

**2-174-A Site Summary - White Gulch****2-174-A****County:** Marin **ACP Division/Segment:** MR - E - S008**NOAA Chart:** Bodega and Tomales Bays **Map Book:** Marin County 18643**Decimal Degrees:** 38.194641 -122.949349**Site Description:**

White Gulch is a small, sheltered, bay on west shore of Tomales Bay within Philip Burton Wilderness of Point Reyes National Seashore. Site lies within the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. A small bay lined with freshwater and salt-marsh vegetation. Eelgrass beds are present in the shallow water areas inside and offshore of the bay.

**Resources at Risk:**

*ESI and Habitat:* 9A Sheltered tidal flats  
9B Vegetated low banks

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	tri-colored blackbirds	FP, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Apr
Birds	waterfowl		Year-round	
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Fish	longfin smelt	ST	Year-round	Nov-May
Fish	Pacific herring		Year-round	Nov-Apr
Insects	Myrtle's silverspot butterfly	FE	Year-round	
Plants	salt marsh bird's beak	FE, SE	Year-round	May-Oct
Plants	eelgrass		Year-round	

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:**

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
E	/Owner	Hog Island Oyster Company	(415) 602-9281
O	/Director of Conservation Science	Audubon Canyon Ranch	(415) 663-8203
O	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	California Coastal Commission	(415) 693-8375
O	/Emergency Service Coordinator	Marin County Office of Emergency Services	(415) 250-0267
O	/Dispatch, 24-hr	Marin County Sheriff's Department	(415) 479-2311
T	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 678-4943
T	/Agency Representative, 24-hr	Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
T	/Park Ranger, 24 hr	US National Park Service, Point Reyes	(415) 464-5175

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

**Additional Site Summary Comments:**

There is a wide variety of birds present in high numbers in this area as well as several sensitive plants.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Considerable impact is possible to the extensive wetland around White Gulch and the eelgrass beds just offshore in the tidal areas. 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:**

Shallow water inside bay.

**Site Strategies:**

**Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 2-174.1 Objective:** Exclusion booming to prevent oil contamination to wetlands within White Gulch.

**Strategy:** Deploy 2000 feet of 6X6 swamp boom within White Gulch in two layers. Tidal currents are aggressive at mouth of Gulch. Set booms inside of Gulch, out of current. Boom should be set approximately halfway into Gulch. Anchor each boom end as close as possible to cliff face. Leave a trailing boom length on both sides for a tidal seal.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp	6x6 inch		2000	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		6		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			3		

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** Hwy 1 to Tomales Bay. This site is accessible only by water from launch ramps at Miller Park, Inverness, or Lawson's Landing.

**Land Access:** Unknown, but doubtful.

**On-Water Limitations:** Shallow water inside bay. Nearest launch ramps at Nicks Cove, Lawson's Landing and Inverness.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Staging at Nicks Cove or Lawson's Landing which also includes some facilities.

**Communications Problems:** Cell reception varies on outer coast.

