

County: **Ventura**
 USGS Quad: **Pitas Point**

Thomas Guide Location
 470 D-E x 4-5
 NOAA Chart: **18725(a)**

Latitude N
 34.375
 Longitude W
 119.473333

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN VENTURA COUNTY DIVISION B: Amphitheater Canyon has a watershed area of about 0.5 sq.mi. The site is included within Vintage's Grubb Lease. It includes about 0.98 mile of stream subject to spills within the watershed between the upstream boundaries of the lease and the ocean. The stream empties into the ocean through an open channel onto a sand beach backed by boulder rip-rap in the gated community of Solimar Beach. This beach could be oiled by either inland or marine spills. There is one permanent instream oil spill containment basin in this canyon located about 0.2 mile upstream of US 101 where the facility frontage road (Amphitheater Rd) turns northeast into Amphitheater Canyon. There are two earthen underflow basins in this watershed. The primary threat is from inland spills.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

The primary habitats at risk are those that support inland species. Secondarily threatened are nearshore marine species. Brown pelicans and marine mammals feed in nearshore waters year around.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

The stream in Amphitheater Canyon is intermittent, flowing primarily during the wet season. The streambed ranges from 4 to 10 feet in width; the low flow channel is 1 to 3 feet in width, and the banks range from 4 to 20 feet in height. They are comprised primarily of silt and sand alluvium. Alluvium in some areas is encrusted with salt inflorescence, suggesting that streamflows have a high salt content. Giant wild rye (*Elymus* sp.) and salt grass (*Distichlis*) are predominant in the wetted portion of the stream. Occurring on the banks are poison oak, California sage brush, quail bush (*Atriplex*) and lemonade berry, and other vegetative species typical of a coastal sage scrub community. The non-native plants tree tobacco and *Myoporum laetum* were also noted in some areas.

This natural reach of stream provides sheltering, foraging, nesting and nursery areas; migratory pathways; and sources of drinking water for wildlife and aquatic species. The stream discharges directly into the Pacific Ocean through a concrete culvert onto a wave washed sandy beach backed by rock rip-rap.

California and spotted towhees, scrubjays, common yellowthroats, house and canyon wrens, black phoebes, house finches, warblers, raptors, crows, turkey vultures frequent this area.

Deer, coyote, rabbits, opossum, deer, skunks, raccoons, snakes and lizards, frogs, etc occur here year around. Both mountain lions and bears have been observed in the area.

No freshwater fishes are found here.

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 the South Central Coastal Information Center (657) 278-5395.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E	Linda Arsenault Environmental Manager	Vintage Petroleum	(661) 330-7664
T	Channel Coast Distict	California State Parks	(805) 585-1850
E	Pam Gallo Operations Supervisor	Ventura County Parks	(805) 654-3934
C	Stacy St. James Coordinator	South Central Coastal Information Center	(657) 278-5395
T	Kai Lampson Marine Biologist	CDFW - (Nearshore Species)	(805) 965-7216
E	Jim Martinez Maintenance Supervisor	Ventura Co. Parks - Seaside Wilderness	(805) 377-8436
T	SURCOM (24-hr)	California State Parks Dispatch	(951) 443-2969
O	Ventura County Fire Department Dispatch (24hr)	Ventura County	(805) 388-4279
O	Ventura Sheriff Dispatch (24hr)	Ventura County	(805) 662-6755
E	Vintage Petroleum (24hr) On-Call Foreman	Vintage Petroleum-Rincon & Diablo Canyon	(805) 525-8008

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

4-735 -C Site Strategy - Amphitheater Canyon

County and Thomas Guide Location

470 D-E x 4-5 Ventura

NOAA CHART

18725(a)

4-735 -C

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

Primary spill threat from inland source. The primary objectives are to minimize oiling of stream, pre-clean debris, clean oil from bed and banks, and block oil from reaching ocean. The stream provides habitat for sensitive animals and habitat which can be injured by oil and response/cleanup activities. It is important for responders to minimize downstream oiling, disturbance in stream and associated vegetation; avoid trampling oil into sediments; minimize collateral oiling, 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 this area. Check with the County of Ventura, Ocean Monitoring Hotline, 805-662-6555, 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- Narrow roads and hillsides may be unstable in wet weather. When on or near US 101 and Hwy 1 traffic and parking can be hazardous. On facility roads, beware of vehicles, heavy equipment and foot traffic. When working in streams and brush, beware of ticks, poison oak, and rattlesnakes. Care must be taken when working on in these coastal canyons the hillsides are subject to landslides and flash flooding during wet weather.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-735.1 Objective: Inland Spill - Off water containment - Minimize amount of oil that enters the water.

