# 1-470-A Site Summary - Salmon Point and Big Salmon Creek

County: Mendocino ACP Division/Segment: MN - F - S05

NOAA Chart: 18626

Map Book: CA Road Atlas

Decimal Degrees: 39.2138 -123.77583

# Site Description:

This site includes the mouth of Big Salmon Creek and nearby shoreline of Whitesboro Cove and Salmon Point. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Rocky bluffs, offshore rocks, and tidal inlet to Big Salmon Creek. Fine- to medium-grained sandy beach on the northside of the creek. Fringing marsh within Big Salmon Creek.

Limited area of habitat impact on extreme high tides where oiling, and the resulting need for cleaning, could be minimized especially when dealing with persistant products. Seabirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors. Nesting seabird colonies include pelagic cormorant, pigeon guillemot, black oystercatcher, western gull (03-09). The small marsh is visited by foraging grebes, shorebirds and waterfowl including mergansers. California brown pelican (04-11), osprey (01-12), Canada geese. Anadromous salmonids include chinook (FT) and coho salmon (FE,SE), steelhead (FT): spawning runs (09-06), juveniles/smolts (02-08); groundfish (EFH), red abalone. Sensitive plant communities include coastal bluff morning-glory, Mendocino coast paintbrush and perennial goldfields (all CNPS 1B.2).

## **Resources at Risk:**

ESI and Habitat: 2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

## List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Birds	shorebirds		Year-round	
Birds	waterfowl		Year-round	
Birds	raptors		Year-round	
Fish	chinook salmon - Winter-run	FE, SE	Year-round	Oct-May
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr

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
0	/24hr	CalFire Howard Forest Emergency Command	(707) 459-5336
0	/	Mendocino County Sheriff's Department	(707) 463-4086
т	/	Bureau of Land Management, Coastal Natl. Monum	(831) 582-2200
Т	/	California Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Fort Bragg	(707) 964-9078
Т	/	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service-Arcata	(707) 822-7201
Т	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service-Arcata Field Office	(707) 822-7201

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:**

Breeding seabirds will use these rocks for nesting in the spring. Offshore rocks provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and haulout locations for marine mammals. Care should be taken so that response activities do not flush wildlife from these areas. The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round, especially during nesting season (03-09) when the adults are on eggs and until the young have fledged from the nest. The offshore rocks have cultural significance for local tribes.

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:**

The rugged coastline will prevent onshore response over most of this area. Off-site measures including dispersants should be considered when a spill threatens to impact this area. Overflights should be careful to maintain flight path and altitude clearance distances that are large enough to prevent the flushing of birds and marine mammals from their nests, roosts, and haulouts on the offshore rocks in this area.

## Hazard and Restrictions:

Extreme currents, offshore rocks, high energy shoreline

#### Site Strategies:

#### Site Validation Level: II

# Strategy: 1-470.1 Objective: Erect Filter Fence

Strategy: Movement of oil upstream could be minimized by the installation of filter fence.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size Unit	QTY Unit	Last Page Update
Other Boom	Pom-pom	200 feet		
skimmer			1	
fence material				
Staff			3	

## Logistics:

*Directions:* From Hwy 101 at Cloverdale, take Hwy 128 to Hwy 1 at the mouth of the Navarro River. Go north on Hwy 1 to M.P. 43.50 at the north end of Salmon Creek bridge and turn west on Spring Grove Road (county route 401). Proceed downhill on private drive to residences along creek mouth. Salmon Point is accressible from private residences at the end of Pacific Reefs Rd south of the Salmon Ck bridge.

Land Access: Foot access only.

On-Water Limitations:

ACP 1 North Coast

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* No staging in this area *Communications Problems:* Remote, limited communications.

