3-500-A Site Summary - Garrapata Creek

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County: Monterey **ACP Division/Segment:** MT - F - S004

NOAA Chart: 18680 **Map Book:** B **Decimal Degrees:** 36.41776 -121.91607

Site Description:

Garrapata Creek is a perennial waterway that meets the ocean through a deep gulch carved between coastal bluffs. The creek mouth is south of Garrapata State Beach and is inaccessible from the beach due to prominent rock outcroppings. Highway 1 crosses over the creek on Garrapata Creek Bridge. A small brackish lagoon forms at the creek mouth with freshwater marsh habitat between the creek mouth and Highway 1 bridge. The creek mouth is entirely within private property; State Park Property ends at the rock outcropping at the northern bank of the creek mouth. Doud Creek is the perennial waterway located at the midpoint of Garrapata State Beach. High tides can reach the creek mouth and form a small lagoon, but the vegetated area of the creek is naturally protected from tidal influence due the topography of the creek bed. Threatened and endangered species are not known to inhabit Doud Creek, therefore it is not included in the response area. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Though their range extends throughout Monterey County and into southern Santa Cruz County, Garrapata Creek is the northern border of the Big Sur region where California condors are most likely to be found consuming animal carcasses washed ashore. Nesting seabirds in the surrounding area include black oystercatcher, pigeon guillemot, and Western gull.

Resources at Risk:

ESI and Habitat: 4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

10B Freshwater marshes

List of Resources at Risk:

| | Resource Name | Status | Presence | Sensitivity |
|---------------|---|---------|------------|-------------|
| Amphibians | California red-legged frog | FT, SSC | Year-round | Nov-Mar |
| Birds | California condor | FE, SE | Year-round | |
| Birds | peregrine falcon | FP, SP | Year-round | Mar-Jun |
| Birds | seabird colony | | Year-round | Apr-Aug |
| Fish | steelhead - Central/Northern California | FT | Year-round | Nov-Apr |
| Insects | Smith's blue butterfly | FE | Year-round | |
| Invertebrates | black abalone | FE | Year-round | Apr-Sep |
| 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:

| Туре | Name/Title | Organization | Phone |
|------|-----------------------------|--|----------------|
| С | /Coordinator | Native American Heritage Commission | (916) 373-3710 |
| С | /Coordinator | Northwest Information Center | (707) 588-8455 |
| Т | /Dispatch, 24-hr | California State Parks (Dispatch) | (916) 358-1300 |
| Т | /Emergency Responder, 24-hr | Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary | (831) 236-6797 |
| Т | /Agency Representative | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (707) 575-6050 |
| Т | /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:

Access to creek mouth through private property, not guaranteed.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Hazard and Restrictions:

Possible access via narrow footpath through private property located south of the Garrapata Creek Bridge. Site access is not guaranteed.

Site Strategies:

Site Validation Level: II

Strategy: 3-500.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART Strategy: Site access is a steep, narrow footpath through private property. Determine if access via footpath is permitted and safe given current weather conditions. During low outflow a natural sand berm forms at the creek mouth which may provide adequate protection without additional action. During high outflow the creek may be naturally protected from tidal influence. Do not pursue land-based response when access is restricted, unsafe, or when creek outflow/natural berm 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

Last Page Update

Strategy Updated: 3/18/2022 Last Test:

Strategy: 3-500.2 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: When site access is not restricted and creek mouth is susceptible to tidal influence, 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) | | | 105 |
| T-post | | 6 feet | 7 |
| Stake driver | | | 1 |
| Staff | | | 2 |
| Boom | Swamp | | 100 feet |
| Boom | Sorbent | | 100 feet |
| Stakes | | | 4 |

Last Page Update

Strategy Updated: 3/18/2022 Last Test:

Logistics:

Directions: From Carmel-by-the-Sea, site is 9.5 miles south of Rio Rd. on Highway 1. Parking area on shoulder of Highway 1 southbound lane at Garrapata State Beach (36.419458°, -121.913118°), Postmile: Route 1 MON 63.2; 36 parking spaces.

Land Access: Possible access to creek mouth via narrow footpath through private property located south of the Garrapata Creek Bridge. Site access is not guaranteed. Garrapata State Beach does not provide access to the creek mouth.

On-Water Limitations: Nearest vessel launch site is Monterey Harbor (19 nautical miles).

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Portable toilet at parking area.

Communications Problems: No cell phone signal.

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