

6-260-A Site Summary - Batiquitos Lagoon**6-260-A****County:** San Diego**ACP Division/Segment:** SD - C - S014 SD - C - S015**NOAA Chart:** 18774**Map Book:** 1126 J1**Decimal Degrees:** 33.0882 -117.3044**Site Description:**

This site is within the following Marine Protected Area: Batiquitos Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area, and is governed by special protections established by the CDFW Marine Region. Batiquitos is a large intertidal lagoon that extends inland approximately 1.5 miles from the open coast. It is transected by Pacific Coast Highway, a railroad trestle, and the Interstate 5 freeway. Due to its large tidal prism, the entrance channel experiences significant tidal flow velocities in excess of 10 knots. Beneath the I-5 bridge the current may exceed 6 knots. The shoreline is a combination of sand and mud, with a broad exposed mudflat in much of the area east of I-5 during low tide. East of I-5 the bottom is covered with an expansive eelgrass bed. Numerous species of birds, fishes, invertebrates, terrestrial mammals, submerged and emergent vegetation occur here.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 9A Sheltered tidal flats

8C Sheltered riprap

1B Exposed solid man-made structures

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	Year-round	
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Feb - Sep	
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Birds	Light-footed Ridgway's rail	FE, SE	Year-round	
Birds	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Plants	estuary seablite	SR	Year-round	
Plants	Nuttall's lotus	SR	Variable	
Plants	coast woolly-heads	SR	Variable	
Plants	San Diego marsh-elder	SR	Year-round	
Plants	Orcutt's pincushion	SR	Variable	

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	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	South Coastal Information Center	(619) 594-5682
T	Gabriel Penaflor/Reserve Manager	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	(858) 467-4249
T	/San Diego Coast District	California State Parks	(619) 688-3260
T	/Southern Communication Dispatch	California State Parks	(951) 443-2969
T	/Spill Coordinator (24hr)	US Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Office	(760) 607-9768

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

Additional Site Summary Comments:

This site is within the following Marine Protected Area: Batiquitos Lagoon State Marine Conservation Area, and is governed by special protections established by the CDFW Marine Region. California least terns nest at three sites on the shoreline of Batiquitos Lagoon

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Refer to ACP Site 6-000-A for important information on the beach nesting birds that use this site. Be prepared to use site monitors to evaluate and minimize any potential negative effects (especially to listed species), that could result from cleanup and response activities at this site.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Strong currents in the established channels create navigational challenges especially for boom deployment efforts. Paired skiffs should be used for safe deployments.

Site Strategies:**Site Validation Level: V****Strategy: 6-260.1 Objective:** Divert Oil

Strategy: Deflection boom will need to be deployed in the entrance channel to divert petroleum toward small embayment's on the north and south side of the entrance channel for skimmer removal east of the PCH bridge.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			1200	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		6		
Skimmer				2		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			9		

Strategy: 6-260.2 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: Exclusion boom should be deployed inside the opening to the middle lagoon, beginning from east of the railroad trestle toward the northwest corner of the lagoon. Response equipment that can not be lifted manually from two potential shoreline locations must be lifted by crane on the I-5 bridge.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			1200	feet	
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		6		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			3		
Skimmer				1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			10		

Strategy: 6-260.3 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: Install 800' of boom to deflect incoming oil to the northeastern shoreline and exclude oil from the inner lagoon. One end of the boom should be anchored on the shoreline east of the I-5 over-crossing. The boom should cross the estuary and be anchored so that a skimmer can be installed and maintained from the access trail on the northern bank. Strategy was deployed during the Pipeline P00547 Incident and no oil was encountered.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			800	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: Last Test: 10/3/2021</i>
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		8		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			2		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			8		

Logistics:

Directions: Access into Batiquitos Lagoon is a significant challenge. The railroad trestle obstructs boat passage into the interior lagoon via the entrance channel. On the interior, only light skiffs can be launched from two potential boat entry points: on the north side east of I-5 near the interpretive center; and on the south side east of I-5 across the California least tern nesting area – but only during non-nesting season. Any heavy equipment could potentially be hoisted into the lagoon by crane from the I-5 Bridge.

Land Access: Access to the lagoon by land is very limited due to geography and private property concerns. The best

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access to the inner lagoon is across the foot path at 7380 Gabbiano Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011.

On-Water Limitations: Strong tidal currents. Response vessels are restricted to the west side of the railroad trestle due to low clearance.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Staging area is available adjacent to Pacific Coast Highway on the north and south sides of the lagoon mouth.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments: California least terns nest in this area.

