

**6-450-A Site Summary - Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve Island****6-450-A****County :** San Diego **ACP Division/Segment :** SD - J - S004 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 elevated habitat for California least tern nesting. The site is a peninsula connected to the mainland at the South Bay Power Plant property, and accessible from land only through the facility. The "island" is owned by the San Diego Port Authority, and entry must be approved by them and cleared by the power plant managers. 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
Birds	California least tern	FE, SE	Feb - Sep
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT	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	Dr. Seth Mallios/	South Coastal Information Center	(619) 594-5682
O	/	Coastal and Marine Institute	(619) 594-7723
T	/Southern Comms. Center (SURCOM) 24-hr	CA State Parks	(951) 443-2944
T	/	National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-4043
T	/Refuge Manager (Ext. 302)	S.D. Bay N.W.R	(619) 575-2704
T	On Call/Spill Coordinator	US Fish Wildlife Service Carlsbad 24 hour	(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 are a common occurrence in the shallow waters of the back bay. They 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:**

**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:** Deploy boom to prevent oil spread in the area.

*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:</i> 2/16/2016 <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 Power Plant entry gate. The "island" is accessible by road. Response equipment and personnel can be delivered to any needed

*Land Access:* All land access is possible. The Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve is just offshore from the park near street

*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:*

