

**6-450-A Site Summary - Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve Island****6-450-A****County:** San Diego **ACP Division/Segment:** SD - J - S005 SD - J - S006**NOAA Chart:** 18773**Map Book:** 1329 H3**Decimal Degrees:** 32.61366 -117.10971**Site Description:**

The Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve Island is a man-made feature designed to provide wetland habitat for marsh inhabiting species, and nearshore habitat for California least tern nesting. The "island" is owned by the San Diego Port Authority and vehicle shoreline access may be available through South Bay Salt Company. Protection of the site is primarily directed toward exclusion of oil from the two small embayments that form the wetland habitat. The marshes are open to tidal exchange by three narrow tidal channels all located on the north side of the island.

**Resources at Risk:****ESI and Habitat:** 8B Sheltered solid man-made structures

7 Exposed tidal flat

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Feb - Sep	
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Plants	intertidal mudflat		Year-round	
Reptiles	green sea turtle	FT	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	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	South Coastal Information Center	(619) 594-5682
E	/Superintendent	South Bay Salt Company	(619) 423-3388
T	/Refuge Manager	San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge	(619) 575-2704
T	/Refuge Manager	San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge	(619) 575-2704
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:**

Numerous species of birds, invertebrates, and wetland vegetation occur here both seasonally and year-round. Green sea turtles were a common occurrence in the shallow waters of the back bay but numbers have declined after the removal of the powerplant that used bay water for cooling purposes. The turtles are a federally listed species, and are known to hibernate in the bay during the winter. Their activity increases during summer months. As an air breathing animal, they are very likely to be found near the water surface, and they are very susceptible to injury from boat propellers.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Refer to ACP Site 6-000-A for important information on 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:**

This shallow water site is best accessed at +3' or higher tides.

**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 6-450.1 Objective:** See the Cross-Bay Boom Strategy 6-420.

*Strategy:* Collect oil off-site using boom sets or towed boom arrays to prevent oil migration to this site.

Table of Response Resources

**Last Page Update**

**Strategy: 6-450.2 Objective:** Exclude Oil

*Strategy:* 6-445.2 and 6-450.2: Deploy harbor boom from the south corner of the Chula Vista Marina seawall southward toward the northwest corner of the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve. A 400 foot segment should be extended to the west from the CV Wildlife Reserve corner to serve as a containment area to allow recovery of deflected oil. Vacuum trucks can be staged at this corner for recovery operations.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			400	feet	<i>Strategy Updated: 2/16/2016</i> <i>Last Test:</i>
Anchor	Danforth	15 lb		2		
Vessel	Boom Boat			2		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			4		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* Exit I-5 at the L Street off ramp. Turn left at the stop sign and drive about ¼ mile to the South Bay Salt Company entry gate. From there the "island" is accessible by levy roads. Response equipment and personnel can be delivered to any needed location on the island, provided nesting bird issues do not preclude access.

*Land Access:* All land access is possible from the Salt Works property 1470 Bay Blvd, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

*On-Water Limitations:* Not possible on lower tides, only shallow draft vessels on higher tides can safely access this area.

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

*Communications Problems:*

*Additional Operational Comments:*

