

**4-620 -A Site Summary- Las Llagas (El Capitan Ranch Beach)****4-620 -A**

County: **Santa Barbara**  
USGS Quad: **Zaca Lake**

Thomas Guide Location  
982 C x 5  
NOAA Chart: **18721**

Latitude N Longitude W  
34.763317 120.031333

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014
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**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION L. This inlet is located within a small private gated beach community. The mouth of Las Llagas Creek is characterized by a small possibly seasonal lagoon, with an area of approximately 0.1 to 0.2 acre. The lagoon is bounded on the west by a graded earthen access road and to the east by a steep brush covered hillside with no access.

The stream empties onto a sand covered pocket beach which may erode to cobbles in the winter months. The northern end of the lagoon has willow riparian habitat. This lagoon is fed by an intermittent creek flowing through a large culvert which passes under US 101.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

This lagoon could provide habitat for tidewater gobies. The culvert under US 101, through which Las Llagas Creek flows, may provide a barrier to steelhead migration. Sea Otters have been known to migrate past this inlet.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

This appears to be a fine to medium grain sand beach probably underlain by cobbles. The inlet appears to be primarily freshwater with aquatic and riparian vegetation near the northern end of the inlet

Southwestern pond turtles, red-legged frogs and Southern sea otters

Tidewater gobies may be present.

Aquatic and riparian vegetation could be injured by oiling and cleanup operations.

**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
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**

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County and Thomas Guide Location

982 C x 5 Santa Barbara

NOAA CHART

18721

## 4-620 -A

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### CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

Primary spill threat from marine source. The primary objectives are to minimize oiling of stream and lagoon, pre-clean debris, and clean oil from shorelines. The lagoon is habitat for sensitive species. Both habitat and species can be injured by oil and response/cleanup activities unless responders minimize disturbance in stream, lagoon, and associated vegetation; avoid trampling oil into sediments; and follow protective conditions from IC and resource biologists.

### 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. Sand surface may be soft. YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

### SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-620.1 Objective: Berming - Prevent oil from contaminating the inlet when it is subject to tidal influence, low flows are present, and/or wave washover could occur if berm materials are present.

Berming - First, consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Build an earthen berm across the mouth of the inlet using onsite materials obtained from unvegetated areas below the high tide line to minimize damage to wildlife and habitat. Install under flow pipes in the berm to allow through flows and/or a spillway with a filter barrier to accommodate flow increases as weather conditions dictate. Cover the berm with sheet plastic to minimize erosion. Second, back the berm with swamp and sorbent booms to prevent contamination from entrainment, leakage and or washover. If there is skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and or other mechanical means for collecting oil. Monitor berm and associated features to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

Strategy 4-620.2 Objective: Booming - Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet entrance to protect sensitive species and habitats when suitable berm building materials are unavailable, water flows are too great, or water depths are too great for berming.

Booming - Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet to minimize the likelihood of oiling the estuary. Place the booms in a configuration which forms an oil collection pocket which can be adjusted to 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. If there is skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and or other mechanical means for collecting oil. Monitor, adjust, and replace booms at least 2 x per day to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

Strategy 4-620.3 Objective: Sandbag Dams - Build a sandbag dam to prevent oil from polluting unoiled areas.

Sandbag Dams - Build a sandbag exclusion/containment dam using onsite materials or imported materials as directed by DFG biologist. Use clean low silt content sand. If using onsite materials obtain only from unvegetated areas. Install underflow pipes and/or a spillway to regulate water flows as conditions dictate. Closely regulate water levels to reduce collateral oiling. If there is skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and or other mechanical means for collecting oil.

Strategy 4-620.4 Objective: Filter Barrier - Minimize oil contamination in unoiled areas using a filter barrier when berming and booming methods are not feasible.

Filter Barrier - Construct a filter barrier across the channel or inlet when the inlet is narrow, water flows are low, the bottom can receive and hold metal stakes, the spill is heavy oil, and berming or booming methods are not feasible or necessary. Monitor barrier and replace sorbents as necessary to maintain effectiveness.

Strategy 4-620.5 Objective: Shoreline Precleaning - Prevent oiling of wrack, trash, and other materials to reduce collateral contamination and disposal problems.

Shoreline Precleaning - Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Hand crews to move and store kelp, driftwood, vegetative debris, trash, and other materials above high-tide line. Dispose of trash. Replace unoiled debris in its former location once the threat of oiling is past. If heavy equipment is required for this operation, request trustee consultation and IC for authorization.

### 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	staff deploy	Staff tend
4-620.1		100		200	3						42 1 Front End Loader, 1 Roll Plastic, 3 Culvert Pipes, 10 Sand Bags, 15 Stakes (metal), 1 Stake Driver, 10ft Construction Fencing, 1 Hand Tools	4	2
4-620.2		200		200	3							4	2

4-620.3	200	125	100 Sand Bags, 1 Roll Plastic, 3 Culvert Pipes, 1 Hand Tools, 20 Stakes	5	2
4-620.4	40	78	60 ft Construction Fencing, 16 Stakes (metal)S, 1 Stake Driver, 1 Hand Tools	5	2
4-620.5		102	1- Vehicle (4wd), 100 Trash Bags, 1 Hand Tools	5	

## LOGISTICS

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

**LAND ACCESS:** This inlet is located within a small private gated beach community. 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: 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 Parks.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:**

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

