

County: Santa Cruz ACP Division/Segment: SZ - C - S006

NOAA Chart: 18685

Map Book: 992

Decimal Degrees: 36.96415 -122.01247

**Site Description:**

The San Lorenzo River forms a brackish marsh that extends from the river mouth to the confluence of Carbonara Creek 1.15 miles upstream. A natural sand berm forms at the river mouth during low river outflow and the river mouth location varies when it breaches the berm. Tidal action often overtops natural berm. The river channel is dredged for flood control. The west bank of the river mouth is easily accessible from Santa Cruz Beach and leads to a paved walking path that follows the river channel. The east bank of the river mouth is accessible by footpath down a steep sandstone bluff. Site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Harbor seal rookery and haulout on sheltered tidal flats. Western snowy plovers may nest on Seabright Beach Mar-Sep.

**Resources at Risk:**

- ESI and Habitat: 8A Sheltered scarps in bedrock, mud, or clay
- 3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches
- 7 Exposed tidal flat
- 8C Sheltered riprap
- 9A Sheltered tidal flats

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	Mar-Sep
Fish	coho salmon - south of Punta Gorda	FE, SE	Year-round	Nov-Feb
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Insects	Ohlone tiger beetle	FE	Year-round	
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	Pacific harbor seal	FP	Year-round	Feb-May
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	City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation	(831) 420-5270
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:**

Heavy recreational use.

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

Heavy recreational use. Harbor seal pupping on riverbank Feb-May. Western snowy plovers may nest on Seabright Beach Mar-Sep.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Access to the downcoast bank of the river mouth via steep footpath.

**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: II****Strategy: 3-210.1 Objective:** Build Berm

*Strategy:* Exclude oil from river by building a sediment berm with native sand using heavy equipment. May need to install PVC pipe below berm to allow for water outflow. Place sorbent boom 30 feet upstream of berm.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Bulldozer or Loader				1		
PVC Pipe			6 inch	500	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			300	feet	
Stakes				2		
Staff				10		

**Strategy: 3-210.2 Objective:** Deploy Containment Boom

*Strategy:* Divert oil to the sandy west riverbank using a series of deflection booms. Line upstream side of swamp boom with sorbent boom.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp			800	feet	
Boom	Sorbent			800	feet	
Anchor	Danforth			9		
Stakes				4		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff				5		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* West river mouth access parking, River Lot (36.965930°, -122.013836°); over 500 parking spaces. East river mouth parking and access (36.964184°, -122.011356°); 19 parking spaces.

*Land Access:* West river mouth access from Santa Cruz Beach. East river mouth access via footpath from E Cliff Dr. Heavy equipment access from west end of Santa Cruz Beach (36.963739°, -122.021100°).

*On-Water Limitations:* Nearest vessel launch site is Santa Cruz Harbor (0.5 nautical miles). Depending on conditions it may be possible to launch a skiff from corner of Beach St. and 3rd St. under railroad bridge.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Large paved parking lot along San Lorenzo River inland of the boardwalk can support a large staging area (River Lot, 6 acres).

*Communications Problems:* None.

