4-613-A Site Summary - Corral-Las Flores Creeks

**County:** Santa Barbara ACP Division/Segment: SB - K - S01

**NOAA Chart:** 18721 **Map Book:** 981 G x 5 **Decimal Degrees:** 34.46271 -120.04498

4-613-A

### **Site Description:**

The Exxon Mobil (EM) facility in Corral/Las Flores Canyons receives oil emulsion from 3 offshore platforms, Heritage, Hondo and Harmony through a 20 inch pipeline. The line crosses the shoreline at El Capitan State Beach, runs north under the RR tracks, US 101, and Calle Real where it turns north and runs 2 miles to the EM plant. The facility has multiple spill safeguards which include berms, offstream containment basins, and a remotely operated instream spill containment structure. Spills are most likely to arise from inland sources with primary injuries to terrestrial and aquatic resources. Should the oil reach the ocean, intertidal habitats and nearshore marine mammals, birds, invertebrates would be at risk.

The principal 'at risk' portion of the site begins  $\sim 200$  yds north of the confluence of Corral and Las Flores Canyon Creeks and extends downstream a distance of 1.3 miles to the ocean. The stream flows over one grade control structure, through an instream spill containment structure, and a culvert under Hwy 101, where it discharges directly onto the beach. The gradient of the stream is  $\sim 150$  feet per mile. From late spring through early winter, stream flows are generally less than 1 mph.

Various mammals, birds, reptiles (two-striped gartersnake), amphibians (coast range newt), fish (Arroyo Chub) and invertebrates (monarch butterfly) are present. This is a perennial stream that supports a dense sycamore-willow riparian woodland. Extensive eelgrass bed at the beach. Western snowy plovers winter at Las Flores beach.

#### **Resources at Risk:**

ESI and Habitat: 9B Vegetated low banks

6B Riprap

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	Western snowy plover	FT	Year-round	
Fish	steelhead - Southern California	FE	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:**

Туре	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
С	/	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-2474
С	/	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
Е	/Central Control Plant Operations (24hr)	ExxonMobil	(805) 961-4055
Т	Mary Larson/Steelhead	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	(562) 537-8624
Т	SURCOM (24-hr)/	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(951) 443-2969
Т	Rick Bush/Fisheries Biologist	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3562
Т	1	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:**

The stream provides habitat for many sensitive animals including T/E species. Animals and habitat can be injured by oil, response, and cleanup activities unless responders minimize disturbance in stream and associated vegetation; avoid trampling oil into sediments; minimize collateral oiling, and follow protective conditions from IC and resource biologists.

#### **Hazard and Restrictions:**

The canyon through which Corral Creek flows, is generally narrow and steep sided and subject to flash flows and landslides in the wet season. Slips, trips and falls (streambanks, debris, algae); heat; dehydration; rattlesnakes; ticks; blackwidow and brown recluse spiders; mosquito bites; poison oak; water hazards

### Site Strategies:

# **Strategy: 4-613.1 Objective:** Contain Oil

Strategy: Offwater Control and Containment - Control, confine, and recover as much of the oil as close to the source of discharge as possible using offstream containment and collection methods, including but not limited to: blocking down-drains and culverts with sand bag dams, sorbents, hay bales, and temporary berms. Use vacuum trucks, and/or sorbents, as appropriate, to recover and remove oil. Dispose contaminants according to waste management plan.

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# **Strategy: 4-613.2 Objective:** Other: See Strategy Box

Strategy: The oil production facility in this watershed has a permanent instream oil spill containment basin. Should an oil spill occur upstream of basin, activate spill containment and collection procedures. If there is skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and/ or other mechanical means for collecting oil. Monitor basin and associated features to maintain their effectiveness. Additional temporary spill basins may be built if there would be a net environmental benefit to their use. Consult with resource biologist prior to constructing temporary basins.

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# **Strategy: 4-613.3 Objective:** Build Berm

Strategy: Build a berm(s) across the stream channel using silt free materials or sandbags under the direction of an authorized biologist to minimize damage to wildlife and habitat. Install underflow pipes and a spillway with a filter barrier the berm to allow through flows if water is actively flowing. Cover the berm with sheet plastic to minimize erosion. Place swamp and/or sorbent booms upstream of the containment berm and along the streambanks to prevent downstream contamination from entrainment and/or washover to prevent collateral oiling. If there is skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and or other mechanical means for collecting oil. Monitor booms and associated features 2 X daily to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

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**Strategy: 4-613.4 Objective:** Shoreline Pre-Clean: Resource Specialist Supervision Required Strategy: Inland waters precleaning- Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. When oiling of the channel is imminent, remove and store wood, aquatic vegetation, debris, trash, and other materials which could become oiled and create environmental hazards and disposal problems. The use of heavy equipment in the channel is prohibited and pre-cleaning will be conducted by hanc crews to minimize disturbance to wildlife and their habitats unless authorized by the IC. Segregate and dispose trash.

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

# Logistics:

Directions: Exxon Las Flores Plant and Corral Creek- Off US 101, northbound, take El Capitan exit (Exit 117) on to Calle Real heading west. Approx 0.41 miles from El Capitan exit, turn right onto Calle Real. Continue heading west for about 1.1 miles to Corral Canyon Rd.; turn right into the facility; check in at the guardhouse. From US 101 southbound, take the Refugio Rd turnoff and turn right onto Calle Real heading east toward Santa Barbara for about 1.55 miles to Corral Canyon Rd. Corral Creek Mouth from Beach

Land Access: Much of the eastern streambank of Corral Creek is accessible by heavy equipment and vehicles from an access road.

*On-Water Limitations:* Contact Exxon Mobil for access points along stream corridor. Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full service berthing, launching and fueling.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: A command post can be established at the Exxon Mobil plant. There is a remotely operated instream spill containment basin located 0.63 miles north of Calle Real. There is a large parking lot just inside and to the west of the facility gate which is suitable for staging personnel, equipment, and mobile command posts. Alternatively, for marine spills, staging for command posts, personnel, and equipment could be provided with permission from State Parks in both Refugio and El Capitan State Parks. There is electricity, water, and restrooms available in both parks.

Communications Problems: There is no cell phone communication in Corrall Canyon.

