

County: San Luis Obispo

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

USGS Quad: Port San Luis

35.2178

120.8717

NOAA Chart: Estero Bay 18703

Last Page Update : 5/1/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

See Division H map. Lion Rock, offshore rock, approx. three miles north of Port San Luis, approx. 3 miles south of Pt. Buchon. Lion Rock is part of the Coastal National Monument under BLM jurisdiction. Pt. Buchon and offshore islands are also part of Coastal National Monument (SL-350-01 & 02; 35.256539, -120.899211). This shoreline landward of Lion Rock is owned by PG&E Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and they will have to be contacted for shoreline access issues (e.g. potential staging areas). Haulout and roosting site for birds and marine mammals. Site is within Point Buchon State Marine Conservation Area and Marine Reserve MPA, fisheries management areas that extend 3 miles offshore, governed by special protections established by the DFW Marine Region.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Species of concern discussed are present year round. Marine Mammal pupping: harbor seals: March-June, Ca. sea lions: May-June, stellar sea lions: May-July, southern sea otter: Jan-March.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Throughout Division H, black abalone (endangered) may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Designated critical habitat for leatherback sea turtles (endangered), most commonly observed Aug. – Nov.

Pigeon guillemots, western gulls, brandts cormorants, pelagic cormorants, grebes, loons, scoters, and hundreds of brown pelicans.

High concentrations of Ca. Sea Lions (more than 1,500) and Harbor Seals haulout on this offshore rock. Endangered southern sea otter females and their pups utilize Lion rock as well. Stellar sea lions, can also be found here.

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 |
|------|--|--|----------------|
| T | Melissa Boggs Environmental Scientist | CDFW-OSPR | (805) 558-1005 |
| E | Bryan Cunningham Environmental Coordinator | PG&E Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant | (805) 545-4439 |
| C | Lynn Gamble Historic Info Center | SHPO/UCSB | (805) 893-7341 |
| T | Mike Harris Sea otter expert | CDFW-OSPR | (805) 772-1135 |
| O | Brian Hatfield Marine mammal expert | Bio Res Div. USGS | (805) 927-3893 |
| E | Jim Kelly Biologist | PG&E Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant | (805) 545-3194 |
| T | David Ledig Manager | BLM, Coastal Natl. Monument | (831) 630-5006 |
| T | Jenny Marrek Biologist | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | (805) 644-1766 |
| O | Steve McGrath Harbor Manager | Port San Luis Harbor | (805) 595-5400 |
| C | Larry Meyer | Native American Heritage Commission | (916) 373-3712 |
| T | Becky Ota | CDFW for MPAs | (650) 631-6789 |
| T | Elizabeth Petras Biologist | National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 980-3238 |
| E | Shift Manager PG&E 24 hr # | PG&E Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant | (805) 545-3377 |
| C | SHPO | State Office of Historic Preservation | (916) 445-7000 |
| T | James Weigand Ecologist | BLM Coastal Natl. Monument | (916) 978-4656 |
| T | Steve Wertz | CDFW for MPAs | (562) 342-7184 |

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

4-315 -A Site Strategy - Lion Rock

County and Thomas Guide Location

San Luis Obispo

NOAA CHART
Estero Bay 18703

4-315 -A

Latitude N Longitude W

35.2178 120.8717

CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 5/1/2014

Lion Rock (and Pt. Buchon and offshore islands to the north) are part of the Coastal National Monument under BLM jurisdiction. Haulout and roosting site for birds and marine mammals. Site is within Point Buchon State Marine Conservation Area and Marine Reserve, fisheries management areas that extend 3 miles offshore.

Sensitive Biota - Nearshore waters include sensitive rafting areas for birds, sea otters, and other marine mammals. To protect seabirds, limit spill response activities within 1,000 feet of nesting seabirds when possible. Try to remain at least 100 yards away from marine mammals and sea turtles and if approached closely by a marine mammal or turtle while motoring, reduce speed and shift to neutral; do not engage props until the animals are observed at the surface, clear of the vessel.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

This shoreline landward of Lion Rock is owned by PG&E Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and they will have to be contacted for shoreline access issues (e.g. potential staging areas).

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-315.1 Objective: Deflect/exclude oil from this offshore rock area.

Offshore containment and recovery (OCR) is 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.

| strategy number | harbor boom | swamp boom | Other boom type | sorb boom | Anchoring no | Boat boom | Skiffs punts | Skimmers No | Special Equipment or comment and kinds | staff deploy | Staff tend |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--|--------------|------------|
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--|--------------|------------|

4-315.1

Offshore containment & recovery

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 the Avila Beach Dr. exit. Take Avila Beach Dr. almost to the end to PG&E Diablo Canyon facility entrance. The shoreline landward of Lion Rock is owned by PG&E and they will have to be contacted for shoreline access issues. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S or (5 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 41 W to 101 S) to Avila beach exit, San Luis Bay Dr. Follow directions above.

LAND ACCESS: Boat access only

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Boat access only, Port San Luis, or Diablo Canyon has small boat launch.

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

Staging Area: Port San Luis Harbor District parking lot

Command Post: Port San Luis Harbor District office, call (805) 595-5400. CDFW office in San Luis Obispo.

Airports: SLO County Airport is approx. 20 min.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

