

# 1-350 -A Site Summary- South Humboldt Bay

1-350 -A

County: **Humboldt**  
USGS Quad: **Cannibal Isl., Fields Landing**

Thomas Guide Location  
CA Road Atlas  
NOAA Chart: **18622**

Latitude N      Longitude W  
40 42' 30"      124 15'

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

## SITE DESCRIPTION:

This is the protection site to collect oil that is moving south in Hookton Channel and into south Humboldt Bay. This response site is located at the Fields Landing Boat Ramp and on private property just north of the boat ramp. Large estuary complex with extensive marshes, eelgrass meadows, and sheltered tidal flats exposed at low tide.

## SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The south bay is home to the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge which provides habitat for 100's of species and 1000's of individual birds including migrating waterfowl.

## RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This is a high bird use area year round. Extensive eelgrass meadows.

Birds are a concern throughout the year. Coastal seabirds, wading birds, waterfowl. Important for brant en route to breeding grounds. California brown pelican (04-11), Marbled murrelet (FT,SE). Raptors including Bald eagle (SE), Peregrine falcon, Osprey; all (01-12).

Harbor Seal haul outs for molting and pupping in this area  
river otters

Anadromous salmonids: Coho (FT,ST) and Chinook (FT) salmon, Steelhead (FT) and Coastal Cutthroat (SSC) trouts:

- spawning runs (08-06)
- juveniles/smolts (pass through bay)

Larval and juvenile fish use area as rearing habitat

Invertebrates

Benthic invertebrates including several recreationally important clam species

Eelgrass meadow

## CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

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) 653-4082 and State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or Ms. Vicki Bates, Coordinator of the North Coast Information Center (707) 482-1822.

## KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
O		Pacific Gas and Electric	(707) 444-6545
T		Humboldt County Parks	(707) 445-7651
E		Humboldt County Sheriff	(707) 445-7251
C	Briana Fraley	Table Bluff Reservation Wiyot Tribe	(707) 733-5055
O	Suzie Howser Dock Master	Humboldt Bay Harbor District	(707) 443-0801
T	Eric Nelson Refuge Manager	Humboldt Bay NWR Complex	(707) 733-5406
O	Troy Nicolini	National Weather Service Woodley Island	(707) 442-2171

## 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](http://www.californiacoastline.org)).

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CA Road Atlas Humboldt

NOAA CHART  
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## CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Oiling of slough and marsh complexes in South Humboldt Bay could cause long term damage to important habitats including Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Avoid anchoring in eelgrass beds.

## HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Extensive mudflats, swift current in channel

## SITE STRATEGIES

This strategy will be most effective on flood tides to prevent oil from reaching further south. Vessel traffic in channel may complicate response.

Strategy 1-350.1 Objective: Deploy boom to strand oil on shore.

Deflection boom oil to collection sites or stranding sites in the south bay.

Strategy 1-350.2 Objective: On water recovery

On water recovery using either a towed boom array or with a towed barge skimmer.

## Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	Booms tvpe and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
1-350.1	1200	0	0	0	5	22+lb Danforth anchors	2	0	2	SSS	0	10	
1-350.2	100	0	0	0	0			2	1	SBS	0	2	

## LOGISTICS

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

- Access to the shores of South Humboldt Bay are limited by extensive wetland areas and mudflats, with the exception of the developed areas around Fields Landing and King Salmon.
- East side of South Bay: Go south on U.S. hwy 101 from Eureka to the King Salmon exit M.P. 73.046 and go west on Buhne Drive to King Salmon (town) and the Bay. Go south on U.S. hwy 101 from Eureka to the Fields Landing exit M.P. 70.844. Take Railroad Avenue to its end, the site of Fields Landing Boat Ramp.
- West side of South Bay: Go south on U.S. hwy 101 to Hookton Road overpass M.P. 68.116. From stop sign, continue west (straight ahead) on Hookton Road to Table Bluff Road. Continue in same direction. The road will become South Jetty and run the length of the South Jetty.
- Access by boat: Two hoist type facilities are available in King Salmon. A launching ramp (end of Railroad Ave.) and travelift (end of Depot Drive) are available in Fields Landing. This is the protection site to collect oil that is moving south in Hookton Channel and into south Humboldt Bay. This response site is located at the Fields Landing Boat Ramp and on private property just north of the boat ramp.

