# 1-215-A Site Summary - Redwood Creek

#### County: Humboldt ACP Division/Segment: HM - B - S01

NOAA Chart: 18600

Map Book: CA Road Atlas

Decimal Degrees: 41.29234 -124.09198

# Site Description:

Redwood Creek is managed by the National Park Service as part of Redwood National and State Parks. Site is adjacent to the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Redding Rock SMCA. The mouth of Redwood creek forms a small estuary that can be open to tidal influence during high creek flows. The associated wetlands are highly sensitive to oiling. The response site extends from the mouth of the creek to the upper end of tidal influence within the estuary. There is considerable large woody debris on the north side of the estuary and on the beach north to Mussel Point. There is an armored levee upstream of the mouth to prevent flooding in the area which modifies hydrology of the creek mouth, oxbow and estuary. The shoreline at the mouth of the creek provides haulout habitat for marine mammals and is also a popular spot for fishing during salmonid migrations. This is an important location for commercial fishermen targeting day/night fish and surf perch. Fine to medium-grained sandy beach and estuary with brackish and freshwater marsh habitat.

Shorebirds, waterbirds, seabirds, raptors can be found here year-round including: bald eagle (SE), peregrine falcon, and osprey. Western snowy plover (FT,SSC)(01-12)-nesting period (04-07), California brown pelican (04-11), marbled murrelet (FT,SE)(01-12) feed in open waters. This is a popular haulout area for marine mammals when the mouth is open to tidal influence. River otters and mink present. Fish include anadromous salmonids: coho (FT,ST) and chinook (FT) salmon, steelhead (FT) and coast cutthroat (SSC) trout - spawning runs (08-06)- juveniles/smolts (02-11). Eulachon (FT,SSC), Pacific lamprey (SSC), tidewater goby (FE). Northern red-legged frog (SSC) in nearby wetlands. Plants of concern if heavy equipment is used include beach layia (FE, SE), seaside pea (CNPS List 2.1), pink sand verbena and Wolf's evening primrose (both CNPS List 1B.1).

# **Resources at Risk:**

ESI and Habitat: 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

10B Freshwater marshes3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity	
Birds	marbled murrelet	FT, SE	Year-round		
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Apr-Sep	
Birds	common loon	FP, SSC	Year-round		
Fish	salmonids		Year-round		
Fish	eulachon	FT	FT Year-round		
Fish	Pacific lamprey	SSC	C Year-round		
Mammals	pinnipeds	FP	Year-round		
Plants	sensitive plant community		Year-round		

# List of Resources at Risk:

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

### List of Key Contacts:

Туре	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
С	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
С	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
Е	/	Redwood National and State Parks	(707) 464-6101
0	/Supervisor Ranger (24hr)	NORCOM State Parks Dispatch	(916) 358-1300
Т	/	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service-Arcata	(707) 822-7201
Т	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service-Arcata Field Office	(707) 822-7201
Т	1	Yurok Tribal Office, Klamath	(707) 482-1350

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

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# **Additional Site Summary Comments:**

For further information about coastal access in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Commission's California Coastal Access Guide. For photos of the coastline in this area, please refer to the California Coastal Records Project (www.californiacoastline.org).

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

### **Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Oiling of estuary could cause long term damage to sensitive wetlands and important habitats. Contact Redwood National & State Parks for guidance prior to initiating any response due to listed species in area and limited access. Consider booming the confluence of Redwood Creek and South Slough/Strawberry Creek for additional habitat protection if time allows.

#### Hazard and Restrictions:

Heavy winter runoff may complicate boom strategy. Armored levee may complicate booming strategy.

### Site Strategies:

#### Site Validation Level: II

*Strategy:* **1-215.1** *Objective:* Arrest oil spread near the mouth of Redwood Creek on an incoming tide. *Strategy:* Place boom across the channel from the north bank to the south bank to direct incoming oil to a suitable collection site.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size Unit	QTY Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	2000 feet		
Staff	Staff to Deploy		6	
Staff	Staff to Tend		4	

*Strategy:* **1-215.2** *Objective:* Shoreline Pre-Clean: Resource Specialist Supervision Required *Strategy:* Send in hand crews or heavy equipment to move large woody debris to high ground on the beach and out of the path of oil before it arrives. The number of workers required will be determined by the amount of debris on the beach.

Table of Response Resources

#### Last Page Update

### Logistics:

*Directions:* From Eureka, go north on Hwy 101 for 40-miles, go past Freshwater lagoon and make a left turn following the signs to the Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center of the Redwood National & State Parks. The mouth of Redwood Creek is a short walk north of the visitor center. Access to the north of the estuary: continue N. on Hwy 101, cross the Redwood Creek bridge, turn L on Hufford Rd, follow Hufford Rd and Fishing Access signs to single lane dirt road along north levee with parking lot at end. Bridge limit 12 tons. Primitive boat launch here behind locked gate. Dirt road access to south levee behind locked gate.

Land Access: Locked gate access to the beach at Visitor Center

*On-Water Limitations:* Primitive small boat launch at end of north side levee behind locked gate (contact Redwood National & State Parks). Access from end of Hufford Rd.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* The Park's visitor center & parking lot could be used to provide the best large scale staging area between Eureka & Crescent City. Phones and restrooms are available in the center, and fuel, a small grocery store can be found just north on HWY 101 in the town of Orick. Lodging is very limited. Redwood National & State Parks Southern Operations Center (SOC) could also be used for local staging.

Communications Problems: Remote, limited communications

*Additional Operational Comments:* For Redwood Creek flow gauge information see: https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/11482500/#parameterCode=00065&period=P7D

