

4-505-A Site Summary - Point Sal**4-505-A****County:** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment:** SB - A - S01 SB - A - S02**NOAA Chart:** 18700 **Map Book:** 345 B-C x 9-10 **Decimal Degrees:** 34.902026 -120.671611**Site Description:**

Special Permission is required for access through Vandenberg Space Force Base. This site includes Point Sal east to Point Sal State Beach. Point Sal State Beach is a fine to medium-grained sand beach bounded at the north & south by rocky cliffs. This site also includes exposed rocky cliffs and wave-cut platforms with rock pinnacles offshore. Lion rock is the largest rock pinnacle. This is a high energy environment with west and south exposure. Abundant marine mammals are present including harbor seals, California sea lions, northern fur seals, northern elephant seals and stellar sea lions. Various fish are present including rockfish and surfperch. Extensive rocky intertidal resources are found offshore. Seabirds and shorebirds are at this site. Grunion spawning occurs in the spring and summer during high tides.

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

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

1A Exposed Rocky Shore

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Fish	California grunion		Mar-Aug	
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	
Invertebrates	rocky intertidal invertebrates		Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Mammals	marine mammals	FP	Year-round	
Reptiles	leatherback sea turtle	FE	Year-round	

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
E	Ryan Heath/Park Manager- North	Santa Barbara County Park Department	(805) 896-7007
E	/Law Enforcement Desk (24hr)	Vandenberg Space Force Base	(805) 606-3911
E	Wayne Moses/Chief Conservation Officer	Vandenberg Space Force Base	(805) 606-6804
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:

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Inshore waters and shorelines contain sensitive habitat for invertebrates, birds, sea otters, and other marine mammals which can be injured or killed by oil. Because there are no practicable onshore response strategies for protecting these resources and the shorelines are virtually inaccessible except by foot traffic, landing craft or helicopter, it is best to collect and/or disperse oil offshore, before it reaches inshore areas or the shoreline.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Special Permission required for access via Vandenberg Space Force Base (see Land Access for more info). Safety Considerations- Roads, trails, beach cliffs and hillsides may be unstable in wet weather. Beware of flashfloods in canyons during rainy weather, ticks, poison oak, and rattlesnakes. Beware of trains at unregulated Railroad Crossings. Care must be taken when working on beaches backed by high cliffs. Safe entries to and exits from beaches in this area are affected by tides and beach sand levels- YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

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

Strategy: 4-505.1 *Objective:* No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

Strategy: There are no feasible onshore protection strategies for this area. Attempt to collect and/or disperse oil in offshore locations before it reaches the shoreline.

Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update**Logistics:**

Directions: From Highway I (west of Santa Maria) take Brown Road west to Point Sal Road. Point Sal Road may be impassable to vehicular access.

Land Access: Access to beaches and land sites must be authorized through the Space Force Base. Responders must call the Law Enforcement Desk @ 805-606-3911 and the Vandenberg SFB Conservation Office @ 805-606-6804. An escort may be required in some locations.

On-Water Limitations: Port San Luis Harbor (805) 595-5400 is the nearest full service civilian harbor. Facilities for small vessel loading occur at the "Boat House" in the vicinity of Rocky Pt. just south of Pt. Arguello. These facilities could be utilized with permission from VSFB.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:

Communications Problems:



CDFW - OSPR & USCG Site: 4-505 Name: Point Sal

A. Caputo (OSPR) & J. Gold (OSPR) Date: 11/13/2023

**No shoreline strategies;
consider offshore strategies**