

3-515 -A Site Summary- Little Sur Inlet and Beach**3-515 -A****County:** Monterey**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Point Sur

B

36° 20.3'

121° 54.4'

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

Little Sur Creek forms a lagoon as gradient levels out. Creek mouth opens along half-mile long beach. Rocky outcropping at creek mouth. There's a significant riparian habitat adjacent to creekbed. Beach backed by vegetated bluffs. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources. Sand is abundant near rivermouth but access is difficult due to private ownership. Location of lagoon and creek mouth may vary each year depending on creek volume flow and sand accretion.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Pinnipeds use area as a haul out area. Sea otters are common in nearshore kelp beds.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Resources at risk are those T & E species listed below utilizing creek and lagoon area.

Shorebirds and seabirds including the brown pelican and Western snowy plover (FT) Western snowy plover (FT): non-breeding birds likely present and nesting may occur, March-September. California Condors (SE/FE) and the Peregrine Falcon (CA Fully Protected Species) exist within site parameters.

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. Sea lions haul-out on offshore rocks and are known to frequent Ventura Rocks (approx one-mile to NW).

Steelhead trout (FT) and Tidewater goby (FE) are known to utilize creek and lagoon. Pacific Lamprey utilize creek for spawning and habitat.

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

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

Compact cobwebby thistle (*Cirsium occidentale* var. *compactum*) are found on location.

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
E		Foreman	El Sur Ranch	(831) 624-3514
	Jim Hill	Owner	El Sur Ranch	(831) 624-2719
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
E/T	James Weigand	Ecologist	BLM	(916) 978-4656

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

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CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

Make every effort to close off inlet to ponded area. There are shorebirds and seabirds including the brown pelican and Western snowy plover (FT). Sea otters (FT) present offshore. Anadromous stream for steelhead trout (FT) and tidewater goby (FE).

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:

Private ownership, Big Sur Ranch

SITE STRATEGIES

Make every effort to close off inlet to ponded area.

Strategy 3-515.1 Objective: Exclude oil by berming, place sorbent boom 30' landward of berm to ensure oil exclusion

Construct sediment dike (up to 600-700 feet long) using local sediment of medium-grained sand. Sediment dike may be washed out during high discharge events on the river, but can be reconstructed as flood conditions wane.

Strategy 3-515.2 Objective: Exclude oil by booming (in lieu of berming) when tide/surge threatens to transport oil into wetland

Deploy deflection booms at an angle across the current to landward side of lagoon toward a site favorable for collection (based on prevailing current and wind directions). A pram may be necessary to execute deployment.

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
3-515.1	0	0	0	300	0 anchors or stakes to secure boom	0	0	0	0 dozer or front loader to construct sediment berm	3	2
3-515.2	0	1000	0	0	5 2 anchors and 3 stakes	0	1	0	0	4	2

LOGISTICS

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

This site is on private land (El Sur Ranch). Contact the ranch owner or foreman for access information and permission to pass. Take Highway 1 south past Rio Road (in Carmel) about 15 miles. The highway takes a broad sweep inland just as it crosses the river. The Little Sur River bridge has the river name on it. There are at least foot paths, but perhaps no vehicle access, from the bridge side. However, vehicle access may be possible from the ranch just upcoast from the river. Little Sur Creek forms a lagoon as gradient levels out. Creek mouth opens along half-mile long beach. Rocky outcropping at creek mouth. There's a significant riparian habitat adjacent to creekbed. Beach backed by vegetated bluffs. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS

Private ownership; locked gates;

WATER LOGISTICS:

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

ATV access may be possible in creek bottom at low flows.

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

