

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

Thomas Guide Location

SF Bay and Delta

NOAA Chart: **18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER**

Latitude N

38 08.7

Longitude W

121 30.5

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site is a marshy, brushy island in a curve of the River just above Sycamore Slough. This small island is a DMRP designated Natural Resource Area with Significant Habitat Values. Most of the island is covered with shrubby willows, and a large heron rookery mostly on the westerly side. The east side is inundated and eroding because of wave wash from river and traffic, and is particularly vulnerable to oil intrusion. Water flow on east side tends to be swift while flow on west side tends to be lazy, in an enveloping bend. There are pilings at the northeast margin.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

This area is particularly sensitive nesting site for blackcrown night herons during spring and summer nesting and at night. 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; plants in slough margins: Mason's lilaeopsis; birds: Swainson's hawk and greater sandhill crane.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The island is a particularly valuable natural marsh because it is a heron rookery. Aquatic community is of secondary concern.

This is a blackcrowned night heron rookery. Swainson's hawk and greater sandhill crane 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. Habitat may be suitable for western pond turtle.

Emergent vegetation dominates this channel island.

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	Terminous 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:

2-884 -A Site Strategy - Sycamore Island

County and Thomas Guide Location

SF Bay and Delta San Joaquin

NOAA CHART

18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER

2-884 -A

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

This is a very sensitive site because of the bird use. KEEP HELICOPTERS AWAY from this site. Concerns are penetration into the marshy areas, woody cover. Cleanup would be impossible during breeding season and inadvisable at other times. No helicopters may be flown within a mile of this site. Keep disturbance to a minimum.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

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

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-884.1 Objective: Phase I: Stop oil from penetrating or oiling the island by placing exclusionary boom across the channel meander and the east side.

Set 1500 ft of 4X4 or better boom completely across the meander channel and east side of island. Anchor one boom end near levee to north and lay boom across channel mouth to island, then along island and continue to levee across downstream channel. Leave a trailing boom length to maintain seal during tidal vacillations. Back with sorbent.

Strategy 2-884.2 Objective: Phase II: Divert oil away from island side of river toward the east bank to minimize exposure of island to oil.

Run 300 ft 6X6 boom diagonally downstream across Mokeleumne River. Anchor upstream end 75 ft upstream from exclusion boom. Use downstream anchor point as possible skim/collection site.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no tvpe and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-884.1	0	1500		1500	4 4/15/DANFORTH	0	2			4	
2-884.2	0	300			2 2/15/danforth	0	1			4	

LOGISTICS

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

Key access to this island site is water access via South Fork Mokelumne River north from Terminous or south from New Hope Landing. Road support from east side via I-5, exit at Turner Rd and continue north on J8 and west on Woodbridge Rd to access levee roads which border the slough. This site is a marshy, brushy island in a curve of the River just above Sycamore Slough.

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 Terminous 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. Either levee (Staten Island or Brack Tract) can be used to off-load boom from ground transport. All weather roads approach this site from both east and west. Otherwise transport material by skiff.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

