

County: **Sacramento**
 USGS Quad: **Courtland, Bruceville**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

38 14.7

121 29.8

NOAA Chart: **18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER**

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Site extends from its intersection of the Delta Cross Channel and the Sacramento River to Snodgrass Slough and then southward to the North Mokelumne River. It does not include upper Snodgrass Slough (see 2-916). The site includes the unnamed cut between Dead Horse Island and McCormick Island and Dead Horse Island which is a restored wetland. The Delta Cross Channel is key to managing flood flows and water quality in the Delta since it connects Sacramento River flows to the central Delta via the Mokelumne River. It is strategic to oil spill containment in the Sacramento River to avoid spread to the central Delta and the Snodgrass Slough complex of wetlands. The gates can cutoff flow through the channel, providing flood conditions do not demand through-flow.

The lower portion of Snodgrass Slough has rich marsh and riparian growth along its length including channel islands. This habitat abounds with aquatic, marsh and terrestrial life.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

This marshy area is of A-priority at all times. This is a strategic site for oil spill containment.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Shallow water wetlands are throughout the site. Many emergent and woody marshes and wetlands: mature riparian stands are common. The major concern here is spread of oil to other sensitive areas from the Sacramento River.

Area is important for migratory waterfowl and other waterbirds. Raptors, including Swainson's Hawk (ST), and riparian species are common.

This is outstanding habitat for semiaquatic mammals such as river otters, beavers, mink and muskrat. Amphibians abound. This may be habitat for western pond turtles.

This is within the zone of highest concern for winter-run chinook from mid September to June.

Emergent growth typifies this area.

No sensitive plant species have been recorded here.

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
O	Robert Clark	NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3232
	John Henderson F/W Biologist	North Delta Water Agency	(916) 446-0197
		US Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Contam	(916) 414-6595
	Eric Larson	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Bay/Delta	(707) 944-5528

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

2-815 -A Site Strategy - Delta Cross Channel / Lower Snodgrass Slough

County and Thomas Guide Location

Sacramento

NOAA CHART

18662 SACRAMENTO RIVER

2-815 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

38 14.7 121 29.8

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary concern is to keep oil from spreading from Sacramento River to central Delta through this channel. Failure to contain oil spread here will result in widespread spill impacts to many other sites, particularly neighboring sites and marshes within the site. Oil can penetrate into banks through invertebrate and mammal burrows and tree roots. Minimize wildlife disturbance and vegetation trampling.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Aerial traffic beware of overhead power wires. Watercraft beware of snags and shallows. Pedestrian hazards include: Poison Oak, riprap, and thick vegetation.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-815.1 Objective: Exclude oil from entering Delta Cross Channel

1. Contact Dept Water Resources and request closure of Delta Cross Channel gates. Back gates with sorbent.
2. If gates cannot be closed, deploy deflection-exclusion boom at mouth and upstream deflection booms: (NOTE Booming would likely be required only during flood periods when extreme water level fluctuations are common: booms must be rigged to contend with level changes.)
 - a. deploy deflection boom across the Channel mouth into the flow of the Sacramento River in a shallow chevron configuration, to encourage oil to slide past mouth (600' 9x9+ exclusion-diversion boom);
 - b. Deploy two diversion booms from the east side upstream bank, to divert oil away from shoreline and into the center of the current. (500' 9x9+ each) This will require anchoring at both ends using multiple heavy anchors.

Strategy 2-815.2 Objective: Divert oil to shore for collection, if oil enters Delta Cross Channel from the Sacramento River.

Deploy two or more collection booms across channel on a long diagonal to land-based collection at favorable locales (600 ft of 6X6+ each). Anchor near shore leaving a trailing boom length to insure tidal seal. Back with sorbent boom. Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS), 100ft of sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate.

Strategy 2-815.3 Objective: If any oil enters site, execute exclusion 2-816.1at mouth to upper Snodgrass Slough and wetland complex: execute

see Snodgrass Slough Complex strategy 2-816.

Strategy 2-815.4 Objective: Oil Recovery with shoreside skimming

Deploy skimmers if oil accumulates in skimmable quantities. Move SBS skimming systems into the channel at favorable site to intercept oil if slicks are heavy as a result of strategy .2. Consult IC prior to initiation of this strategy.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Type	Special No	Equipment or and kinds	comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-815.1	1800			200	12	12/50lbs/danforth + chain + line	3	1						11	
2-815.2	0	1200	50 OS	700	4	4/25lb/danforths	1	1	2 portable					5	
2-815.3	0														
2-815.4	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	2 portable	0					

LOGISTICS

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

Vehicle access to the Cross Channel and Slough is the levee road along the north and south side of the Delta Cross Channel off of Hwy 160; it is unpaved and seasonal. Lower Snodgrass has an unpaved levee road on the Tyler Island shore. By water the site is accessible from the Sacramento River via the Delta Cross Channel or from the Walnut Grove Marina or from New Hope Landing.

Though traffic is only possible when Cross Channel gates are open: gates restrict the height of craft which can pass under.

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LAND ACCESS: LEVEE MAY BE GOOD WHEN DRY

WATER LOGISTICS: GOOD AT MOUTH EXCEPT IN SHALLOW AREAS

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: There are several boat launches on each side of the Cross Channel gates: including Boat House, Walnut Grove Marina, New Hope Landing.

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

The Cross Channel levees are adequate for land deployment and local staging. Walnut Grove has a wide variety, though limited quantity of resources. Delta Protection Commission Office has phone and fax resources.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: none known

