

**4-670-A Site Summary - Mission Creek: Laguna Channel****4-670-A****County:** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment:** SB - R - S03**NOAA Chart:** 18725(d)**Map Book:** 996 C x 5**Decimal Degrees:** 34.4125 -119.68667**Site Description:**

Stretch of wide, sandy beach extending from Stearns Wharf on the West to Laguna Channel to the East. Fine to medium-grained beach, backed by a low-lying grassy park or parking lots. Mission creek estuary is near Stearns Wharf, this is the most diverse and sensitive and the mouth is frequently open. Laguna channel is a drainage containment sump which collects runoff water from the lower east side of Santa Barbara; it is normally closed to the ocean by a flood gate. Accumulated water is pumped to the ocean across the beach (during low tides and significant flow events the gates are raised to allow accumulated water to discharge seaward). There is a small estuary which ponds on the beach. Fine to medium-grained beach, backed by a low-lying grassy park or parking lots. March-August for grunion spawning on the beach. Western snowy plovers can be present during the fall and winter but do not nest on this beach.

**Resources at Risk:****ESI and Habitat:** 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

9B Vegetated low banks

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	shorebirds		Year-round	
Birds	seabirds		Year-round	
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Oct-Feb	
Fish	steelhead - Southern California	FE	Year-round	
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	California grunion		Mar-Aug	

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	/Cabrillo Bathhouse	City of Santa Barbara	(805) 897-2680
E	After Hours/Emergency	City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation	(805) 963-4286
E	Main Number/	City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation	(805) 564-5418
T	Kyle Evans/Steelhead	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	(805) 794-9547
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:**

Highly used public location with lots of vehicle and foot traffic.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

The lagoon is habitat for Threatened/Endangered fishes and other sensitive species which can be killed or injured by oil, response and clean-up activities. Responders should minimize disturbances in the stream, lagoon, and associated vegetation and avoid trampling oil into the sediments. Protective conditions should be followed by the IC and resource biologists.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in this area. Use appropriate PPE, safety procedures, and include reference to potential health problems in any site safety plan.

Access and exits to and from beaches are related to tides and beach sand levels- YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II****Strategy: 4-670.1 Objective:** Exclude Oil

**Strategy:** Deploy exclusion booms across the leading edge of the inlet. Place the booms in a configuration that forms an adjustable oil collection pocket that can accommodate changes in flow direction. Back exclusion booms with sorbent booms to minimize leakage. Line the shorelines and any side channels within the inlet to prevent collateral oiling.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp Boom			1600	feet	
Boom	Sorbent Boom			1600	feet	
Anchor				8		
Staff				8		

**Strategy: 4-670.2 Objective:** Shoreline Pre-Clean: Resource Specialist Supervision Required

**Strategy:** Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Hand crews move and store kelp, driftwood, vegetative debris, trash, and other materials above high-tide lines. Dispose of trash. Replace unoled debris in its former location once the threat of oiling is past.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff				8		
Misc.	Trash Bags					

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** From U.S. 101 take Castillo Street exit south, turn left on Cabrillo Blvd. East Beach area begins east of Stearns Wharf. There are parking lots along the beach.

**Land Access:** Contact the City of Santa Barbara to access beaches. Parking lots between Cabrillo Blvd and the beach have parking kiosks, when entering and exiting. Inform the attendant you are responding to a spill on the local beach. Most beach parking lots have an access ramp to the beach suitable for all vehicles and heavy equipment. Under most circumstances, the beaches are accessible for all vehicles and equipment.

**On-Water Limitations:** Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full-service berthing, launching and fueling.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Access and staging areas from various parking lots. There is a launch ramp at the east end of the harbor. Public restrooms, marine supplies, restaurants, and hotels are onsite or nearby. A field command post can be set up at the Santa Barbara Harbor or MSD USCG. Santa Barbara airport is nearby.

**Communications Problems:** None

**Additional Operational Comments:** Due to the probable occurrence of western snowy plovers and/or California least terns at this site, please review the Sandy Beach Site Summary and Strategies (Site 4-000-A) for information on response operations when dealing with these sensitive species.



