

County: **San Mateo**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

USGS Quad: **Redwood Point, California**

3 7 31

122 14

NOAA Chart: **18649/18650 Entrance to SF Bay**

Last Page Update : 10/1/2002

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Corkscrew Slough lies to the south of Bair Island and extends from Redwood Creek on the east to Steinberger Slough on the west. The easterly half of the slough is included in the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Corkscrew Slough is a water channel on the southwest shore of South San Francisco Bay, three miles south of the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge, on the back side of Bair Island. Primary water flow comes from Redwood Creek. Its banks are lined with cordgrass and pickleweed marsh.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

"A" priority all year. Endangered species are present all year. The greatest risk to harbor seals is during spring breeding season 15 March - 10 June: pups can ingest oil on female's fur during nursing; disturbance during brief lactation period (3-5 weeks) can reduce pup's survival after weaning. Moderate risk year-round from inhalation of volatile oil fractions and ingestion of contaminated prey.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Margins of the slough are cordgrass and pickleweed with fronting tidal mudflats.

Sensitive bird species found here include: Endangered - California clapper rail, California least tern; Threatened - western snowy plover; California Species of Special Concern: saltmarsh common yellowthroat, Alameda song sparrow. Also, California brown pelican, American peregrine falcon and large numbers of a wide variety of birds nest and winter here: shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds, and waterbirds.

Sensitive mammals species found here include: endangered salt marsh harvest mouse and California species of special concern - salt marsh wandering shrew. This is an important harbor seal pupping and haulout area.

The sloughs and mudflats are important habitat for fish, shellfish and infauna.

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison -(916) 653-9125), and the Northwest Information Center, (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College ((707) 332-1117)) for specific information on historic or cultural resources in this area.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
T	Joy Albertson	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222
E/T	Eric Mruz Mgr - Don Edwards NWR	US Fish & Wildlife Service, SF Bay (NWR)	(510) 792-0222

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-366 -A Site Strategy - Corkscrew Slough

County and Thomas Guide Location

San Mateo

NOAA CHART

18649/18650 Entrance to SF Bay

## 2-366 -A

Latitude N

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Last Page Update :

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

The concern is oil and response impacts to marsh, wildlife, including seal pupping, and rare and endangered birds, animals and plants which are present year-round. Primary objective is to minimize exposure by excluding oil from entering Corkscrew Slough. Always of concern is the impacts resulting from response and cleanup: avoid trampling marsh and sensitive plants and animals, avoid disturbing soft mudflats, and avoid trampling oil into marsh and mud.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Aircraft beware of overhead power lines nearby. Vessels be aware of shallow water and strong currents.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-366.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering Corkscrew Slough. Corkscrew Slough is an interior Slough between Steinberger Slough and Redwood Creek

- a) Protect from spills coming from the Bay by implementing Redwood Creek (2-365) and Steinberger Slough (2-363) strategies. The main flow of water into Corkscrew Slough is through Redwood Creek.
- b) Protection from spills in Redwood Creek (Port of Redwood City): Deploy 1200 ft of 9x9+ Hboom in a chevron, with a J hook on the deeper south side for collection, outside Slough mouth. Current swift inside mouth.
- c) Deploy 800 ft sorbent boom and/or hard boom inside the slough.

### Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	15 / 22+ / Danforth w chain & stakes	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-366.1	1200			800	15	15 / 22+ / Danforth w chain & stakes	2	0			very shallow Bboats	5	

### LOGISTICS

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

This site is accessible from water only, just bayward and across creek from Port of Redwood City. Nearest land access is Port and marina: Exit Hwy 101 on Seaport Blvd and proceed bayward to marina and Port. Corkscrew Slough lies to the south of Bair Island and extends from Redwood Creek on the east to Steinberger Slough on the west. The easterly half of the slough is included in the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

**LAND ACCESS:** Foot only, vehicles at harbor nearby.

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Very shallow near shore.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Port of Redwood City and marina.  
and Services Available:

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

Staging at Port of Redwood City. No road access to Bair Island.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:**

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

