

3-301 -A Site Summary- Zmudowski Beach State Park**3-301 -A**

County:	Monterey	Thomas Guide Location	Latitude N	Longitude W
USGS Quad:	Moss Landing	1035	36° 49.8'	121 48.2'
NOAA Chart:				

Last Page Update: 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Bounded to north by Pajaro rivermouth and extends south to Moss Landing State Beach. Beach area is approximately 1.5 miles in length and 50yds wide. There are no other further beach access points north of Moss Landing Harbor and the Giberson Road access point. Zmudowski Beach State Park has fine to medium course grain sandy beach backed by vegetated dunes. Semi-remote location receives less recreational impacts than more accessible beach areas.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Year Round for species listed below.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

All beach area is critical habitat for the western snowy plover (FT). Use caution when conducting any beach response and especially in the dunes. Nesting on beaches March through September and site serves as rookery all year long.

Western Snowy Plover (FT) use area as nesting, foraging, and roosting habitat; present year-round, nesting March-September (major nesting site). Other sea and shore birds utilize area to forage/roost.

The black legless lizard (CA Species of Special Concern) uses the vegetated dune habitat in this area. Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (SE/FE) occurs in McClusky Slough just east of the dunes. Globose dune beetle also uses habitat oceanward of vegetated dunes. 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.

Pismo Clams are concentrated along intertidal shoreline.

Monterey spineflower (FT) occurs in the dunes. Sensitive dune plants include *Gilia tenuiflora* ssp. *Arenaria* (greater yellowthroat gilia), *Menzies wallflower* (SE/FE), and *Chorizanthe pungens*.

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		Northern Communications	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(916) 358-0333
T/E/C		Monterey District	CA Department of Parks & Recreation	(831) 649-2836
T	Scott Kathey	Emergency Response Coord.	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4251

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

High recreational use. The entrance to the ecologically diverse Elkhorn Slough is directly adjacent to Zmudowski Beach.

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CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

Seasonal (nesting) of Western snowy plovers (FT) will affect vehicle and beach access; access must be approved of State Park staff. The black legless lizard (CA Species of Special Concern) uses the vegetated dune habitat in this area. Monterey spineflower (FT) occurs in the dunes. Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (SE/FE) occurs in McClusky Slough just east of the dunes. Globose dune beetle (candidate species) also uses habitat oceanward of vegetated dunes. Listed and sensitive dune plants include Gilia tenuiflora, Menzies wallflower, and Corisanthe purgens.

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:

Potentially heavy surf in fall and winter months.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 3-301.1 Objective: Offshore Containment and Recovery Activities to Minimize or Avert Oil From Impacting Shoreline Habitats and Wildlife

This site is difficult to protect as is most of the outer coast. No on-site protection is feasible.

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

strategy number	harbor boom	swamp boom	Other boom type	sorb boom	Anchoring no	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
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LOGISTICS

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

Seasonal (nesting) of Western snowy plovers (FT) will affect vehicle and beach access; access must be approved of State Park staff. Access to the State Park coastal parking area, which gives ready access to the beach, is off Highway 1 at Struve Road via Giberson Road. Zmudowski State Beach includes most of the beach and dunes between the Pajaro River Inlet and Moss Landing. The northernmost vehicular beach access is from the unpaved farm road that starts on the north side of the Zmudowski State Beach parking lot (through a locked gate). Turn left onto the beach from this road at the designated location. At that point is the designated 4WD access to the beach. Access to the beach at the south end of Zmudowski Beach is by way of Moss Landing State Beach. Turn off Highway 1 at the State Beach sign and follow the road to the parking area. Bounded to north by Pajaro rivermouth and extends south to Moss Landing State Beach. Beach area is approximately 1.5 miles in length and 50yds wide. There are no other further beach access points north of Moss Landing Harbor and the Giberson Road access point.

LAND ACCESS

Beach accessible thru locked gate, contact State Parks.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launch from Moss Landing.

Launching, Loading, Docking

and Services Available:

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

