

3-175 -A Site Summary- Wilder Creek Inlet and Beach**3-175 -A****County:** Santa Cruz**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Santa Cruz

991

36° 56.8'

122° 04.9'

NOAA Chart:**Last Page Update:** 6/30/2014**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Nature preserve closed to public access. Pocket beach 400 yds long by 150 yds deep. Wilder Creek meanders thru marsh habitat and deposits into ocean at south end of beach, but may vary year to year. Site includes creek, marsh, adjacent beach and terminates at steep cliffs at both north and south ends. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources. Wilder Creek Natural Preserve. Access is difficult. Areas around beach are high cliffs with few, if any, trails down to the beach. Contact State Parks for assistance accessing beach area.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year round.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Use caution in sand area near rivermouth as snowy plovers (FT) may utilize habitat year round. Lagoon contains juvenile salmonids using area as nursery before deploying into pacific. Major harbor seal haul-out on coastal rocks about 1/2 mile to the northwest.

Coastal sea birds including brown pelicans and cormorants; shore birds including western snowy plovers (FT). Was historically a snowy plover nesting area.

While not a significant gathering site, Southern Sea Otters (FT) are common throughout Santa Cruz and Monterey counties and may be present near-shore year round. Zayante band-winged grasshopper (FE) occurs on site.

Steelhead trout (FT) utilize estuary for staging and nursery and creek for spawning.

Site is located within Black Abalone Critical Habitat. Actual presence of black abalone is unknown.

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

White-rayed pentachaeta (SE/FE) occurs on site.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Contact the California Dept of Parks and Recreation - Office of Historic Preservation (Eric Allison: 916-445-7044), and the Northwest Information Center (Bryan Much, Sonoma State College: 707-588-8455) for specific information on historic or cultural resources in this area.

KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name	Title	Organization	Phone
T/E/C		Santa Cruz District	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(831) 335-6390
O			Santa Cruz County Sherriff	(831) 471-1121
T/E/C		Northern Communications	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(916) 358-0333
O	Chris Coburn	Resources Planner	Santa Cruz County - Environmental Health Services	(831) 454-2763
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251
E/T	David Ledig		BLM California Coastal National Monument	(831) 630-5006
T	Becky Ota	Marine Conservation Mgr	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
E/T	James Weigand	Ecologist	BLM	(916) 978-4656
T	Steve Wertz	Senior Env. Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

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NOAA Chart:**Last Page Update:** 6/30/2014**CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:**

Coastal sea birds including brown pelicans and cormorants; shore birds including western snowy plovers (FT), one of the largest populations in the state. Snowy plover nesting area. Sea otters (FT) may be present. Steelhead trout (FT) in stream.

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:**SITE STRATEGIES**

Strategy 3-175.1 Objective: Exclude oil by berming, place sorbent boom 30' landward of berm to ensure oil exclusion

Close off inlet with sediment dike or appropriate equivalent. Install underflow 6" PVC pipes to allow discharge. Note: Sand may be scarce during erosion episodes. Limited vehicle access to beach due to steep, rocky descent to south beach.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	tvoe and dear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-175.1	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	600' 6" PVC pipe, dozer or equivalent berming	12	

LOGISTICS

DIRECTIONS: to site (by land and/or by water, to nearest launch ramp and are access permits required.)

Access is difficult. From Santa Cruz, take Highway 1 north (toward Half Moon Bay). Turn left at Wilder Ranch State Park. Follow this road to the park Headquarters and ask for further access directions. Areas around beach are high cliffs with few, if any, trails down to the beach. Nature preserve closed to public access. Pocket beach 400 yds long by 150 yds deep. Wilder Creek meanders thru marsh habitat and deposits into ocean at south end of beach, but may vary year to year. Site includes creek, marsh, adjacent beach and terminates at steep cliffs at both north and south ends. Site is within the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Natural Bridges State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS 4WD, Emergency access only. Contact Trustee (State Parks).

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking

and Services Available:

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

