

4-110-B Site Summary - Point Estero Rocky Intertidal**4-110-B****County :** San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment :** SL - C - S 04**NOAA Chart :** 18703**Map Book :** 324 J-9**Decimal Degrees** 35.46047 -120.00092**Site Description:**

Point Estero rocky intertidal habitat. Species of concern are present year-round. Haulout area for moderate numbers of harbor seals; 500 have been observed here. Southern sea otters can be observed offshore. Black abalone may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Designated critical habitat for leatherback sea turtles.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

6A Gravel Beach

List of Resources at Risk:

| | Resource Name | Status | Presence |
|---------------|------------------------|--------|------------|
| Invertebrates | black abalone | FE | Year-round |
| Mammals | harbor seal | FP | Year-round |
| Mammals | Southern sea otter | FT, SP | Year-round |
| Reptiles | leatherback sea turtle | FE | Aug - Nov |

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

List of Key Contacts:

| Type | Name/Title | Organization | Phone |
|------|---|---|----------------|
| C | / | Central Coast Archeological Information Center | (805) 893-2474 |
| C | / | Native American Heritage Commission | (916) 373-3710 |
| O | Brian Hatfield/Marine Mammal Expert | US Geological Survey, Biological Division | (805) 927-3893 |
| T | Justin Viezicke/Marine Mammal Stranding | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 506-4315 |
| T | Melissa Neuman/Marine Biologist | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 481-4594 |
| T | Tina Fahy/Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service | (562) 980-4023 |
| T | / | US Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal T&E Species | (805) 644-1766 |

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

Additional Site Summary Comments:

Marine mammal pupping seasons: Harbor seals March - June; southern sea otters year-round. Leatherback sea turtles most commonly observed August - November.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Harbor Seal pupping season is March - June; southern sea otters (threatened) pup year-round. Black abalone (endangered) may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). 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.

Hazard and Restrictions:**Site Strategies:**

Strategy: 4-110.1 Objective: No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

Strategy: 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.

Table of Response Resources

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Logistics:

Directions: From the south: Take Hwy 101 N to Hwy 1 N, Morro Bay exit in San Luis Obispo. Pass Villa Creek and turn left onto dirt road across from Villa Creek Ranch (Villa Creek Bridge Post mile marker is 40.29). Drive through gate and follow dirt road on the left to the beach. Dirt road is private property, Abalone Farm phone (805) 995-2495. Pt. Estero is approx. 1 mile north of ab farm. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S (or 5 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 S), turn right onto dirt road right before Villa Creek, continue as above.

Land Access: Foot access only.

On-Water Limitations: Limitations: Depth, obstruction. Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Morro Bay boat ramp is approx. 15 miles south.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Command post: Cayucos Veterans Memorial Building, Cayucos Dr. at North Ocean Ave. (805) 995-1228 (or county OES for alternate number), approx. 5 miles south. U.S. Coast Guard office in Morro Bay, approx. 15 miles south. Airports: SLO County Airport is approx. 40 min south, Paso Robles Airport is approx. 45 min inland.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments:

