal. Additional booming or sorbent booming may be necessary inside the mouth to deter oil movement if the outer chevron fails.

Strategy 2-804.4 Objective: Oil Collection with Shoreside skimming system if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities

Set up shore side skimming (SSS) operation at levee. Back with sorbent boom if entraining or escapement is likely. Consult IC prior to initiation of strategy.

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
2-804.1	4800				14 70/50lb/anchors + Chain + Line	4	2			16	
2-804.2	1700		50 OS	100	5 5/25lb/danforth anchors	2				6	
2-804.3	2300				6 25/50lb/danforth	2				6	
2-804.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 SSS	0		

LOGISTICS

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

Via water, the site begins two miles north of the Rio Vista Bridge where the Sacramento River branches off Cache Slough and the Sacramento Deep Water Channel. By vehicle, the site begins two miles north of the Hwy 12 Rio Vista Bridge on Hwy 160. Site extends from the Sacramento mouth of 3-mile Slough to reunion of Horseshoe Bend at south tip of Decker Island and includes a restored (2001) wetland at the north tip of Decker Island (DWR).

LAND ACCESS: ALL WEATHER & TRAFFIC ON

WATER LOGISTICS: ACCESS LIMITED DUE TO VEGETATION

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Launch facilities are available at Rio Vista or Brannon Island State Park.
and Services Available:

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

Rio Vista USCG station or Brannon Island State Park would serve well as a staging or command site for this area. Either could be used as a deployment site as well. Rio Vista is the nearest locale with full support services, food, lodging, emergency service, marine repair, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

