

*County:* San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment:** SL - J - S002*NOAA Chart:* 18700*Map Book:* 734*Decimal Degrees:* 35.04288 -120.63261**Site Description:**

Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area is a State Beach. Fine to medium grained sandy beach. At the southern end of this beach is the Pismo Oceano Beach Pismo Clam Preserve. A portion of the beach is owned by San Luis Obispo County but leased to State Parks. Most of the species discussed above are present year-round. Just offshore designated critical habitat for leatherback sea turtles; beach critical habitat for western snowy plovers and California least terns. Pismo clams and possibly California grunion found on this beach. Brown pelicans, surf scoters, gulls, terns, sandpipers, willets, and other sea and shore birds are present. Harbor seals and sea otters are common offshore. Surf thistle, La graciosa thistle, beach spectacle pod, crisp monardella and soft leafed indian paint brush are sensitive coastal dune plants in this area.

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

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Apr - Sep	
Fish	California grunion		Apr - May	
Invertebrates	Pismo clam		Year-round	
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Plants	beach spectaclepod	ST	Year-round	
Plants	crisp monardella		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
O	Brian Owens/Senior Environmental Scientist	California Department of Fish & Wildlife, SLO	(562) 370-4770
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	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:**

Western snowy plovers nest March - September; California least terns nest April - September; leatherback sea turtles most commonly observed August - November; California grunion spawn April - May. Sea otters pup year-round.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Refer to Typical Sandy Beach Site Summary and Strategy pages (Site 4-000-A) for information on response operations when dealing with snowy plovers and least terns.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

State Beach, Off-road Vehicular Recreational Area. High recreational use area.

**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 4-430.1** *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: Hwy 101 north to Grand Ave exit, go west approximately 3 miles to Pacific Blvd, go south approximately 1 mile to Pier Ave., turn right to south beach access. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S to Grand Ave. exit in Arroyo Grande, turn right (west) approx. 3 miles to Pacific Blvd. (Hwy 1), turn left (south) approx. 1 mile to Pier Ave., turn right onto Pier Ave. to southern beach access (Grand Ave. is northern beach access). Can drive on the beach in this location. Arroyo Grande Creek is approx. 1/2 mile south of the beach.

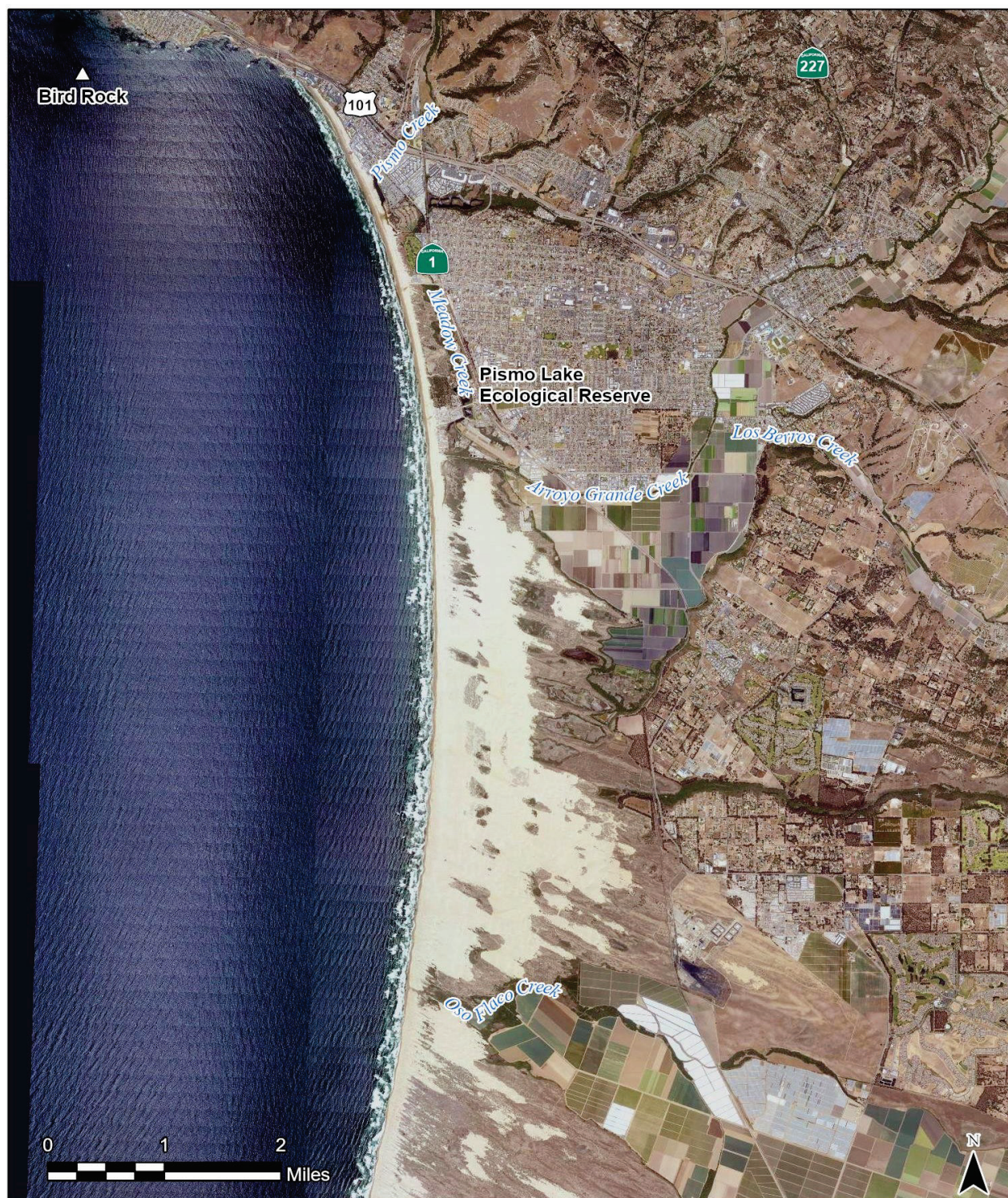
*Land Access:* Vehicle/heavy equipment access from Pier or Grand Ave.

*On-Water Limitations:* Limitations: Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Morro Bay boat ramp, approx. 30 miles north or Port San Luis Harbor is approx. 15 miles north.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Staging Area: State Beach parking lot at Grand Ave. or Pier Ave. beach entrance. Command Post: State Parks Ranger Station, 928 Pacific Blvd (HWY 1; approx. 1/2 mi north of Pier Ave; between Pier Ave and Grand Ave), Oceano, 805-473-7220. CDFW San Luis Obispo office Airports: SLO County Airport, approx. 15 min. north.

*Communications Problems:* None.





CDFW - OSPR & USCG Site: 4-430 Name: Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area

A. Caputo (OSPR) & J. Gold (OSPR) Date: 1/8/2024

**No shoreline strategies;  
consider offshore strategies**