

**4-685-A Site Summary - Carpinteria Marsh****4-685-A****County :** Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment :** SB - S - S03**NOAA Chart :** 18725(a)**Map Book :** 998 A-C x 6-7**Decimal Degrees :** 34.396667 -119.535**Site Description:**

Area bounded by Sandyland to the NW and Sandyland Cove to the SE. Carpinteria salt marsh covers 230 acres. This large wetland supports a wide variety of species. Santa Monica and Franklin Creek feed into the marsh. Pickleweed dominates the regularly flooded emergent wetland, and saltgrass dominates at slightly higher elevations. The University of California owns 120 acres. The remainder of the marsh is owned by The Land Trust of Santa Barbara County, the City of Carpinteria and homeowners living along the shore. The mouth is open to the ocean year around; the small inlet is stabilized with rip rap, and is occasionally dredged to increase flushing. There is an erosional area with limited sand. Private residences occur along on both sides of the mouth. Beaches east and west of the mouth are moderate sized and of fine to medium-grained sand and there is a subtidal reef offshore of the mouth at Sand Point.

Wetland biota: 225 plant species, including salt marsh bird's beak (restricted to high-marsh habitat). Also 16 fish species and numerous invertebrate species. 125 birds species: waterfowl, seabirds, shorebirds, raptors, Belding's savannah sparrows, light-footed Ridgway's rails (last seen in 1988), wintering western snowy plovers. Harbor seals (Jan-Jun) haul out, pup and breed at the mouth. Terrestrial mammals: 15 species: primary racoon, weasels, rodents, also skunks, foxes and opossums. Pismo clams may be present. Beach sand tiger beetles may inhabit higher clean sandy beaches in the Carpinteria area (species of special concern).

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

9A Sheltered tidal flats

6B Riprap

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Birds	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	Year-round
Birds	light-footed Ridgway's rail	FE, SE	Year-round
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT	Oct-Feb
Fish	juvenile fish		Year-round
Fish	tidewater goby	FE	Year-round
Invertebrates	rocky intertidal resources		Year-round
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Dec-May
Plants	salt marsh bird's beak	FE, SE	Year-round
Plants	Ventura marsh milkvetch	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	Ron Sturgis/Private Citizen	Access to Del Mar Ave. (east marsh access)	(805) 684-2304
E	Clem Homer/Private Citizen	Access to Sand Point Rd. (west marsh access)	(805) 684-2649
E	Carpinteria Salt Marsh/Reserve Manager	University of California Santa Barbara	(805) 893-7670
E	Dispatch 24 Hr/Campus Police	University of California Santa Barbara	(805) 893-3447
T	Justin Viezbicke/Marine Mammal Stranding	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 506-4315
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:**

A T/E bird nests in the wetland and T/E plant exist in the marsh. If oil enters the saltmarsh, animals and habitat can be killed or injured by oil, response and clean-up activities. Responders should minimize disturbances in the stream, lagoon, and associated vegetation and avoid trampling oil into the sediments. Protective conditions should be followed from the 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.

Safety Considerations - Beware of trains at unregulated Railroad Crossings. On the narrow paved access road leading to the mouth of Carpinteria Salt Marsh, beware of vehicles pedestrians and animals. During response beware of waves, slips, trips and falls, and water hazards.

**Site Strategies:****Strategy: 4-685.1 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	
Boom	Sorbent Boom			400	feet	
Anchor	Danforth			6		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff				8		

**Strategy: 4-685.2 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 unoled 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				8		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* East Carpinteria Saltmarsh- Access the mouth of the marsh: Going northbound US 101, exit Santa Monica Rd/ #87 for 0.2 mi, turn right on Via Real for 0.2 mi, turn right on Santa Ynez Ave for 0.1 mi, turn right on Carpinteria Ave for 0.1 mi, turn left on Sandyland Cove Rd for 0.4 mi, turn right on Del Mar Ave and follow it until it ends. Going southbound US 101, exit Carpinteria Ave/ #87B for 0.6 mi, turn right Sandyland Cove Rd for 0.4 mi, turn right on Del Mar Ave and follow it until it ends. West Carpinteria Saltmarsh- Access the mouth of the marsh: Going northbound US 101, exit Padaro Ln/ #88 for 0.3 mi, turn left on Padero Ln for >0.1 mi, turn left on Santa Claus Ln for 0.6 mi, turn right on Sandpoint Rd just before the freeway on-ramp. Going southbound US 101, exit Santa Claus Ln/ #88 for 0.8 mi, turn right on Sandpoint Rd just before the freeway on-ramp. Contact Clem and Mary Homer 805-684-2649 at the gate.

*Land Access:* Access for all vehicles and equipment at staging areas at end of Del Mar Ave and Sandpoint Rd. Must contact residents to open gates.

*On-Water Limitations:* Access in marsh by skiff only.

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*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Equipment: MSRC yard in Carpinteria. Staging area: At end of either Del Mar Ave or Sandpoint Rd. No facilities or utilities. Command post MSRC yard. Closest airport is in Santa Barbara.

*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.

