

County: **San Mateo**

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

USGS Quad: **Half Moon Bay/San Gregorio**

3 7 22

122 24

NOAA Chart: **18680 Point Sur to San Francisco Bay**

Last Page Update : 1/1/2000

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

This beach site extends from a headland to the south to a group of rocks at mid beach and a crescent beach to the north bounded with a headland. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources. The beaches are fine to coarse grained sand beach about a mile in total length for both beaches with sand grains becoming finer from north to south. Beaches have varied from steep to moderate grade. The beach is backed with bluffs which rise very steeply. The group of large rocks at mid beach is a remnant of a rocky headland and is favored by birds for roosting and seals haul out. There is a wave cut platform to the south of the rock outcrop and a small tombolo behind. Lobitos Creek mouth outlets here with a pool high on the beach. There is a small community of dwellings, residences and weekend cottages, and a store/restaurant. This remains a fee-use private beach get-away spot as it has been for decades. Contact personnel at the store upon arrival.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Sensitivity is seasonal: A-priority during smelt spawning Feb-July (night smelt) May-Aug (surf smelt). C priority the remainder of the year.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

The primary habitat here is a smelt spawning in the lower surf zone of the medium-coarse grain beach. The rocky formation provides roosting and haul out habitat. The wave cut platform and rocky formations are habitat for the diverse range of intertidal invertebrates. Lobitos Creek cascades steeply from the bluffs above and forms a small pool high on the beach above all but the highest surf.

A variety of sea birds roost and rest here including gulls and brown pelicans.

Harbor seals occasionally haul out on the rocks.

Smelt spawn on this beach as follows: Feb-July (night smelt) May-Aug (surf smelt).

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

There are probably historic and cultural sites present. 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	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	James Weigand	BLM Ca Coastal Monument	(916) 978-4656

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

## 2-266 -A/C Site Strategy - Martins Beach

County and Thomas Guide Location

San Mateo

NOAA CHART

18680 Point Sur to San Francisco Bay

## 2-266 -A/C

Latitude N

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### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update :

Primary concern is oil contamination and burial in coarse sands which could kill smelt eggs in the sandy intertidal beach. Of lesser concern are the birds and seals which rest on the rocks and the tide pool creatures on the rocky intertidal. This is the kind of beach where oil could become buried over night. The best place to deal with oil is the south end where oil and debris collects naturally.

### HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Off shore rocks and aggressive surf. Slips, trips and falls.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 2-266.1 Objective: Minimize or avert oil from impacting shoreline habitats and wildlife by offshore containment and recovery activities.

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.

Strategy 2-266.2 Objective: Exclude oil from Martins Creek with boom or berm when mouth is open or when surf is high enough to wash oil into this back beach marsh.

This small marshy lagoon may not need protection because often it is well above the high tide line. A site observation before deployment is recommended. If there is a threat from oil, block entrance of creek with boom and back with sorbent. A sediment berm may also work well.

Strategy 2-266.3 Objective: Diversion to collection during favorable sea conditions, divert oil past north cove/beach and direct oil to recovery on fine-grained beach at south end of beach.

Booming for beach protection is only possible under optimal sea conditions due to swell, surf and offshore rocks. Under optimal conditions, diversion booms may be placed off northerly headland and rocky midbeach to allow oil movement past the site or to the south end of the beach. Sand at south end of beach is fine and there is less problem of oil penetration. Use 50ft of Oil Snare (OS) and/or 100ft of sorbent boom to collect oil that may accumulate. If oil accumulates in skimmable quantities, contact IC.

Strategy 2-266.4 Objective: Oil Recovery by skimming

If oil accumulates in skimmable quantities as a result of strategy .3, establish a shoreside skimming system and the south end of the beach. Consult with IC prior to deployment 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 Equipment or comment and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
2-266.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		ART & On-Water Skimming		
2-266.2	0	0		50								2	
2-266.3	1000		50 OS	300	6	6/50+/danforths w 20ft heavy chain	2	1				5	
2-266.4	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	1	SSS	0		

### LOGISTICS

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

Drive 8 miles south from Hwy 92 on Hwy 1. Turn right on a private road marked with a sign for Martins Beach. This beach site extends from a headland to the south to a group of rocks at mid beach and a crescent beach to the north bounded with a headland. The area is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Site is associated with BLM Ca Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS:** Private Beach - Barbara @ 415-712-8020

**WATER LOGISTICS:** Off shore rocky outcrops and big waves

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Aside from beach launching which is feasible in optimal conditions, nearest facilities are at Pillar Pt. Harbor.

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

Small staging area on low bluff or on parking lot adjacent to store. Water, bathrooms, and limited food and refreshments area available. Land lines are available on site.

### COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

### ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

