4-105-B Site Summary - Rocky Intertidal N. Pt. Estero/Harmony State Park

County: San Luis Obispo ACP Division/Segment: SL - C - S04

NOAA Chart: 18700 **Map Book:** 324 H-9 **Decimal Degrees:** 35.48831 -120.03397

Site Description:

Harmony Ranch rocky intertidal habitat north of Point Estero approx. 2-3 miles, across from the town of Harmony. Harmony Headlands State Park property. Species of concern are present year-round. Harbor seals and southern sea otters common offshore. Roosting seabirds. Black abalone may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Designated critical habitat for leatherback sea turtles. Compact cobweb thistle is common on coastal bluff terraces.

Resources at Risk:

ESI and Habitat: 2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

6A Gravel Beach

List of Resources at Risk:

| | Resource Name | Status | Presence | Sensitivity |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------|------------|-------------|
| Invertebrates | black abalone | FE | Year-round | |
| Mammals | harbor seal | FP | Year-round | |
| Mammals | Southern sea otter | FT, SP | Year-round | |
| Plants | compact cobwebby thistle | SR | Year-round | |
| Reptiles | leatherback sea turtle | FE | Aug - Nov | |

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:

| Туре | Name/Title | Organization | Phone |
|------|---|---|----------------|
| С | 1 | Central Coast Information Center | (805) 682-4711 |
| С | /Coordinator | Native American Heritage Commission | (916) 373-3710 |
| Т | SURCOM (24-hr)/ | California State Parks (Dispatch) | (951) 443-2969 |
| Т | Justin Viezbicke/Marine Mammal Stranding | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 506-4315 |
| Т | Melissa Neuman/Marine Biologist | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 481-4594 |
| Т | Tina Fahy/Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 980-4023 |
| Т | /Spill Response Coordinator | US Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal T&E Species | (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:

Marine mammal pupping seasons: Harbor seal March - June; southern sea otters year-round. Leatherback sea turtles are most commonly observed August - November.

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Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Harbor Seal pupping season is March - June. Southern sea otters (threatened) pup year-round. Black abalone (endangered) may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). To protect seabirds, limit spill response activities within 1,000 feet of nesting seabirds when possible. Try to remain at least 100 yards away from marine mammals and sea turtles and if approached closely by a marine mammal or turtle while motoring, reduce speed and shift to neutral; do not engage props until the animals are observed at the surface, clear of the vessel.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Harmony Headlands State Park property.

Site Strategies:

Site Validation Level: II

Strategy: 4-105.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART *Strategy:* Offshore containment and recovery (OCR) are the preferred option although heavy surf may hinder these operations. No specific response equipment listed due to the many variables associated with each spill regarding OCR. Early consideration should be given to the use of applied response technologies. Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update

Logistics:

Directions: From the south: Take Hwy 101N to Hwy 1 N, Morro Bay exit in San Luis Obispo. Gate to property is 1/4 mile south of the town of Harmony. The site is north of Point Estero, approx. 3 miles. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S (or take Hwy 5 S to Hwy 41 W to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S). Gate to property is 1/4 mile south of the town Harmony.

Land Access: Foot access only.

On-Water Limitations: Limitations: Depth, obstruction. Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Morro Bay boat ramp approx. 15 miles south.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Command Post: Cayucos Veteran's Memorial Building, Cayucos Dr. at North Ocean Ave. (805) 995-1228, approx. 5 miles south. U.S. Coast Guard office in Morro Bay, approx. 15 miles south. State Park's offices at Hearst Castle. Airports: SLO County Airport is approx. 40 min. south. Paso Robles Airport is approx. 45 min. inland.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments:

