

**County:** Santa Cruz **ACP Division/Segment:** SZ - E - S005 SZ - E - S006**NOAA Chart:** 18685**Map Book:** 1014**Decimal Degrees:** 36.87409 -121.82463**Site Description:**

Continuous sand beach backed by steep, vegetated dunes. Site includes all of Sunset State Beach to the Pajaro River. Palm Beach is a day use area within Sunset State Beach. State Park property extends the entire length of the beach just above the mean high tide line and below the base of the dunes. The Pajaro Dunes Resort is located north of Palm Beach and the Pajaro Dunes Association private property is located south of Palm Beach to the Pajaro River mouth. Site upcoast boundary (36.896497°, -121.839356°), downcoast boundary (36.852765°, -121.811908°); length 3.42 miles. Site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Several sensitive plant species and Northern legless lizard are present within the sand dunes along beach.

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

6B Riprap

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Plants	coast wallflower	SR	Year-round	
Plants	Monterey gilia	FE, ST	Year-round	
Plants	Monterey spineflower	FT	Year-round	
Plants	robust spineflower	FE	Year-round	
Reptiles	Northern legless lizard	SSC	Year-round	Sep-Nov

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	Pajaro Dunes Association	(831) 761-7744
E	/Office	Pajaro Dunes Resort	(831) 728-7400
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	/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:**

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Western snowy plovers nest on beach Mar-Sep. Several sensitive plant species and Northern legless lizard are present within the sand dunes along beach.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Southern site access via attended gate at private residential community.

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

**Strategy: 3-285.1 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:* Northern site access parking: Sunset State Beach (250 Sunset Beach Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076); 22 parking spaces. Central site access parking: Palm Beach State Park (2660 Beach Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076); 40 parking spaces. Southern site access parking: Pajaro Dunes private community, attended gate (73 Pelican Point, Watsonville, CA 95076); 25 parking spaces.

*Land Access:* Vehicle access to beach from both northern and central site access parking lots. Southern site access via attended gate at private residential community. Beach access from the Pajaro Dunes community on Pelican Point is footpath only.

*On-Water Limitations:* Nearest vessel launch site is Moss Landing Harbor (4 nautical miles).

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Restrooms at northern and central site access parking lots.

*Communications Problems:* None.

