

**4-525-A Site Summary - Purisima Point****4-525-A****County :** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment :** SB - C - S01 SB - C - S02**NOAA Chart :** 18700**Map Book :** 365 C x 1-2**Decimal Degrees :** 34.7562 -120.6366**Site Description:**

Special Permission required for access through Vandenberg Air Force Base (see Land Access for more info). Aprx 0.5 mi NE of Purisma Point to aprx 1.5 mi SE of Purisma Point. Purisima Point area consists of exposed wave-cut rock platforms with gravel (cobble/boulder) and sand-gravel beaches backed by extensive sand dunes and rocky cliffs. Rough sea conditions offshore. Abundant seabirds (including brown pelicans) and shorebirds are present. Harbor seal pupping and breeding occurs at the point (Dec-May). A small group of sea otters reside south of the point. Extensive rocky intertidal habitat offshore.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 6A Gravel Beach

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

2A Exposed wave-cut platforms in bedrock, mud, or clay

1A Exposed Rocky Shore

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Apr-Sep
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT	Year-round
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round
Reptiles	leatherback sea turtle critical habitat		Year-round

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
E	/Law Enforcement Desk (24hr)	Vandenberg Air Force Base	(805) 606-3911
E	Wayne Moses/Chief Conservation Officer	Vandenberg Air Force Base	(805) 606-6804
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:**

Western snowy plovers nest from Mar-Sep and California least terns nest from Apr-Sep.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

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.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

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A. Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in this area. 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:**

**Strategy: 4-525.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** There are no feasible onshore protection strategies for this area. Attempt to collect and/or disperse oil in offshore locations before it reaches the shoreline.

Table of Response Resources

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

**Directions:** Path to beach approximately 0.75 miles through sand dunes from small parking area along road. All terrain vehicles (ATV) may be possible. Other vehicles not realistic.

**Land Access:** This site is located on Vandenberg Airforce Base. Access to beaches and land sites must be authorized through the Air Force Base. For access authorization to air base roadways, lands and shorelines responders must call the Law Enforcement Desk at 805-606-3911 and the Vandenberg Conservation Office at 805-606-6804. An escort may be required in some locations.

**On-Water Limitations:** Area is rocky. Avila Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor. Facilities for small vessel loading occur at the "Boat House" in the vicinity of Rocky Pt. just south of Pt Arguello. These facilities could be utilized with permission from VAFB.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:** Remote site, no facilities.

**Communications Problems:** Cell phone communications are limited.

**Additional Operational Comments:** Due to the probable occurrence of western snowy plovers and/or California 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.

