

4-125-A Site Summary - Cayucos Creek**4-125-A****County:** San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment:** SL - D - S03**NOAA Chart:** 18703**Map Book:** 590 J-2**Decimal Degrees:** 35.44937 -120.90822**Site Description:**

Cayucos Creek Inlet has a minor saltwater marsh landward of bridge. Fine to medium grained sandy beach fronting creek. Cayucos Creek is managed by the County but is a State Beach owned by the State Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Creek mouth closes intermittently and is lined by rip rap. This is a popular recreational beach. Creek critical habitat for tidewater goby and steelhead. Western pond turtles are found in low concentrations in this creek. Waterfowl include coots, grebes, and egrets are found in the marsh. Shorebirds and seabirds include surf scoters, cormorants, willets, gulls, marbled godwits, sandpipers, and brown pelicans. Black abalone may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Designated critical habitat for leatherback sea turtles which extend from shore out to 100 miles offshore. Harbor seals haul out on and near this beach. Southern sea otters can be observed offshore.

Resources at Risk:**ESI and Habitat:** 3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Reptiles	Western pond turtle	SSC	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:

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/	Central Coast Information Center	(805) 682-4711
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
T	Kyle Evans/Steelhead	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	(805) 794-9547
T	SURCOM (24-hr)/	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(951) 443-2969
T	Justin Viezbicke/Marine Mammal Stranding	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 506-4315
T	Melissa Neuman/Marine Biologist	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 481-4594
T	Tina Fahy/Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-4023
T	/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:

Tidewater goby peak nesting in estuary sediments, April - July; steelhead peak spawning March - July; leatherback sea turtles most commonly observed August - November. Marine mammal pupping seasons: Harbor Seal March - June; southern sea otters year-round.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Fish Disturbance - Avoid disturbing bottom lagoon sediments to protect tidewater gobies especially April-July goby nesting season; steelhead peak spawning March-July; critical habitat for steelhead. If creek conditions allow, boom deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across the creek to position the boom (and fence posts on the bank) to reduce disturbance. Equipment and foot traffic entering wetted areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practical to prevent crushing tidewater gobies, their burrows, and eggs. Any anchors deployed in water should be placed in waters greater than 4 feet deep to avoid crushing tidewater goby burrows. If supplemental water is used to flush, recommend gradually increasing the intensity/volume during the flush. Streamside Vegetation - Minimize disturbance to streamside vegetation. Southern sea otters (threatened) pup year-round.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Popular recreational beach. State Park property but managed by County Parks.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: II****Strategy: 4-125.1 Objective:** Deploy Containment Boom

Strategy: When creek mouth is open block entrance with short skirted containment boom (swamp boom) at appropriate angle for swift currents and changing tidal influences; place above high tide line. If creek conditions allow, boom deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across the creek to position the boom (and fence posts or anchors on the bank) to reduce disturbance. Install boom in a configuration/angle which blocks channel and diverts oil to a collection point. Maintenance/monitoring necessary; check boom for effectiveness. Consider lining riprap along the south side of creek with boom.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit
Boom	Swamp			200	feet
skimmer				1	
Anchor				2	
Staff				6	
Vehicle	ATV				

Last Page Update**Strategy: 4-125.2 Objective:** Erect Filter Fence

Strategy: When creek mouth is closed install excelsior fencing along top of natural berm to capture oil when there is a potential for high tidal wash over. When creek mouth is open use a filter fence barrier for exclusion/containment. Use this method when the cross-section of the watercourse does not exceed 30 feet in width, water flow volume is low, the channel bottom is capable of receiving and holding metal stakes, and the spill consists of heavy oil. If creek conditions allow, filter fence deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across the creek to position fencing (and fence posts) to reduce disturbance. Maintenance/monitoring of filter fencing necessary.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit
Fence	Construction Fencing			200	feet
skimmer				1	
stakes				20	
Staff				4	
Misc.	Oil Snare (pom-pom)				
Vehicle	ATV				

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Strategy: 4-125.3 Objective: Build Berm

Strategy: When creek mouth is open, under low flow conditions block creek entrance with sediment berm or sandbag berm and install flow through pipes as necessary to prevent flooding. Cover berm with plastic sheeting to minimize erosion; and consider backing berm with 10" swamp boom and/or sorbent boom. To create protective berm, take sand from active unvegetated beach face to prevent damage to dune habitat. Manual building of berm preferred over heavy equipment even when heavy equipment can access site. Maintenance/monitoring necessary; check for berm effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Heavy Equip	Backhoe					
Sandbags						
Skimmer				1		
Staff				6		
Piping						
Vehicle	ATV					

Logistics:

Directions: From the south: Take Hwy 101 N to Hwy 1 N, Morro Bay exit in San Luis Obispo. Take the Cayucos Drive exit and follow Cayucos Dr. to the end. (Cayucos Creek mile marker 36.15). Turn right into the parking lot. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S (or take Hwy 5 S to Hwy 41 W or Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S), to Cayucos Dr. follow directions above.

Land Access: Vehicle access just south of pier w/ permission.

On-Water Limitations: Limitations: Depth, obstruction. Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Morro Bay boat ramp approx. 10 miles south.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Staging Area: Veteran's Memorial Building parking lot at south end of Cayucos. Contact (805) 995-1228 or Chevron Estero Bay Marine Terminal is approx. 4 miles south.

Command Post: Cayucos Veteran's Memorial Building (support services needed, e.g. telephones). U.S. Coast Guard office in Morro Bay, approx. 10 miles south. CDFW office in San Luis Obispo. Airports: SLO County Airport, approx. 40 miles south. Paso Robles Airport approx. 45 min. inland. Vehicle beach access: Vehicle access with State Park permission just S. of Pier. Certain times of the year vehicle access may not be possible due to depositional berm or excessive debris from creek flow.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments:

