

County: **Solano**
USGS Quad: **Liberty Island, Dozier, Rio Vista**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N
38 14.5

Longitude W
121 40.9

NOAA Chart: **18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site includes Prospect Slough and marshes on both sides near its mouth as well as its upstream tributaries and Liberty Island which is flooded and has a large opening on Cache Slough just to the west of Prospect Slough mouth but multiple openings on Prospect and Shag Sloughs as well. Included are over 3000 acres in Liberty Island and 10 miles of marshy/riparian waterways and adjacent marshes. Ownership is not clear at this time. This winding, marshy, dead-end slough has extremely rich marsh and riparian growth throughout its length including channel islands. Portions are leveed but much is not. It has many shallows and snags. This habitat is rich in aquatic, marsh and terrestrial life. Liberty Island flooded in 2000 and has been evolving as a cattail-tule marsh ever since. The Sloughs are DMRP Designated Natural Resource Area with Significant Habitat Values and a DFW/NHD designated Significant Natural Area. It is very scenic. This site is the outlet for the Yolo Bypass.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

This marshy area is of "A" priority at all times. This is prime Delta smelt spawning area. Winter-run chinook smolts are of great concern from Sept through May.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Shallow water wetlands are prominent throughout the site. Many emergent and woody marshes and wetlands. Mature riparian stands. Important spawning habitat for Delta smelt.

Area is of major importance to migratory waterfowl and other waterbirds. Raptors and riparian species are abundant.

This is outstanding habitat for semiaquatic mammals such as river otters, beavers, mink and muskrat.

Prospect Slough is a major spawning area for Delta smelt (FT/SE). It is also in the zone of highest concern for winter-run chinook from mid-September to June. This is an important smolt rearing area when the Yolo Bypass floods.

Emergent growth typifies this area.

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
OL	State Water Project Ops C	CA Dept. of Water Resources	(916) 574-2714
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:

2-860 -A Site Strategy - Prospect Slough and Liberty Island

County and Thomas Guide Location

Solano

NOAA CHART

18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER

2-860 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

38 14.5 121 40.9

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

This is an extensive marsh/riparian area (including the 3000+ acres inside Liberty Island) which can be best protected by excluding or deflecting oil to collection at the mouth to avoid penetration of oil into wetlands. Penetration of oil into banks through invertebrate and mammal burrows and tree root channels. Minimize disturbance of wildlife and trampling vegetation; there are small endangered plants and animals in the area.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Aerial traffic beware of overhead power wires. Watercraft beware of snags and shallows. Pedestrian hazards include: Poison Oak, riprap, and thick vegetation.

SITE STRATEGIES

This site is the outlet of the Yolo Bypass and has heavy downstream flows when the Sacramento River is bypassing. Flood flows are magnified by the flooding of Liberty Island. Currents at levee breaks can be formidable.

Strategy 2-860.1 Objective: exclusion boom Prospect Slough mouth and marsh and upper Cache Slough openings to Liberty Isl.

Exclude oil from traveling into Prospect Slough, Liberty Island and nearby marshes.

- Execute strategy 2-850.3 Exclusion to shore confinement/collection to keep oil from moving up Cache Slough and entering levee breaks in Liberty Island.
- across open water of the mouth itself, lay 1300' of 9x9+ harbor boom backed with sorbent
- across marshy area from Prospect Slough mouth to the high ground near the ship channel, lay 2200' of 4X4+ boom backed with sorbent., at the west end, angle boom out toward the center channel to divert oil away from the mouth; leave trailing boom lengths to promote sealing during tidal flux.

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 kinds	comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-860.1	1300	2200		3500	6	6/25lb/danforths	2	1					8	

LOGISTICS

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

Vehicle access here is seasonal and via private levee roads. All year access to road across Cache Slough from mouth: levee road 7 miles north from Rio Vista via Hwy 84, also Sacto Ship Channel levee. By water from Rio Vista north up the Sacramento River and then half mile west of the Sacramento Deep Water Channel along the northerly bank. This site includes Prospect Slough and marshes on both sides near its mouth as well as its upstream tributaries and Liberty Island which is flooded and has a large opening on Cache Slough just to the west of Prospect Slough mouth but multiple openings on Prospect and Shag Sloughs as well. Included are over 3000 acres in Liberty Island and 10 miles of marshy/riparian waterways and adjacent marshes. Ownership is not clear at this time.

LAND ACCESS: LEVEE MAY BE GOOD WHEN DRY

WATER LOGISTICS: GOOD AT MOUTH EXCEPT IN SHALLOW

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Private boat launch on east side (near Miner Slough Mouth) but needs to be cleared prior to use. Real McCoy Ferry (Hwy 84) can be used as a launch site. Launch, moorage and fuel are also available at Steamboat Slough and Rio Vista.

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

Real McCoy Ferry has large deployment site. Another deployment site is past mouth of Prospect Slough but access is limited. Rio Vista has a full range of support facilities.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

