

**5-510-A Site Summary - San Nicolas Island****5-510-A****County :** Ventura**ACP Division/Segment :****NOAA Chart :** 18740**Map Book :****Decimal Degrees :** 33.2479 -119.5011**Site Description:**

San Nicolas Island is the site of an attempt to establish a breeding colony of sea otters. Sea otters may occur within any of the nearshore zones around the island, but the majority of the marine mammal colonies are found at the west end of the island.

**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

6A Gravel Beach

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Birds	seabirds		Year-round
Birds	California brown pelican		Jun - Oct
Birds	cormorants		Year-round
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round
Mammals	harbor seal	FP	Year-round
Mammals	California sea lion	FP	Year-round
Mammals	Northern elephant seal	FP	Year-round
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Dec - May
Plants	kelp beds		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	/	Office of Historic Preservation	(916) 445-7000
C	/	South Central Coastal Information Center	(657) 278-5395
E	John Hodge/Associate Field Manager	Bureau of Land Management, Coastal Natl. Monum	(661) 301-1659
O	/	Catalina Island Conservancy	(310) 510-1421
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	/Spill Coordinator (24hr)	US Fish and Wildlife Service	(760) 607-9768
T	/	US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Office	(805) 644-1766
T	/	US Navy Duty Officer, San Nicolas Island	(805) 989-2370

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:**

To protect sensitive species including a new colony of sea otters. There are several points on the island which may have one or more protected species. Location of deployment will depend on the direction of the incoming oil plume.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Watch weather and sea conditions.

**Site Strategies:**

**Strategy: 5-510.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

**Strategy:** This site is difficult to protect. Mechanical shoreline protection techniques are not likely to be effective because of high wave energy and rocky conditions at the site.

- a) Recommended response strategy is on-water containment and recovery (e.g. towed boom arrays).
- b) Pursue feasibility of alternative response technologies (e.g. dispersants and in-situ burning) to reduce the volume of oil reaching the site.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update**

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* Access best by boat.

*Land Access:* Access best by boat.

*On-Water Limitations:* Shallow reefs and thick kelp. No services available.

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

*Communications Problems:*

*Additional Operational Comments:* Access is exclusively by boat and air. Contact Naval Command in Port Hueneme as work will be close to a Naval facility and access is restricted.

