

**3-200 -B Site Summary- Lighthouse Field State Beach****3-200 -B****County:** Santa Cruz**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Santa Cruz

992

36° 56.9'

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

Public beach located along Cliff Drive at base of wave cut platform with high energy surf. Site includes pocket beach and heavily riprapped shoreline west of Lighthouse beach. Beaches receive moderate to heavy recreation. Offshore rocks provide haulout for pinnipeds. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources. Rocky headland and small pocket beaches. Lighthouse Field State Beach lies west of the Lighthouse parking lot and access to beach via staircase near center of beach. Beach is approx 220 yds by 30 yds.

**SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Primary species of concern are stellar sea lions.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Rock off Point Santa Cruz (aka Lighthouse Point) is used as a haulout for non-breeding sea lions.

Black swifts (CA Species of Special Concern) nest along crevices in coastal cliffs.

Pocket beaches and large, platform rocks provide haulouts for moderate numbers of California sea lions and harbor seals especially on point directly off lighthouse point. Hoary Bats (*Lasiurus cinereus*) are known to occur here (CNNDDB) and nest within the wave carved, sandstone bluffs. 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. Zayante band-winged grasshopper (FE) occurs on site.

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

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

White-rayed pentachaeta (SE/FE) occurs on site.

**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/E/C		Santa Cruz District	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(831) 335-6390
O			City of Santa Cruz	(831) 420-6050
T/E/C		Northern Communications	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(916) 358-0333
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251
E/T	David Ledig		BLM California Coastal National Monument	(831) 630-5006
E/T	James Weigand	Ecologist	BLM	(916) 978-4656

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

Steamer's Lane important as high-use surfing area (offshore Lighthouse Field). City of Santa Cruz Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility discharge nearby

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**CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:**

Steller sea lion haulout on off shore rocks.

**HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:**

Heavy surf against steep coastal bluffs.

**SITE STRATEGIES**

Strategy 3-200.1 Objective: Offshore Containment and Recovery Activities to Minimize or Avert Oil From Impacting Shoreline Habitats and Wildlife

This site is difficult to protect as is most of the outer coast. No on-site protection is feasible.

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**

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 No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
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**LOGISTICS****DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)**

Take Highway 1 north/Mission Street through west Santa Cruz. Turn left onto Bay street and at the ocean (West Cliff Drive) turn right and go upcoast approximately ¾ mile to Pont Santa Cruz. Lighthouse Field State Beach straddles East Cliff Drive. Parking lot at lighthouse, access is by foot via unstable cliffs or a set of stairs a few hundred yards upcoast from the lighthouse. Public beach located along Cliff Drive at base of wave cut platform with high energy surf. Site includes pocket beach and heavily riprapped shoreline west of Lighthouse beach. Beaches receive moderate to heavy recreation. Offshore rocks provide haulout for pinnipeds. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources.

**LAND ACCESS**

Access limited to foot via staircase north of lighthouse.

**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:****COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:****ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

