

County: San Diego**ACP Division/Segment:** SD - J - S006**NOAA Chart:** 18773**Map Book:** 1329 G5**Decimal Degrees:** 32.60154 -117.11483**Site Description:**

The South Bay National Wildlife Refuge was previously known as the South Bay Salt Works. The Otay River Channel bisects the Refuge. The Refuge ponds are segregated from the San Diego Bay and the Otay River Channel by a levee system & water control gates. The refuge can be protected by closing the tidal gates. The river mouth can be protected by deployment of exclusion boom. A refuge improvement project removed a portion of the levee west of the Otay River mouth. A new strategy was added in 2018 to provide marsh protection at the levee breach.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 8C Sheltered riprap

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Birds	California Ridgeway's rail	FE, SE	Year-round	
Birds	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	Year-round	
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Feb - Sep	
Plants	intertidal mudflat		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	/San Diego Coast District	California State Parks	(619) 688-3260
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:

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

This area is a shallow water mudflat with limited low tide access.

Hazard and Restrictions:**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II**

Strategy: 6-455.1 Objective: Use 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. See the Cross-Bay Boom Strategy 6-420.2

Table of Response Resources

Last Page Update

Strategy: 6-455.2 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: Deploy boom across the Otay River channel to bring oil to a suitable place along the shoreline for collection.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			500	feet	
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			4		
Anchor	Danforth	25 lb		4		

Strategy: 6-455.3 Objective: Exclude Oil

Strategy: Deploy a deflection boom in front of the levy breach to exclude oil from entering the restoration marsh on an incoming tide.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Harbor Boom			500	feet	
Vessel	Boom Boat or Skiff			1		
Anchor	Danforth	22 lb		3		
Staff	Staff to Deploy			2		

Logistics:

Directions: The river mouth can be approached by boat and river levee. The south bay water is quite shallow in this region. During very low tidal cycles this area becomes a vast mud flat. Even during high tidal cycles, only shallow draft boats should approach this area. The river levee is a good alternative protective boom deployment option, but several locked gates will be encountered, and teams of responders will need to be sent to both sides of the river to secure the site.

Land Access: Truck access to the mouth of the Otay River is available from Silver Strand Blvd. and from the Salt Works property; 1470 Bay Blvd, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

On-Water Limitations: Limited due to shallow water at flood tides.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:

Communications Problems:

Additional Operational Comments: The South Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Otay River are closely integrated. The Refuge was previously known as the South Bay Salt Works, but was designated as a wildlife refuge in 2000. The Refuge water is controlled by a series of flood gates. Protection of this area is achieved by closure of flood gates, as necessary. The Otay River mouth is situated in the southwest corner of San Diego Bay. Protection of this site may require the placement of harbor boom across the river channel.

