

**County:** Santa Cruz **ACP Division/Segment:** SZ - C - S006**NOAA Chart:** 18685**Map Book:** 992**Decimal Degrees:** 36.96135 -122.01797**Site Description:**

Cowell Beach is located west of the wharf and Santa Cruz Beach extends east of the wharf to the San Lorenzo River. The beaches and the wharf are managed by the City of Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz Beach is known locally as Main Beach. Site upcoast boundary (36.960295°, -122.025357°), downcoast boundary (36.963443°, -122.012106°); length 0.8 miles. Site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Pigeon guillemots nest under wharf and brown pelicans roost on the wharf. Sea lions haul out under the wharf.

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

1B Exposed solid man-made structures

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabird colony		Year-round	Apr-Aug
Insects	Ohlone tiger beetle	FE	Year-round	
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	California sea lion	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
E	/Office	City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation	(831) 420-5270
E	/Office	Santa Cruz Wharf, City of Santa Cruz	(831) 420-6025
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:**

Heavy recreational use. Surfing area. US Coast Guard Reserve Lifeguard Headquarters located on the wharf.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Heavy recreational use. Surfing area.

**Hazard and Restrictions:****Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 3-205.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

*Strategy:* Onsite protection is not feasible due to coastline type.

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

**Last Page Update****Logistics:**

*Directions:* Cowell Beach main parking lot (36.962391°, -122.024052°); 15 parking spaces. Santa Cruz Wharf (21 Municipal Wharf, Santa Cruz, CA 95060); 350 parking spaces. Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk main parking lot (515 Beach St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060); over 1,500 parking spaces.

*Land Access:* Cowell Beach vehicle access (36.962391°, -122.024052°). Santa Cruz Beach vehicle access (36.963739°, -122.021100°).

*On-Water Limitations:* Nearest vessel launch site is Santa Cruz Harbor (0.5 nautical miles).

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Paved parking lot along San Lorenzo River inland of the boardwalk can support a large staging area (River Lot, 6 acres). Restrooms at end of wharf and west of volleyball courts on Santa Cruz Beach.

*Communications Problems:* None.

