2-122-A Site Summary - Russian River Inlet - Mouth and Estuary

County: Sonoma ACP Division/Segment: SN - D - S003

NOAA Chart: 18640

Map Book: Sonoma County

Decimal Degrees: 38.450308 -123.124233

Site Description:

This large coastal river has a mouth that may vary from a few yards wide in summer to more than 100 yards wide in winter. Tidal influence reaches several miles upriver. Principal area of concern is the reach between the beach and Hwy 1 bridge which includes the Russian River State Marine Recreational Management Area. Beyond the mouth exists the Russian River State Marine Conservation Area. This is a large river inlet with sandy beaches to either side of the opening. Opening may close during the drier summer months, although large waves will wash over sand spit. Salt-marshes are on both banks of the river. The town of Jenner is located along the northern river bank.

Resources at Risk:

ESI and Habitat: 3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	bank swallow	ST	Mar-Aug	
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	Nov-May
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	chinook salmon - California coastal	FT	Year-round	Oct-May
Insects	Myrtle's silverspot butterfly	FE	Year-round	
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round	Mar-May
Plants	Tidestrom's lupine	FE, SE	Year-round	Apr-Jun

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	/Operations Center	Sonoma County Water Agency	(707) 523-1010
0	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	California Coastal Commission	(415) 693-8375
0	/Dispatch, 24-hr	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(916) 358-1300
0	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Sonoma County Sheriffs	(707) 565-2231
Т	/Natural Resources Specialist	BLM, CA Coastal National Monument	(831) 582-2200
Т	/Office	California State Parks, Russian River District	(707) 865-2394
Т	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 678-4943
Т	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311

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

Additional Site Summary Comments:

A number of sensitive plants occur in the area. Proceed with caution when conducting reconnaisance and when staging equipment in this location. A large group of harbor seals utilize this area as well as a diversity of birds.

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Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Prevent penetration of coarse sediments along riprap on north side of river. The concerns are oil contamination and response activity impacts to wetlands, rare and endangered species, and other vulnerable plants and wildlife which are present throughout the year. The primary objective is to minimize the exposure of oil to plants, animals and habitats present at this site. Other concerns are the impacts resulting from response activities. Avoid trampling wetlands, sensitive plants and animals, and soft mudflats, causing penetration of oil into the sediments and further injury to the environment.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Table of Response Resources

Extreme surf and swift current. Location and size of river mouth varies throughout the year.

Site Strategies:

Site Validation Level: II

Strategy: **2-122.1** *Objective:* Exclude oil from entering river.

Strategy: a) Under low flow conditions, neap tides, non-stormy seas: Construct sediment dike (coarse-grained sand) across river mouth. Build up berm.

b) Under other conditions (more typical): Deploy a line of deflection booms to divert oil to coarse-grained sand catchment area on south shore of river channel. Use 50ft oil snares, 100ft sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate. If skimmable oil accumulates contact IC.

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size Unit	QTY Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch	1200 feet	
Boom	Oil Snare (pom-pom)		50 feet	
Boom	Sorbent		100 feet	
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb	9	
Vessel	Skiff or Punt		1	
Staff	Staff to Deploy		5	

Strategy: **2-122.2** *Objective:* Prevent spread of oil to river and beach area.

Strategy: If catchment area is too limited, extend deflection booms from both sides of channel and divert oil to 50ft oil snares, 100ft sorbent boom. If skimmable oil accumulates contact IC.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size Unit	QTY Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor	9x9 inch	1200 feet	
Boom	Oil Snare (pom-pom)		50 feet	
Boom	Sorbent		100 feet	
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb	6	
Vessel	Skiff or Punt		1	
Staff	Staff to Deploy		5	_

Strategy: 2-122.3 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

Strategy: Use skimmer to collect oil when it accumulates in skimmable quantities. Get authorization from IC prior to using this collection strategy.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size Unit	QTY Unit	Last Page Update
skimmer	shoreside		1	
Staff	Staff to Deploy		3	

Logistics:

Directions: The inlet is located along Hwy 1 at Jenner. Access from Santa Rosa through Guernville or from Bodega Bay. Take Hwy 1 to Goat Rock Rd to reach the peninsula on the south side of the river mouth.

Land Access: Goat Rock Rd; Rivers End Resort, County Ramp - off Hwy 1

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On-Water Limitations: River shallow in areas, large surf offshore. Rivers End launch ramp on north side of river - Hwy marker 19 County ramp near Jenner Post Office, also north side of river.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Main staging area would be at Goat Rock State Park. Satellite staging area at River's End Resort.

Communications Problems: Cell reception varies on outer coast.

Additional Operational Comments: Access is difficult under adverse conditions.

