

**4-567-A Site Summary - Point Conception & Government Point****4-567-A****County :** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment :** SB - G - S02 SB - G - S03 SB - H - S01 SB - H - S02**NOAA Chart :** 18700**Map Book :** 365 E x 6**Decimal Degrees :** 34.4425 -120.45167**Site Description:**

The Pt. Conception/Government Pt. area covers about 3 mi, from 0.5 mi NW of Pt. Conception light house to the middle of Cojo Bay. The shoreline is predominantly exposed rocky cliffs and wave-cut platforms with seasonally extensive sand beaches. There are also numerous offshore rock reefs and wash rocks. This segment of coast faces predominantly southwest and is a very remote and high energy environment. Point Conception State Marine Reserve is located at this site. Harbor seal pupping and breeding (Dec-May) occur at this site. All year high concentrations of elephant seals, seabirds, rich intertidal biota, kelp beds and rockfish. Migrating grey whales pass by close to shore (Nov-May). Western snowy plovers are found at perco's beach.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 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         | Western snowy plover | FT     | Year-round |
| Invertebrates | black abalone        | FE     | Year-round |
| Mammals       | Southern sea otter   | FT, SP | Year-round |
| Plants        | Gaviota tarplant     | FE, SE | 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    | /Property Manager                          | Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve                 | (805) 736-7300 |
| T    | Becky Ota/                                 | California Department of Fish & Wildlife, MPAs     | (650) 631-6789 |
| T    | Steve Wertz/Senior Environmental Scientist | California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marine | (562) 343-3808 |
| 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    | /  | 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.

**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:**

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: 4-567.1 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. Protect the Marine Protected Area (MPA) boundaries.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update**

**Logistics:**

**Directions:** From highway 1, 2 miles south of Lompoc, take Jalama road 14.2 miles to the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve. Look for the wrought iron gate with green "C" on it, just before the railroad track. Private access, requires prior approval. Call the preserve manager at 805-736-7300. Access also available by USCG marine safety detachment 805 962-7430 through the Point Conception lighthouse. Fair to good access to beach for equipment at Perco's beach. Inflatable boats can be launched from Perco's Beach or Jalama Beach. Larger vessels from Gaviota pier, Avila harbor, or Santa Barbara harbor.

**Land Access:** Access to the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve is possible from Jalama Road with prior approval from the preserve manager at 805-736-7300. Should this not be possible, access can also be obtained through Gaviota State Park/Hollister Ranch gatehouse at 805-567-5016.

**On-Water Limitations:** Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full service berthing, launching and fueling.

**Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:**

**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.

