

4-240 -A Site Summary- Cuesta by the Sea Inlet**4-240 -A**

County: **San Luis Obispo**
USGS Quad: **Morro Bay South**

Thomas Guide Location
631 F-5
NOAA Chart: **Estero Bay 18703**

Latitude N
35.03071
Longitude W
120.61981

Last Page Update : 5/1/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

See Division F map. Cuesta by the Sea is a small inlet with sheltered mudflats in the back bay of Morro Bay that can be isolated if necessary during a spill.

Morro Bay has large expanse of salt marshes, tidal flats, and eel grass beds, one of the most extensive in California. Morro Bay is utilized by over 40 special, threatened, or endangered species. Morro Bay is an integral part of the Pacific Flyway.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year round.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Hundreds of shore birds, waders, waterfowl and seabirds including black brandts, marbled godwits, willets, curlews, terns, loons, brown pelicans, black rail (endangered), and California least tern (endangered).

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Contact SHPO and Native American Heritage Commission

KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E/T	District Office	State Parks & Recreation Dept.	(805) 927-2065
T	Melissa Boggs Environmental Scientist	CDFW-OSPR	(805) 558-1005
E	Eric Endersby Harbor Manager	Morro Bay Harbor Dept	(805) 772-6254
C	Lynn Gamble Historic Info Center	SHPO/UCSB	(805) 893-7341
O	Adrienne Harris Director	Morro Bay National Estuary Program	(805) 772-3834
T	Mike Harris Sea otter expert	CDFW-OSPR	(805) 772-1135
O	Brian Hatfield Marine mammal expert	Bio Res Div. USGS	(805) 927-3893
T	Jenny Marrek Biologist	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	(805) 644-1766
C	Larry Meyer	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3712
T	Elizabeth Petras Biologist	National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3238
C	SHPO	State Office of Historic Preservation	(916) 445-7000
T/E	Dispatch State Parks	State Dept. Parks and Recreation	(951) 443-2969
O	Cory Wadley Chief	U.S. Coast Guard Morro Bay Station	(805) 772-2167

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

4-240 -A Site Strategy - Cuesta by the Sea Inlet

County and Thomas Guide Location

631 F-5 San Luis Obispo

NOAA CHART

Esterio Bay 18703

4-240 -A

Latitude N

Longitude W

35.0307 120.61981

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 5/1/2014

Potential for oil to penetrate invertebrate burrows in mudflats.

Mud flats and marshlands contain fragile habitat subject to damage from human activities such as walking and vehicle use. Oil can be trampled into sediments by responders where it will not be recoverable. Avoid walking in mudflats and marshy areas of wetlands and waterways whenever possible. Use skiffs to access response sites if conditions permit. When crews must walk in soft bottom wetland areas to access cleanup sites, restrict the number and size of pathways. Mark authorized pathways with flagging or tape. Place temporary ramps (e.g. plywood sheets) in sensitive marshy areas where heavy use is expected.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Foot access only. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, USFWS, and State Dept. of Parks and Recreation should be consulted before staging equipment and heavy traffic are permitted. Morro Bay is designated as the Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area which relates to specific fisheries management issues.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-240.1 Objective: Exclude oil from inlet.

Stake short-skirted containment boom backed up with sorbent boom across inlet (see diagram). Containment boom should be placed at appropriate angle for swift currents and changing tidal influences. Check/maintain boom for effectiveness and integrity, overwash, and leakage problems, boom positioning and security, and sorbent replacement as necessary.

Strategy 4-240.2 Objective: Exclude oil from inlet.

Stake sorbent boom across inlet. Boom should be placed at appropriate angle for swift currents and changing tidal influences. Check/maintain boom for effectiveness and integrity, overwash, and leakage problems, boom positioning and security, and sorbent replacement as necessary.

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
4-240.1		350			2		1	SSS		4	4
4-240.2				350			1	SSS	Fence posts.	4	4

LOGISTICS

DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)

From the south take Hwy 101 N to Los Osos Valley Rd. (LOVR) exit, just south of San Luis Obispo. Take LOVR for approx. 10 miles to Pine Ave., turn right on Pine, Left on Ramona, Right on Mitchell, Left on Doris to Lupin. Beach access and small parking area at Dorris St. and Lupine St. intersection.

From the north take Hwy 101 S to Hwy 41 W to Hwy 1 S (or Hwy 5 S to Hwy 41 W to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S) to South Bay Blvd. (Los Osos/Baywood Park) exit. Stay on South Bay Blvd. (It veers to the left, go over two bridges) to Santa Ysabel Ave., turn right on Santa Ysabel Ave., to 7th St., turn left on 7th St. then right in Romona Ave. Take Romona until it turns into Lupine St. turn right.

LAND ACCESS: Foot access only from parking area.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking Morro Bay boat launch facility.

and Services Available:

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

Staging Area: The small parking area can be used as a staging area.

Command Post: Coast Guard office in Morro Bay or CDFW office in San Luis Obispo.

Airports: SLO County Airport is approx. 30 min. south. Paso Robles Airport is approx. 45 min. inland.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

