

3-525 -A Site Summary- Sandy Beach South of Point Sur**3-525 -A****County:** Monterey**Thomas Guide Location****Latitude N****Longitude W****USGS Quad:** Point Sur

B

36° 17.7'

121° 54.0'

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

Site to include the sandy beach south of Point Sur approx 1.25 mile long and extending down to the rocky headland known as False Sur. Back dunes are vegetated and suited for snowy plover nesting. Beach abuts to Pt Sur headlands to north and terminates to south at rocky outcropping. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge and the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Point Sur State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources. Fine to medium grained sandy beach with intertidal rocks and boulders. Beach area may change year to year depending on ocean conditions.

SEASONAL AND SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Pinnipeds commonly use beaches and rocky ledges as haul-outs. Pupping season Dec-May.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Pinnipeds haul out here and harbor seals may pup here Feb-May.

Shorebirds and seabirds. Black Swifts (CA Species of Special Concern). Peregrine Falcons are known to nest on rock cliffs.

Pinniped haul-out area on nearshore rocky platforms. 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. Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) overwinter here and Smith's Blue Butterflies are known to occur nearby.

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

Kelp beds are common near-shore.

Sandmat (Dune) Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pumila*) and Little Sur Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos edmundsii*) are known to occur within site boundaries. Seacliff buckwheat occurs in area.

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	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:

3-525 -A Site Strategy - Sandy Beach South of Point Sur**3-525 -A**

County: Monterey

Thomas Guide Location

Latitude N

Longitude W

USGS Quad: Point Sur

B

36° 17.7'

121° 54.0'

NOAA Chart:

Last Page Update: 6/30/2014

CONCERNS AND ADVICE TO RESPONDERS:

Sea otters (FT), shorebirds and seabirds, including brown pelicans and Western snowy plovers (FT).

HAZARDS AND RESTRICTIONS:

The northwestern approximately 75 meters of beach (to northeast of Pt Sur rock) is owned by California State Parks. Remainder of beach (to southeast) is privately owned (El Sur Ranch.) Property on both sides of road from locked gate to restrooms at base of rock is privately owned (El Sur Ranch.) A second locked gate exists approximately 100 meters up road from the base of Pt Sur rock.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 3-525.1 Objective: Offshore Containment and Recovery Activities to Minimize or Avert Oil From Impacting Shoreline Habitats and Wildlife. Prevent injury to sand dunes from cleanup activities.

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 type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No Type	Special Equipment or comment No and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
3-525.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

LOGISTICS

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

Take Highway 1 south from Rio Road (in Carmel) about 20 miles. Pt. Sur Lighthouse is on the right. Conspicuous beaches are on either side of the point, with access possible from a paved road. Conditions permitting, small boats may be launched from the beach on the lee side of the point. This beach is on the downcoast side of Point Sur. Site to include the sandy beach south of Point Sur approx 1.25 mile long and extending down to the rocky headland known as False Sur. Back dunes are vegetated and suited for snowy plover nesting. Beach abuts to Pt Sur headlands to north and terminates to south at rocky outcropping. Site is within the California Sea Otter Game Refuge and the following State Marine Protected Area(s): Point Sur State Marine Reserve. Site is associated with BLM California Coastal National Monument resources.

LAND ACCESS

Large trucks on road; foot access only on beaches

WATER LOGISTICS:

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

Conditions permitting, small boats may be launched from the beach on the lee side of the point.

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

