

**County:** Monterey **ACP Division/Segment:** MT - G - S003**NOAA Chart:** 18680**Map Book:** B**Decimal Degrees:** 36.33248 -121.89393**Site Description:**

The Little Sur River forms a broad brackish marsh and lagoon as it meets Little Sur River Beach and becomes a densely vegetated freshwater marsh followed by riparian habitat between the beach and Highway 1. Location of the river mouth and lagoon varies across the beach. A natural sand berm forms at the river mouth and may provide sufficient protection. Beach is backed by vegetated bluffs. The river area and beach are within private property. Site upcoast boundary (36.335956°, -121.892815°), downcoast boundary (36.328013°, -121.895514°); length 0.58 miles. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Western snowy plovers may nest on beach Mar-Sep. Sensitive plant species present in vegetation near the river mouth.

**Resources at Risk:**

*ESI and Habitat:* 3A Fine- to medium-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	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Jun
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Plants	compact cobwebby thistle	SR	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	/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:**

Access to creek mouth through private property, not guaranteed.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Western snowy plovers may nest on beach Mar-Sep. Sensitive plant species present in vegetation near the river mouth. Do not disturb vegetation and stay on footpath.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Beach and river mouth access via long footpath through private property. Access is not guaranteed.

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

**Strategy: 3-515.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** Site access is a long, narrow footpath through private property along the south side of the marsh. Determine if access via footpath is permitted and safe given current weather conditions. During low outflow a natural sand berm forms at the river mouth which may provide adequate protection without additional action. During high outflow the river may be naturally protected from tidal influence. Do not pursue land-based response when access is restricted, unsafe, or when river 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: 3-515.2 Objective:** Exclude Oil

**Strategy:** When site access is not restricted and river 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 river 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	Last Page Update
Construction Fence		4 x 100 feet		2	Rolls	<i>Strategy Updated: 3/18/2022</i> <i>Last Test:</i>
Oil Snare (pom-pom)				300		
T-post		6 feet		20		
Stake driver				1		
Staff				4		
Boom	Swamp			200	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			200	feet	
Stakes				4		

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** From Carmel-by-the-Sea, site is 16.6 miles south of Rio Rd. on Highway 1. Parking area on shoulder of Highway 1 northbound lane at the apex of the bend near the unnamed road and house (36.331802°, -121.886006°), Postmile: Route 1 MON 56.1; 6 parking spaces.

**Land Access:** Possible access to river and beach via long, narrow footpath through private property. Site access is not guaranteed.

**On-Water Limitations:** Nearest vessel launch site is Monterey Harbor (24 nautical miles).

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** None.

**Communications Problems:** AT&T, weak cell phone signal. All other providers, no cell phone signal.

