

County: **Santa Barbara**
 USGS Quad: **Surf**

Thomas Guide Location
 365 C x 1-2
 NOAA Chart: **18700**

Latitude N Longitude W
 34.743333 120.62

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION C. Special Permission required for access through Vandenberg Air Force Base (see Land Access for more info). Apx 0.5 mi NE of point Purisima to apx 1.5 mi SE of point Purisima. Purisima Point area consists of exposed wave-cut rock platforms with gravel (cobble/boulder) and sand-gravel beaches backed by extensive sand dunes and rocky cliffs. Rough sea conditions offshore.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Jan through July for Harbor seals pupping and breeding at point and to the south of point. March through September for California least terns (SE/FT) nesting in sand dunes. All year - small group (10-15) of Sea otters that reside just south of the point. Abalone in rocky intertidal zone. Black abalone critical habitat. Leatherback turtle critical habitat.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

California least terns (Apr-Sep), Snowy plovers (all year), sea birds including brown pelicans (all year) and Cormorants.

Harbor seals (Mar-Jun) and Southern sea otters.

Red abalone (Mar-Aug), Black abalone (Jul-Sep).

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist on VAFB, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting Ryan Christopher, Chief Cultural Resources VAFB (805) 605-0748, Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Central Coast Archeological Information Center (805) 893-7341.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E	George Croll Environmental Compliance	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-4749
E	Tom Devenoge Wildlife Biologist	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 605-2015
O	Emergency Command Post	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-9961
E	Rhys Evans Biologist (Birds and Otters)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-4198
T	Federally listed T/E species - Ventura Office	USFWS	(805) 644-1766
E	Fish and Game Office (Access, ATV, Guides)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-6804
C	Lynn Gambell Coordinator	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-7341
T	Mike Harris Marine Biologist	CDFW - OSPR (Marine Mammals & Sea Otters)	(831) 212-7090
T	Kai Lampson Marine Biologist	CDFW - (Nearshore Species)	(805) 965-7216
E	Law Enforcement Desk (24hrs)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-3911
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000
E	Operator	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-1110
E	Edward Panas Chief Game Warden	Vandenberg AFB (Wildlife Protection)	(805) 606-6804
T	Elizabeth Petras Biologist	National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3238
O	Public Affairs (Media Events)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-3595
E	Rangeland Manager	Vandenberg AFB (Access to range lands)	(805) 606-3271
E	Christopher Ryan Chief Cultural Resources	Vandenberg AFB (Cultural Resources)	(805) 605-0748

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RPI-ESI MAPS (CENTRAL CALIF COAST ATLAS)

4-525 -A Site Strategy - Purisima Point

County and Thomas Guide Location
365 C x 1-2 Santa Barbara

NOAA CHART
18700

4-525 -A

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

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Primary spill threat from marine source. 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.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Special Permission required for access via Vandenberg Air Force Base (see Land Access for more info).

A. Water Contamination - Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in the Santa Barbara County area. Check with the Santa Barbara Ocean Quality Hotline, 805-681-4949, regarding health conditions prior to engaging in any activities which would require direct water contact. Use appropriate PPE, safety procedures, and include reference to potential health problems in any site safety plan.

B. 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 related to tides and beach sand levels- YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

SITE STRATEGIES

NO SITE SPECIFIC ONSHORE PROTECTION STRATEGY FEASIBLE: There are no practicable onshore response strategies for protecting onshore and nearshore resources in this area. Attempt to collect and/or disperse oil in offshore locations before it reaches inshore areas or the shoreline.

Table of Response Resources

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
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LOGISTICS

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

Path to beach approximately 0.75 miles through sand dunes from small parking area along road. All terrain vehicles (ATV) may be possible. Other vehicles not realistic.

LAND ACCESS:

This site is located on Vandenberg Airforce Base. Access to beaches and land sites must be authorized through the Air Force Base. For access authorization to air base roadways, lands and shorelines responders must call the Law Enforcement Desk @ 805-606-3911 and the Fish and Wildlife Office @ 805-606-6804. An escort may be required in some locations.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Area is rocky.

Launching, Loading, Docking
and Services Available:

Avila Harbor 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 VAFB. Area is rocky.

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

Remote site, no facilities.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

Cell phone communications are limited.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

Due to the probable occurrence of Snowy plovers and/or 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.

