

County: Santa Cruz **ACP Division/Segment:** SZ - A - S015**NOAA Chart:** 18680**Map Book:** 970**Decimal Degrees:** 36.99298 -122.17047**Site Description:**

Panther Beach is a small sand pocket beach that was historically named Yellow Bank Beach. The natural arch at the south end of Panther Beach leads to Hole in the Wall Beach which is only accessible at medium to low tides. Liddell Creek passes under Highway 1 through a bedrock tunnel. The creek forms a freshwater pond on the upstream side of the highway. Panther Beach is within Coast Dairies State Park which is managed under Wilder Ranch State Park. Property inland of Highway 1 is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Site upcoast boundary (36.993474°, -122.171561°), downcoast boundary (36.992452°, -122.170289°); length 0.11 miles. Site is within the Bureau of Land Management California Coastal National Monument and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Nesting seabirds in the surrounding area include black oystercatcher, pelagic cormorant, and pigeon guillemot.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT, SSC	Year-round	Nov-Mar
Birds	seabird colony		Year-round	Apr-Aug
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	pinnipeds	FP	Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	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
T	/Natural Resources Specialist	BLM, CA Coastal National Monument	(831) 582-2200
T	/Dispatch, 24-hr	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(916) 358-1300
T	/Emergency Responder, 24-hr	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 236-6797
T	/Agency Representative	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 575-6050
T	/Spill Response Coordinator	US Fish and Wildlife Service	(805) 644-1766

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

Additional Site Summary Comments:

Moderate recreational use.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Railroad tracks are not active.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Beach access is a steep footpath down a narrow gully. Vehicle access to bluff above the beach via gated farm road.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: II**

Strategy: 3-155.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

Strategy: Site access is a steep footpath down a narrow gully. High tides often break against the backshore cliffs at the creek mouth. During high outflow the creek may be naturally protected from tidal influence. Do not pursue land-based response when access is unsafe, access is restricted by tides, or when creek outflow provides sufficient natural protection. Offshore response only.

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

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Strategy: 3-155.2 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: When site access is safe and creek outflow is low, exclude oil with either filter fence or swamp boom. Selection of filter fence vs swamp boom will be determined by creek outflow conditions and site access conditions. Line swamp boom with sorbent boom. All equipment must be hand-carried via footpath.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit
Construction Fence		4 x 100 feet		1	roll
Oil Snare (pom-pom)				90	
T-post		6 feet		6	
Stake driver				1	
Staff				4	
Boom	Swamp			100	feet
Boom	Sorbent			100	feet
Stakes				4	

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Logistics:

Directions: Site is roughly 6.5 miles north of western Santa Cruz on Highway 1. Footpath access to beach: Parking area on hill above shoulder of Highway 1 southbound lane (36.991303°, -122.164807°), Postmile: Route 1 SCR 26.6; 70 parking spaces. Vehicle access to bluffs above beach: Gated dirt road off Highway 1 southbound lane 0.5 mi north of footpath parking area (36.995700°, -122.172909°), Postmile: Route 1 SCR 27.1.

Land Access: Beach access is a steep footpath that begins at the north end of the parking area. Vehicle access to bluffs above beach to transport supplies. No vehicle access to beach.

On-Water Limitations: Nearest vessel launch site is Santa Cruz Harbor (9 nautical miles).

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Parking area is on a hill above Highway 1, may be suitable for small staging area.

Communications Problems: Verizon, strong cell phone signal. AT&T and T-Mobile, weak cell phone signal.