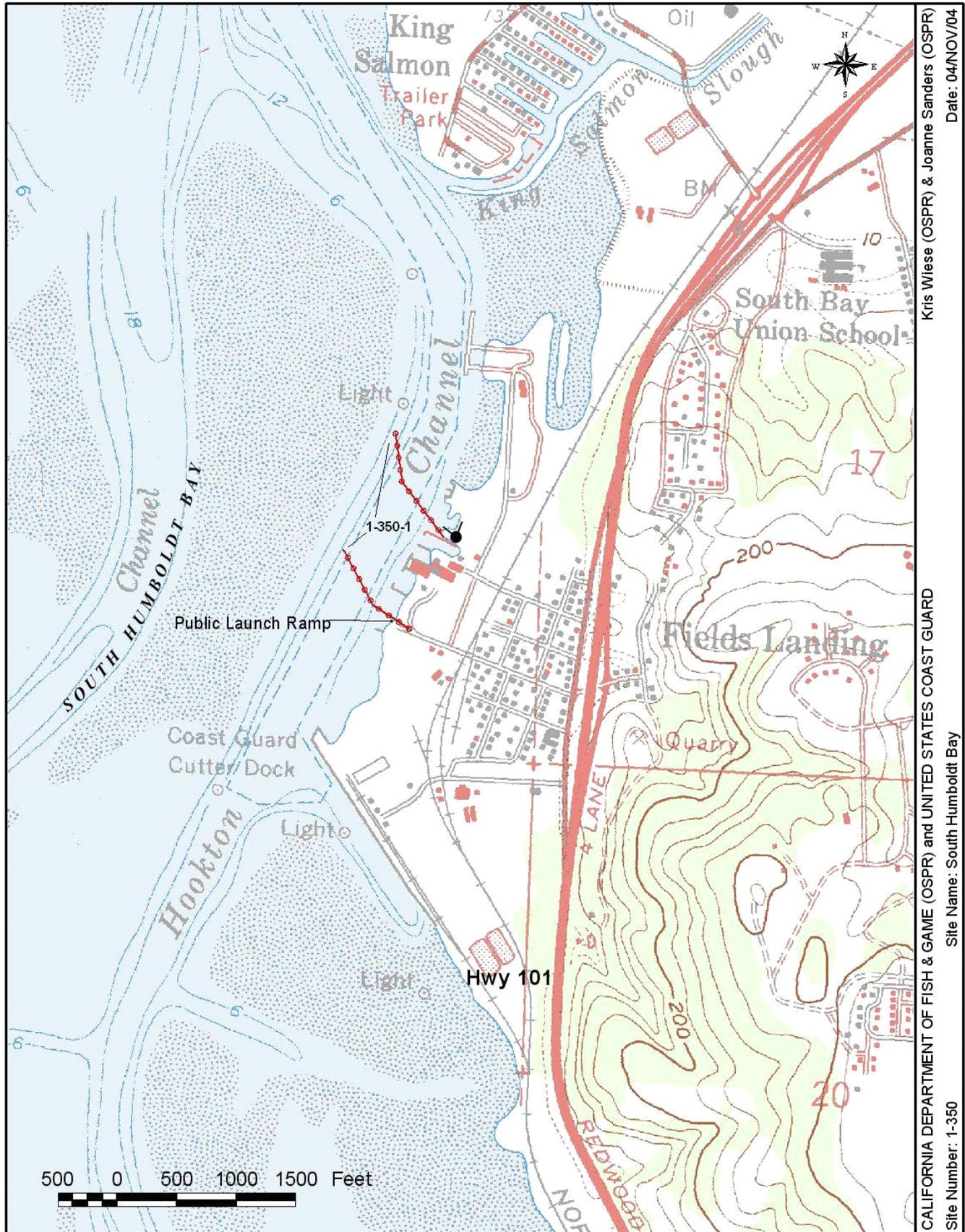
**LAND ACCESS:** Vehicle access to Fields Landing Boat Ramp

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Depth limitations may complicate vessel access.  
Limitations: depth, obstruction  
Launching, Loading, Docking Boat launch at Fields Landing  
and Services Available:

**FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:**  
Large parking lot at Fields Landing Boat Ramp may be appropriate for local staging.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:**

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME (OSPR) and UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
 Site Name: South Humboldt Bay  
 Site Number: 1-350  
 Kris Wiese (OSPR) & Joanne Sanders (OSPR)  
 Date: 04/NOV/04

