

**County:** Santa Cruz **ACP Division/Segment:** SZ - B - S018**NOAA Chart:** 18685**Map Book:** 991**Decimal Degrees:** 36.94918 -122.06718**Site Description:**

Younger Lagoon consists of a brackish water pool and surrounding marsh habitat that is densely populated by various waterbirds and shorebirds. A natural sand berm protects the lagoon most of the year but is known to breach during sufficient rainfall events in the winter months. The Younger Lagoon Reserve is managed by the University of California Santa Cruz. Site is within the Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Nesting seabirds in the surrounding area include black oystercatcher, Brandt's cormorant, pigeon guillemot, and Western gull.

**Resources at Risk:****ESI and Habitat:** 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	seabird colony		Year-round	Apr-Aug
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Insects	Ohlone tiger beetle	FE	Year-round	
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	pinnipeds	FP	Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	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	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
E	/Office	Joseph M. Long Marine Lab. Of UC Santa Cruz	(831) 459-2928
E	/Office	Younger Lagoon Reserve of UC Santa Cruz	(831) 459-2455
T	/Emergency Responder, 24-hr	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 236-6797
T	/Agency Representative	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 575-6050
T	/Spill Response Coordinator	US Fish and Wildlife Service	(805) 644-1766

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

**Additional Site Summary Comments:**

The Joseph M. Long Marine Laboratory operates a seawater intake that serves all facilities on McAllister Way; see Economic Site section. Moderate recreational use during summer and fall.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Railroad tracks are not active.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Lagoon and beach access via gated footpath.

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

**Strategy: 3-185.1 Objective:** No Onsite Options: Consider Offshore Containment/Recovery/ART

*Strategy:* Site access is a steep, narrow footpath. During low outflow a natural sand berm forms at the lagoon mouth which may provide adequate protection without additional action. During high outflow the lagoon may be naturally protected from tidal influence. Do not pursue land-based response when access is unsafe or when lagoon outflow/natural berm provides sufficient natural protection. Offshore response only.

A) Recommended response strategy is on-water containment and recovery.

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**

*Strategy Updated:* 3/18/2022

*Last Test:*

**Strategy: 3-185.2 Objective:** Exclude Oil

*Strategy:* When lagoon is susceptible to tidal influence, exclude oil with either filter fence or swamp boom. Selection of filter fence vs swamp boom will be determined by lagoon outflow conditions. Line swamp boom with sorbent boom. All equipment must be hand-carried via footpath.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Construction Fence		4 x 100 feet		2	Rolls	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 3/18/2022
Oil Snare (pom-pom)				180		<i>Last Test:</i>
T-post		6 feet		12		
Stake driver				1		
Staff				6		
Boom	Swamp			150	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			150	feet	
Stakes				4		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* Joseph M. Long Marine Laboratory property (115 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95060); over 200 parking spaces among all facilities on McAllester Way.

*Land Access:* Lagoon and beach access via gated footpath that originates from the Long Marine Lab property. Contact Younger Lagoon Reserve for current gate access code.

*On-Water Limitations:* Nearest vessel launch site is Santa Cruz Harbor (3 nautical miles).

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Unpaved parking lot across from the CDFW facility may be suitable for a small staging area; 95 parking spaces. Small conference room at the CDFW-OSPR Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center. No public restrooms.

*Communications Problems:* None.

