

3-250 -A Site Summary- Soquel Creek Inlet**3-250 -A****County:** Santa Cruz**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Santa Cruz

973

36° 58.2'

121° 56.8'

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

Soquel Creek transits through heavily urbanized area of Capitola. Creek deposits on heavily recreated beach adjacent to highly populated area. Creek and lagoon may be naturally bermed off during summer months forming a large lagoon area. Site includes Creek mouth and adjacent beach up to Stockton Ave. Capitola Pier located on western beach supporting recreational boating, fishing opportunities and tourism facilities.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year round. The Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog and brown pelicans are known to occur onsite.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Soquel Creek supports several endangered species and has tremendous pressure from increasing anthropogenic factors.

Shore birds and coastal sea birds including cormorants and brown pelicans. Lagoon provides winter habitat for mallards, grebes, coots and gulls. Dabbling ducks and shorebirds are common within site boundaries.

Western pond turtles (CA Species of Special Concern) are common within the lagoon. 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.

Soquel creek supports an important Steelhead trout (FT) run.

Brackish Water Snail (*Tryonia imitator*) is known to occur onsite (CNDDDB).

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

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
O			Capitola-Soquel Chamber of Commerce	(831) 475-6522
O			Capitola Police Department	(831) 471-1141
O			Capitola Boat and Bait	(831) 462-2208
O			City of Capitola	(831) 475-7300
T			Santa Cruz County Parks	(831) 454-7900
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

High recreational use: Capitola City Beach and Esplanade (restaurant and shopping area). Offshore boat moorings.

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CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

Shore birds and coastal sea birds including cormorants and brown pelicans. Lagoon provides winter habitat for mallards, grebes, coots and gulls. The creek supports an important steelhead trout run.

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:**SITE STRATEGIES**

Strategy 3-250.1 Objective: Exclude oil by berming, place sorbent boom 30' landward of berm to ensure oil exclusion

This inlet can probably be closed with a sediment dike (medium-grain sand about 300 feet long). If the inlet cannot be closed, use deflection boom to divert oil to the sandy area on the west side of the channel. Use 6' PVC to construct underflow if there is discharge. Assess and advise UC for skimmable oil potential.

Strategy 3-250.2 Objective: shoreside skimming when skimmable oil is present.

Divert oil to west side of channel (near highway bridge), for shoreside skimming and/or collection.

Table of Response Resources

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-250.1		100			4 2 Stakes or 2 Danforth as needed				600' 6" PVC pipe, or equivalent berming	15	
3-250.2	0	300	0	0	4 stakes and anchors	0	0	1 SSS 0		2	

LOGISTICS

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

From Santa Cruz, take Highway 1 south to Bay Avenue off ramp in Capitola. Turn right onto Bay Avenue. Continue on Bay Avenue and turn right onto Capitola Avenue. Turn right onto Stockton Avenue. Turn left onto Esplanade, and follow to parking lot. Soquel Creek transits through heavily urbanized area of Capitola. Creek deposits on heavily recreated beach adjacent to highly populated area. Creek and lagoon may be naturally bermed off during summer months forming a large lagoon area. Site includes Creek mouth and adjacent beach up to Stockton Ave.

LAND ACCESS

Large trucks and earthmoving equipment accessible.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction
Launching, Loading, Docking
and Services Available:

Nearest launch at Santa Cruz Harbor.

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:****ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**

