

**4-405-B Site Summary - Rocky Intertidal - Shell Beach****4-405-B****County :** San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment :** SL - I - S 008**NOAA Chart :** 18700**Map Book :** 714 A-1**Decimal Degrees** 35.15008 -120.65721**Site Description:**

Rocky intertidal habitat between Shell and Pismo Beach just north of Best Western Shelter Cove Lodge, bordered by pocket gravel beach. Some riprap on pocket beach for slope stabilization. Species of concern are present year round. Designated critical habitat for black abalone, rocky intertidal habitat and leatherback sea turtles. Large numbers of harbor seals haulout on this rocky platform. Sea otters common offshore.

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

Harbor seal pupping March - June; sea otters pup year-round; leatherback sea turtles most commonly observed August - November.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Black abalone (endangered) may be present on nearby rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Leatherback sea turtle critical habitat offshore.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Rocky intertidal habitat between Shell and Pismo Beach just north of Best Western Shelter Cove Lodge, bordered by pocket gravel beach. Some riprap on pocket beach for slope stabilization. Offshore rocks.

**Site Strategies:**

**Strategy: 4-405.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART  
**Strategy:** Open water containment and offshore recovery is the preferred option although heavy surf may hinder these operations. Early consideration should be given to the use of Applied Response Technologies.  
Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update****Logistics:**

**Directions:** From the south: Take Hwy 101 N to the Price St. exit in Pismo Beach, head north on Price St. to Best Western Shelter Cove Lodge at 2651 Price St. From the north: Take Hwy 101 S (Or Hwy 5 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 41 W to Hwy 101 S) to Price St exit in Pismo Beach. Continue as above.

**Land Access:** Foot access available at low tide, path from hotel.

**On-Water Limitations:** Limitations: Offshore rocks are potential navigational hazard. Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Port San Luis Harbor is approx. 10 miles north.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Command Post: Hotels nearby; CDFW San Luis Obispo office Staging Area: Shelter Cove Best Western parking Lot. Airports: SLO County Airport is approx. 15 min. north.

**Communications Problems:** None.

