

3-550 -A Site Summary- Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park**3-550 -A**

County: Monterey **Thomas Guide Location** **Latitude N** **Longitude W**
USGS Quad: Partington Ridge **B** 36° 11.1' 121° 43.4'
NOAA Chart: **Last Page Update:** 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Exposed rocky beach backed by steep cliffs. Partington Creek emanates from Partington Canyon and deposits within Partington Cove and contains WR Steelhead. Shoreline to south is highly convoluted with rocky platforms to serve as pinniped haul-outs. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources. Access to Partington Cove is via an approximately ¼ mile dirt road to the west of Hwy 1. The road has a locked gate at the entrance at Hwy 1. Contact California State Parks. Partington Point is located within Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. Sheer cliffs are predominant along this stretch of coastline with small pocket beaches and wave-cut platforms.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year round

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

A 1600 acre offshore area has been set aside by the State Lands Commission as an Underwater State Park. This same area has been declared an Area of Special Biological Significance.

Brown pelicans are common on water and near shorelines. Area serves as a rookery for double crested cormorants. Shorebirds and seabirds frequently use area as roost and forage (black oystercatchers, pigeon guillemots and western gulls). California Condors (SE/FE) occur in and around the site.

Harbor seals use pocket beaches directly south as a haul-out with pupping season Mar-May. 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. Smith's Blue Butterfly (FE) utilizes area as critical habitat.

Steelhead trout (FT) use Partington Creek for spawning and rearing.

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

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

Pinnacles rifle beetle (*Optioservus canus*) occurs within site boundaries.

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		Monterey District	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(831) 649-2836
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:

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CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

This area is a rookery for double crested cormorants. These birds nest in coastal cliffs. A 1600 acre offshore area has been set aside by the State Lands Commission as an Underwater State Park. This same area has been declared an Area of Special Biological Significance.

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:

Steep rocky cliffs with potentially heavy surf during winter months.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 3-550.1 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	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-550.1	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0			

LOGISTICS

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

Partington Cove (but not all of Partington Point) is located within Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park (35 miles south of Rio Rd in Carmel). Sheer cliffs are predominant along this stretch of coastline with small pocket beaches here and there. There is no vehicle access to the beach at the main Park entrance (McWay Canyon). Limited vehicle access to the shoreline is available at Partington Canyon from Hwy. 1, through a locked gate and down a narrow, one-way road to the rocky beach. Exposed rocky beach backed by steep cliffs. Partington Creek emanates from Partington Canyon and deposits within Partington Cove and contains WR Steelhead. Shoreline to south is highly convoluted with rocky platforms to serve as pinniped haul-outs. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS

4WD access

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction
Launching, Loading, Docking
and Services Available:

An inflatable craft, i.e., Zodiac type, could be launched from this small beach. Sheer cliffs and small rocky beach.

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:****ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