Offwater Control and Containment - Control, confine, and recover as much of the oil as close to the source of discharge as possible using offstream containment and collection methods, including but not limited to: blocking down-drains and culverts with sand bag dams, sorbents, hay bales, and temporary berms. Use vacuum trucks, and/or sorbents, as appropriate, to recover and remove oil. Dispose contaminants according to waste management plan.

Strategy 4-735.2 Objective: Inland Response - Activate permanent spill containment basins to minimize oil contamination in downstream areas.

The oil production facility in this watershed has permanent instream oil spill containment basins. Should an oil spill occur upstream of basins, activate spill containment and collection procedures. 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 basin and associated features to maintain their integrity and effectiveness. Additional temporary spill basins may be built if there would be a net environmental benefit to their use. Consult with resource biologist prior to constructing temporary basins.

Strategy 4-735.3 Objective: Inland Spill - Berming - Minimize oil contamination in downstream areas when flows, habitat, biota, materials, access, and topography are suitable.

Berming - Build a berm(s) across the stream channel using silt free materials or sandbags under the direction of an authorized biologist to minimize damage to wildlife and habitat. Install underflow pipes and a spillway with a filter barrier the berm to allow through flows if water is actively flowing. Cover the berm with sheet plastic to minimize erosion. Place swamp and/or sorbent booms upstream of the containment berm and along the streambanks to prevent downstream contamination from entrainment and/or washover 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 booms and associated features 2 X daily to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

Strategy 4-735.4 Objective: Shoreline Precleaning - Prevent oiling of vegetation, woody and debris, trash, and other materials to reduce collateral contamination and disposal problems.

Inland waters precleaning - Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. When oiling of the channel is imminent, remove and store wood, aquatic vegetation, debris, trash, and other materials which could become oiled and create environmental hazards and disposal problems. The use of heavy equipment in the channel is prohibited and pre-cleaning will be conducted by hand crews to minimize disturbance to wildlife and their habitats unless authorized by the IC. Segregate and dispose trash.

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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4-735.1

4-735.2

4-735.3

4-735.4

LOGISTICS

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

Going southbound US 101, exit Seacliff #78 for 0.4 mi, turn right onto Pacific Coast Hwy for 4.4 mi in front of Solimar

community.

Going northbound US 101, exit State Beaches #72 onto Pacific Coast Hwy for 2.2 mi in front of Solimar community. THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN VENTURA COUNTY DIVISION B:

LAND ACCESS: This site is located on the coastal facing slopes of the Rincon coast in north Ventura Co, on property leased by Vintage Petroleum. The spill threat for this area is from primarily from inland sources. The lease is gated and phones are present at some gates to contact Vintage for access. If the gate does not have a phone, contact Vintage by cell phone. The main roadways are asphalted and are passable by all vehicles and heavy equipment. There are some sections in this lease that are not reachable because of impassible roads. Access to some may not be possible in wet periods due to landslides. There are roadside pullouts at improved and unimproved spill containment basins.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: In the northern portion of the area, Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor. Casitas Pier located just south of Carpinteria is operated by Venoco and may be used to load response vessels with permission from Venoco. From Seacliff south, contact Ventura Harbor for full service berthing, launching and fueling.

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

LOGISTICS:

Staging Areas: Marine Spills: Numerous areas exist along Pacific Coast Highway, along the roadway, and in the State and County parks. Inland Spills: Staging areas and stream access points occur near containment basins, along roadways at bridges, and near facilities.

Response Equipment: Onsite: Vintage has some equipment and a mobile spill response trailer staged onsite. Offsite: The Clean Seas Yard at Carpinteria, approximately 5 miles to the northwest of Rincon Point.

Potential Field Command Posts: Vintage offices; County Parks, Ventura County Fire Station at Sea Cliff.

Closest Airports: Oxnard and Camarillo.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS: Cell phones are adequate from the freeway but drop off in the canyons.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

