

County: **San Mateo**  
 USGS Quad: **Montara Mountain**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N  
3 7 32  
 Longitude W  
122 31

NOAA Chart: **18645,18680 Gulf of Farallons, Sur-SF**

Last Page Update : 1/1/2000

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

The site extends from Point Montara south to the light station. Montara State Beach lies adjacent to the north. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site lies within Montara State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. Exposed rock cliffs with wave cut terraces and pocket beaches. Beaches composed of coarse sand, granules, pebbles, Cobbles, and boulders. Low cliffs rise abruptly from beaches and surf zone. The area is exposed to aggressive surf and wave action. The Point Montara Lighthouse Hostel is situated on the cliff top above.

#### SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

#### RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

This piece of rocky coastline has wave-cut platforms and small coarse-grain pocket beaches with typical intertidal geology and biota. Coarse grain beaches are vulnerable to deep penetration of oils. This site is exposed to severe surf conditions seasonally.

Harbor seals haul-out on rocks throughout this area as sea conditions permit.

As is characteristic throughout this area, there is a rich rocky intertidal community here including the endangered black abalone.

#### CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

There are probably historic and cultural sites present. 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
E	San Mateo Coast Sector	CA State Parks	(650) 726-8819
T	24hr Sanctuary Personnel	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	(650) 479-5311
E		CA State Parks, Northern Comms Center (Dispatch)	(916) 358-0333
O	Jonathan Bishop Oil Spill Prgm Coord.	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5247
O	Alison Detmer	CA Coastal Commission	(415) 904-5205
T	David Ledig	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(831) 630-5006
T	Becky Ota Marine Conservation MGR	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
T	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656
T	Steve Wertz Senior Env.Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

#### ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

## 2-258 -B Site Strategy - Point Montara Area

County and Thomas Guide Location

San Mateo

NOAA CHART

18645,18680 Gulf of Farallons, Sur-SF

## 2-258 -B

Latitude N

3 7 32

Longitude W

122 31

Last Page Update : 7/1/2005

### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary concern is the oiling of harbor seal haulouts. Oil may also penetrate coarse sediment beaches and cause asphalt formation. Because of the difficulty of protecting or cleaning this site due to cliffs, obstructions and sea conditions, the primary strategy is to deal with oil before it impacts the shore using alternative and conventional technologies.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

This is a rocky, cliffy coastline with slip and fall hazards and submerged obstacles to boat traffic. Aggressive surf can be hazardous to beach and nearshore personnel.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-258.1 Objective: offshore containment and recovery activities to minimize or avert oil from impacting shoreline habitats and wildlife

This site is difficult to protect as is most of the outer coast. Mechanical shoreline protection techniques are not likely to be effective because of high wave energy and/or rocky conditions at this site.

- a) Recommended response strategy is on-water containment and recovery.
- b) Pursue feasibility of alternative response technologies (e.g. dispersants and in-situ burning) to reduce the volume of oil reaching the site.

### Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-258.1	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0 0		ART & On-Water Skimming		

### LOGISTICS

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

From Highway 1 in the city of Montara, turn west between 13th and 14th St. into unnamed driveway which leads to the Pt Montara Youth Hostel. Access by boat or from Pt. Montara Youth Hostel. The site extends from Point Montara south to the light station. Montara State Beach lies adjacent to the north. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site lies within Montara State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS:** Vehicle access to frontage road/through dunes to cliff drop-offs.

**WATER LOGISTICS:** cliffs and underwater rocks and wave-cut platforms.

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Nearest launching is Pillar Pt Harbor. Under favorable conditions, skiffs can be launched across the beach at Lindamar Beach

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

Best staging, equipment and services are available at Pillar Pt. Harbor and Half Moon Bay Airport.

### COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

### ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

