

County: **San Joaquin**
 USGS Quad: **Thornton**

Thomas Guide Location

SF Bay and Delt

NOAA Chart: **18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER**

Latitude N

38 08.5

Longitude W

121 30.2

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This dead-end slough extends from its mouth at its junction with the South Mokelumne River about 5 miles to its terminus. It is a DMRP designated Natural Resource Area with Significant Habitat Values. There are a number of ecologically rich marshy channel islands. Margins mostly heavily ripped but with pockets of emergent marsh vegetation and scrub shrub. Snags and shallows are common for this low energy slough. It becomes fairly narrow with shallow water towards its end.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Marsh and riparian vegetation zones are of "A" concern year-round. Special Status Species here include: winter-run chinook, of concern Sept 15 - May 31. Rare plants in slough margins: Mason's lilaeopsis. Birds: Swainson's hawk and greater sandhill crane.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The channel islands are prime natural habitat and freshwater marshes. The bordering levee is disturbed as a result of riprap but still has good vegetation. Aquatic community is typical for delta including wandering migrant salmonids. This is considered a prime fishing area.

Swainson's hawk (ST) and greater sandhill crane (ST) are sensitive species which occur in this area. Riverine species include waterfowl and marsh birds.

The channel islands are used by riverine mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The levees are used by mammals and reptiles which can use or pass though disturbed and patchy habitat. Habitat may be suitable for western pond turtle.

Salmon smolts (particularly winter-run chinook) are known to wander through this area during downstream migration. Striped bass and warmwater fish are heavily fished here.

Emergent vegetation occurs throughout site.

Sensitive plants occur here including Mason's lilaeopsis.

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	Dominick Gulli	Terminus Tract Reclamation District	(209) 478-6525
	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
E	Henry Matsunaga	Sherman Reclamation District	(916) 448-2821
E	Chris Neudeck	Mandeville Island Reclamation District	(209) 946-0268
OEL	Dab Nomellini President	Central Delta Water Agency	(209) 465-5883

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-882 -A Site Strategy - Sycamore Slough

County and Thomas Guide Location

SF Bay and Delt San Joaquin

NOAA CHART

18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER

2-882 -A

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

The concern is two-fold: first, that oil will be transported though this site to other parts of the delta; and second, that marshy islands and margins will be come oiled. These marshy areas are sensitive and habitat to many sensitive species, including a nearby heron rookery at Sycamore Island: KEEP HELICOPTERS AWAY. There is always the concern of impacts from response and cleanup: trampling vegetation, disturbing wildlife, and tracking oil into marshes and muds.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Riprap poses slip, trip and fall hazards. Vessels beware of submerged objects and shallows at margins.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-882.1 Objective: Exclusion booming across the mouth.

Set 300 ft of 6X6 boom completely across slough mouth using levees as anchor points, leaving a trailing boom length to maintain seal during tidal vacillations. Back with sorbent.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no tvpe and dear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or No and kinds	comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-882.1	0	300		300	2 2/15/DANFORTH	0	1				2	

LOGISTICS

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

Key access to site is from levee Roads: I-5, exit Turner Rd and continue north on Thornton and west on Woodbridge to access north levee road; or Glascock Rd north from Hwy 12 to south levee. Water access is South Mokelumne River north from Terminus (2.5 mi) or south from New Hope Landing (8 mi). This dead-end slough extends from its mouth at its junction with the South Mokelumne River about 5 miles to its terminus.

LAND ACCESS: LEVEE ROADS GOOD EXCEPT WET

WATER LOGISTICS: SHALLOW & SNAGS

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Marina and boat launch 2 river miles south at Terminus at Hwy 12 or 6.5 miles up-river at New Hope Landing at Thornton Road.

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

Adjacent levees should be adequate as long as roads are passable. There are roads leading to levees from the east and material may be staged nearby. Otherwise transport material by skiff.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

