

County: Santa Cruz **ACP Division/Segment:** SZ - E - S001**NOAA Chart:** 18685**Map Book:** 973**Decimal Degrees:** 36.96915 -121.90657**Site Description:**

Site area includes Aptos Creek and the defunct concrete vessel, SS PALO ALTO, which rests at the end of Seacliff Pier. Aptos Creek forms a brackish lagoon with a small section of marsh habitat from the creek mouth to the Winfield Way bridge and then becomes riparian habitat upstream of the bridge. A natural sand berm forms at the creek mouth during low outflow and breaches during heavy rain events. The creek mouth location varies. Aptos Creek empties onto Seacliff State Beach. The last third of Seacliff Pier is closed to the public due to safety concerns. The SS PALO ALTO is inaccessible by land and becomes increasingly degraded and unstable due to annual winter storms and heavy swells. There are no protection strategies for the cement ship or pier. Seacliff Pier, Aptos Creek, and Rio Del Mar Beach are all within Seacliff State Beach property. Site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The SS PALO ALTO and pier support a Brandt's cormorant nesting colony and roosting for brown pelicans. The ship is a haulout for pinnipeds and sea otters.

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

8B Sheltered solid man-made structures

8C Sheltered riprap

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

1B Exposed solid man-made structures

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabird colony		Year-round	Apr-Aug
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Insects	Ohlone tiger beetle	FE	Year-round	
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	/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:

No protection strategies for the SS PALO ALTO or pier.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Compact heavy equipment access only.

Site Strategies:

Site Validation Level: II

Strategy: 3-270.1 Objective: Build Berm

Strategy: Exclude oil from creek by building a sediment berm with native sand using compact heavy equipment. May need to install PVC pipe below berm to allow for water outflow. Place sorbent boom 30 feet upstream of berm.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Heavy Equipment	Bobcat w/ tracks			1		
PVC Pipe		6 inch		600	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			300	feet	
Stakes				2		
Staff				10		

Logistics:

Directions: West creek mouth parking lot on Las Olas Dr. (36.969877°, -121.908109°); 114 parking spaces. East creek mouth parking (Esplanade, Aptos, CA 95003); 83 parking spaces.

Land Access: West creek mouth compact heavy equipment access from Seacliff State Beach (36.969471°, -121.907365°). East creek mouth compact heavy equipment access from Rio Del Mar Beach

On-Water Limitations: Nearest vessel launch site is Santa Cruz Harbor (5 nautical miles).

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Seacliff State Beach upper parking lot can support a large staging area (4 acres). The state park also has a campground with 26 recreational vehicle hookup sites. Restrooms at pier entrance and Esplanade parking lot.

Communications Problems: None.

