

3-130 -A/B Site Summary- Scott Creek Inlet and Molino Creek Inlet**3-130 -A/B****County:** Santa Cruz**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Davenport

949

37° 02'

122° 14'

NOAA Chart:**Last Page Update:** 6/30/2014**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Scott Creek: Exposed sandy beach approximately 1 mile long. Lagoon forms during summer months and well-developed marsh inland of Highway 1 supporting a biologically rich environment.

Molino Creek: Small inlet at south edge of Scott Creek beach. Small ephemeral creek naturally bermed off in low flow seasons. Scott Creek has sustained flows from significant watershed compared to the smaller watershed of Molino Creek. Area provides quality habitat for a variety of species listed below.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Birds and listed fish species present year round. Numerous seabirds and shorebirds may use creek mouth and surrounding beaches year-round. Western pond turtles may occur in Scott Creek lagoon.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Primary resources at risk are species of concern listed below and their habitats. Use caution when responding as habitat supports sensitive species.

Western snowy plover (FT) may be present year round and may nest from March through September on beach. Shorebirds, coastal seabirds, saltmarsh common yellowthroat (CA Species of Special Concern) and tricolored blackbird (CA Species of Special Concern) are all present. Peregrine falcons (CA Fully Protected Species) may be present. Rhinoceros auklets (*Cororhinca monocerata*) use the northernmost cliffs.

San Francisco garter snake (SE/FE). CA red-legged frogs (FT) could occur in marsh inland of highway, year-round. Western pond turtles (CA Species of Special Concern) present year-round. While not a significant gathering site, Southern Sea Otters (FT) are common throughout Santa Cruz and Monterey counties and may be present near-shore year round.

Steelhead (FT/SE): year-round in Scott Creek including lagoon; Coho salmon (FE/SE): rare year-round in Scott Creek including lagoon.

Site is located within Black Abalone Critical Habitat. Actual presence of black abalone is unknown.

Kelp beds are located directly offshore and nearshore just north of creek mouth.

Michael's piperia (*Piperia michaelii*).

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison: 916-445-7044), and the Northwest Information Center (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College: 707-588-8455) for specific information on historic or cultural resources in this area.

KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name	Title	Organization	Phone
T			US Fish & Wildlife Service	(805) 644-1766
O			Santa Cruz County Sherriff	(831) 471-1121
O	Chris Coburn	Resources Planner	Santa Cruz County - Environmental Health Services	(831) 454-2763
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251
O	David Streig		Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project	(831) 458-3095

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Snowy plover nesting area is a county restoration project, which limits access due to habitat restoration. Swanton Road is the site if the Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project (825 Big Creek Road, Davenport, CA 95017. Contact David Streig, 831-458-3095). USFWS will have anadromous fishery interests/concerns.

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CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

Shorebirds and coastal seabirds, including brown pelican, Western snowy plovers (FT), saltmarsh common yellowthroat (CA Species of Special Concern), and tricolored blackbird (CA Species of Special Concern) are all present. Peregrine falcons (CA Fully Protected Species) may be present. San Francisco garter snake (SE/FE). Rhinoceros auklets (Cororhinca monocerata) use the northernmost cliffs. Tidewater goby (FE), native Coho salmon (SE/FE) and steelhead trout (FT) are found in the creek.

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:

High-speed traffic hazard.

SITE STRATEGIES

Oil must be prevented from flowing under Highway 1 bridge and entering the marsh system.

Strategy 3-130.1 Objective: Exclude oil by berming, place sorbent boom 30' landward of berm to ensure oil exclusion

Block creek entrance (area seaward of Highway 1 bridge) with sediment dike using native sands; may need to install pipe below berm to allow for water discharge. Vehicle access to beaches located south of Scott and north of Molino (between creek mouths).

Strategy 3-130.2 Objective: Exclude oil by booming

Lay two rows of swamp boom across entrance to Scott Creek just below Hwy 1 bridge; use sorbent boom to enhance lagoon protection inside of boom.

Strategy 3-130.3 Objective: Exclude oil with Texas Barrier Boom

Consider laying Texas intertidal boom along top of natural berm to enhance berm integrity.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-130.1									600' 6" PVC pipe, dozer or equivalent berming	12	
3-130.2	0	500		500	4 stakes	0	0	0	0	3	
3-130.3	0	0	250 TBB	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	

LOGISTICS

DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)

Take Highway 1 north from Santa Cruz. Access directly off of highway, 2.3 miles past the railroad crossing (just north of Davenport). Minimal staging area: Roadside parking for 25-30 sedan-sized vehicles. High-speed traffic hazard. Scott Creek: Exposed sandy beach approximately 1 mile long. Lagoon forms during summer months and well-developed marsh inland of Highway 1 supporting a biologically rich environment.

Molino Creek: Small inlet at south edge of Scott Creek beach. Small ephemeral creek naturally bermed off in low flow seasons.

LAND ACCESS

ATV & foot access only.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking

and Services Available:

Nearest launch at Santa Cruz harbor.

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

Minimal staging area: Roadside parking for 25-30 sedan-sized vehicles.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: Cell signal weak at best.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

