

**3-330 -A Site Summary- Monterey Dunes Colony****3-330 -A**

County: Monterey

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

USGS Quad: Seaside

1055, 1075

36° 46.1'

121° 48.2'

NOAA Chart:

Last Page Update: 6/30/2014

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Remote beach area bordered to the south by Salinas River Inlet. Private residential complex south of Salinas River State Park. Minimal recreation due to restricted access. Beach width approx 100yds in length. Fine to medium grained sandy beach with vegetated dunes backing. Quality habitat for the threatened Snowy Plovers & Black legless lizard. Other species of concern are listed below.

**SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Year round

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

All beach area is critical habitat for the western snowy plover (FT) and provides nesting, foraging, and roosting habitat; nesting occurs March-September. Use caution when conducting any beach response and especially in the dunes.

Major nesting site for Western snowy plovers (FT); shore and seabirds such as willets and sanderlings are common shorebirds foraging along intertidal area.

Black legless lizard (CA Species of Special Concern) and Salinas Harvest Mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis distichlis*) utilize this site as habitat. 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.

Pismo Clams are located along intertidal shoreline. Globose Dune beetle are known to occur in sand dunes.

Monterey spineflower (FT) and the Monterey gilia (FE) occur on site. Sand Gilia (ST/FE) & Central Dune Scrub.

**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
		Monterey District	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(831) 649-2836
T			US Fish & Wildlife Service	(805) 644-1766
T		Northern Communications	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(916) 358-0333
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

Monterey Dunes Colony is a waterfront residential area.

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**CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:**

Seasonal (nesting) of Western snowy plovers (FT) will affect vehicle and beach access; access must be approved of State Park staff. Squid spawn offshore during spring and summer. The black legless lizard (CA Species of Special Concern) also uses this area. Plant species include the Monterey spineflower (FT) and the Monterey gilia (FE).

**HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:****SITE STRATEGIES**

Strategy 3-330.1 Objective: Offshore Containment and Recovery Activities to Minimize or Avert Oil From Impacting Shoreline Habitats and Wildlife. Prevent injury to sand dunes from cleanup activities

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.)**

Directions and access: There are four access points. Northern-most: Hwy.1 to Sandholdt Road, cross single-lane bridge and turn left into parking lot. Foot and vehicle access via boardwalk. Second: Hwy. 1 to Potrero Rd. to end. Foot and vehicle access through gate. Third: Hwy. 1 to Molera Rd. to Monterey Dunes Way to the end. Foot and vehicle access through gate. Southern-most: Hwy. 1 to Monterey Dunes Way. At intersection, bear left to continue south on Monterey Dunes Way to the end. Farm road is slippery during wet season or when irrigation occurs. Call California Department of Park and Recreation Dispatch for access through gates, guidance, and sensitive areas, especially for the southern-most access. Park boundary on the north is Sandholdt Bridge, on the south is the Salinas River, approximately 4 miles. Remote beach area bordered to the south by Salinas River Inlet. Private residential complex south of Salinas River State Park. Minimal recreation due to restricted access. Beach width approx 100yds in length.

**LAND ACCESS**

Beach access thru State Parks gates, contact State Parks personnel.

**WATER LOGISTICS:**

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Moss Landing harbor only.

Launching, Loading, Docking

and Services Available:

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

Elkhorn Slough Reserve HQ conference room

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

