

**4-610-A Site Summary - Refugio Creek****4-610-A****County :** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment :** SB - J - S01**NOAA Chart :** 18721**Map Book :** 981 D x 5**Decimal Degrees :** 34.4631 -120.0696**Site Description:**

Refugio state beach covers 2.7 linear miles of shoreline in the vicinity of the creek mouth. The boundaries of the site on the beach extend east to west the width of the channel. For a marine spill the risk area extends upstream to the upper reaches of tidal influence. For inland spill the risk extends upstream of Highway 101 to the oil pipeline crossing of the watershed. To the east and west of the creek mouth are extensive fine to medium-grained sand beaches in the summer, changing to mixed sand and gravel in the winter. Two-striped gartersnakes are present along with abundant seabirds and shorebirds. There is evidence of deer, bear, and mountain lions in the upper portions of the watershed. Extensive eelgrass beds in the area. Grunion spawning occurs in the spring and summer during high tides.

**Resources at Risk:***ESI and Habitat:* 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

9B Vegetated low banks

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT	Year-round
Birds	shorebirds		Year-round
Fish	tidewater goby	FE	Year-round
Fish	grunion		Mar-Aug
Invertebrates	kelp forests		Year-round
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round
Reptiles	southwestern pond turtle	SSC	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	/Central Control Plant Operations (24hr)	ExxonMobil	(805) 961-4055
T	SURCOM (24-hr)/	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(951) 443-2969
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:**

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

The lagoon and stream provide habitat for both sensitive and T/E species (fishes, amphibians, reptiles) which can be killed or injured by oil and response/cleanup activities unless responders minimize disturbance in stream, lagoon, and associated vegetation, avoid trampling oil into sediments; and follow protective conditions from IC and resource biologists.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

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.

**Site Strategies:****Strategy: 4-610.1 Objective:** Exclude Oil

**Strategy:** Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet to minimize the likelihood of oiling the estuary. Place the booms in a configuration that forms an adjustable oil collection pocket that can accommodate changes in flow direction. Back exclusion booms with sorbent booms to minimize leakage. Line the shorelines and any side channels within the inlet to prevent collateral oiling. If there is recoverable oil on-water, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers. Monitor, adjust, and replace booms as needed to maintain effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp Boom			400	feet	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> <i>Last Test: 5/13/2014</i>
Boom	Sorbent Boom			400	feet	
Vehicle	ATV			1		
anchors				2		
Staff				5		

**Strategy: 4-610.2 Objective:** Erect Filter Fence

**Strategy:** Construct a filter fence across the front of the channel where the inlet is narrowest, water flows are low or dry, the ground can receive and hold metal stakes, and the spill is heavy oil. Monitor barrier and replace pom-poms as necessary to maintain effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Fence	Construction Fencing	4 x 100 feet		2	Rolls	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> <i>Last Test: 5/13/2014</i>
Misc.	Oil Snare (pom-pom)			360		
stakes	T-posts	6 feet		20		
Misc.	Stake Driver			1		
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff				5		

**Strategy: 4-610.3 Objective:** Build Sandbag Dam

*Strategy:* Build a sandbag exclusion/containment dam using onsite materials or imported materials as directed by CDFW biologist. Use clean low silt content sand. If using onsite materials obtain only from un-vegetated areas and have a cultural specialist onsite to monitor. Install underflow pipes and/or a spillway to regulate water flows as conditions dictate. Closely regulate water levels to reduce collateral oiling. If there is recoverable oil on-water, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Sorbent Boom			240	feet	
stakes				24		
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff				5		
Sandbags				200		

**Strategy: 4-610.4 Objective:** Shoreline Pre-Clean: Resource Specialist Supervision Required

*Strategy:* Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Hand crews to move and store kelp, driftwood, vegetative debris, trash, and other materials above high-tide line. Dispose of trash. Replace unoiled debris in its former location once the threat of oiling is past.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Misc.	Trash Bags					
Staff				5		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* From US 101 (West of Santa Barbara) exit at Refugio Beach State Park.

*Land Access:* Access to this site is controlled by California State Parks. Call Surcom for after hours.

*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:* Excellent access for excavating equipment from large parking lot; good staging area.

*Communications Problems:* none

*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.

