

County: **Mendocino**
 USGS Quad: **Albion**

Thomas Guide Location
 CA Road Atlas
 NOAA Chart: **18626**

Latitude N
 39 14'
 Longitude W
 123 47'

Last Page Update : 7/1/1996

SITE DESCRIPTION:

This site includes the mouth of Dark Gulch and shoreline in the vicinity. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument. Steep gradient coastal stream. Cobbled beach with kelp debris. Bedrock headlands. Offshore rocks and seastacks.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The rocks are sensitive to human intrusion year round. Response efforts that cause any disturbance to marine mammals or nesting seabirds should be avoided whenever possible.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Salmonid migrations would occur mostly during high water flow events during winter and spring. Oiling of the stream mouth could cause long lasting damage.

Seabird rookeries (03-09): rocky headlands, offshore rocks, and seastacks shelter Pelagic cormorant, Pigeon guillemot, Western gull, Black oystercatcher, Ashy storm-petrel

marine mammals

Anadromous salmonids: Coho salmon (FE, SE), Steelhead (FT):

- spawning runs (09-06)
- juveniles/smolts (02-08)

Groundfish (EFH)

Red abalone

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) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or Mr. Bryan Much, Coordinator of the Northwest Information Center (707) 588-8455.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
O		Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept.	(707) 463-4086
T	David Ledig Manager	BLM California Coastal National Monument	(831) 630-5006
O	Troy Nicolini	National Weather Service Woodley Island	(707) 442-2171
T	Joe Pecharich	NOAA/Nat'l Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 583-3189
T	Bill Pinnix	USFWS Arcata Field Office	(707) 845-6858

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).

1-466 -B Site Strategy - Dark Gulch

County and Thomas Guide Location
CA Road Atlas Mendocino

NOAA CHART
18626

1-466 -B

Latitude N Longitude W
39 14' 123 47'

Last Page Update :

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

The rugged coastline will prevent on shore 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 haul outs sanctuaries on the offshore rocks in this area.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Extreme currents, offshore rocks, high energy shoreline

SITE STRATEGIES

This site is best protected by preventing the oil from arriving here, when possible. Off site response options including dispersants should be considered.

Strategy 1-466.1 Objective: Prevent spilled oil from floating to this site.

Conventional on-scene response is not possible at this site. Protect with off-site response measures only.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	tyoe and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
1-466.1	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		Protect with off-site response measures only.		

LOGISTICS

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

From U.S. hwy 101 at Cloverdale, take state hwy 128 to state hwy 1 at the mouth of the Navarro River. Go north on hwy 1 to Heritage House Inn (M.P. 45.47). Beach accessible by foot only. A crane could access bluffs (80 feet above beach). Limited access by boats because of depth limitations. This site includes the mouth of Dark Gulch and shoreline in the vicinity. Offshore rocks in the area are managed by BLM as part of the California Coastal National Monument.

LAND ACCESS:

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction
Launching, Loading, Docking
and Services Available:

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

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: Remote, limited communications

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

