

County: **Santa Barbara**
 USGS Quad: **Point Conception**

Thomas Guide Location
 365 E x 6
 NOAA Chart: **18700**

Latitude N Longitude W
 34.4425 120.45167

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION G. The Pt. Conception/Government Pt. area covers about 3 mi, from 0.5 mi NW of Pt. Conception light house to the middle of Cojo Bay. The shoreline is predominantly exposed rocky cliffs and wave-cut platforms with seasonally extensive sand beaches. There are also numerous offshore rock reefs and wash rocks. This segment of coast faces predominantly southwest and is a very remote and high energy environment. Point Conception State Marine Reserve is located at this site.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

January through June for Harbor seals pupping and breeding. All year high concentrations of Harbor seals, Elephant seals, seabirds, and rich intertidal biota and kelp beds. Sea otters are regularly seen in the area. Nov. through May for migrating Gray whales that pass by close to the shore.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Rich and diverse rocky intertidal community. Black abalone critical habitat.

Pelagic cormorants, pigeon guillemots, gulls, Brown pelicans, and Western snowy plovers (all year) at perco's beach.

Harbor seals (Mar-Jun), Northern elephant seals, Gray whales, and Southern sea otters.

Rockfish

Black Abalone

Gaviota tarplant observed (critical habitat)

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710 and 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
T	Federally listed T/E species - Ventura Office	USFWS	(805) 644-1766
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
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000
T	Becky Ota Marine Conservation Manager	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
T	Elizabeth Petras Biologist	National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3238
E	Ranch Manager	Cojo-Jalama Ranch/Coastal Management Resources	(805) 736-7300
T	Steve Wertz Senior Environmental Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

1. RPI-ESI MAPS CENTRAL CALIF ATLAS
2. Shoreline Cleanup Plan (1990), Volumes 1 & 2, Texaco Trading and Transportation, Inc.

4-567 -A Site Strategy - Point Conception & Government Point

County and Thomas Guide Location

365 E x 6 Santa Barbara

NOAA CHART

18700**4-567 -A**

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

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:

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.

Two pipelines (a 24-inch oil line and a 20-inch natural gas line) transit the area north of the RR track. They run 18 miles from the Jalama coast to the Freeport-McMoRan plant near Gaviota. The creek enters the ocean through a culvert which runs under the railroad track earth fill creek crossing.

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.)**

From highway 1, 2 miles south of Lompoc, take Jalama road 14.2 miles to Cojo/Jalama Ranch. Look for wrought iron gate with green "C" on it, just before the railroad track. Private access, requires prior approval. Call Cojo-Jalama ranch manager at 805-736-7300. Access also available by USCG marine safety detachment 805 962-7430 via Point Conception lighthouse. Fair to good access to beach for equipment at Perco's beach. Inflatable boats can be launched from Perco's Beach or Jalama Beach. Larger vessels from Gaviota pier, Avila harbor, or Santa Barbara harbor.

LAND ACCESS:

A. Access to Cojo-Jalama Ranch and Surfin' Cowboy ranch is possible from Jalama Road. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW, ACCESS RIGHTS FOR COJO/JALAMA RANCH AND POINTS EAST, MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROPERTY MANAGER, 805-736-7300, PRIOR TO ENTRY. Should this not be possible, access can also be obtained through Gaviota State Park / Hollister Ranch Gatehouse 805-567-5016 (Cojo-Jalama and Surfin' Cowboy ranches have Right-of-Way access through Hollister Ranch along the Main Road.)

B. Shoreline Access – Beach access roads may require regrading before vehicles can enter or exit beaches - contact the landowner for information. Barriers to longshore movement are variable according to tide and sand levels. Area may not be accessible in the winter because dirt roads/rangeland may be muddy.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking
and Services Available:

Fair to good access to beach for equipment at Perco's Beach. Inflatable boats can be launched from Perco's Beach or Jalama Beach.

Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full service berthing, launching and fueling. Response vessels could be loaded and small boats can be launched at Gaviota Pier with permission from State Beaches and Parks. Larger vessels can be loaded at Ellwood Pier with permission from Venoco and at Goleta Pier with permission from Santa Barbara County.

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

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.

