

County: Santa Barbara ACP Division/Segment: SB - E - S02

NOAA Chart: 18700

Map Book: 365 C x 4

Decimal Degrees: 34.6084 -120.6372

**Site Description:**

Special Permission required for access through Vandenberg Space Force Base (see Land Access for more info). La Honda creek lies approx. 0.3 mi north of Pt. Pedernales and is accessible from the south side of the lagoon only. It is a relatively narrow creek with a small coastal lagoon and wetland. The mouth opens onto a pocket beach of medium to coarse-grained sand. To the north are steep dunes and to the south are steep cliffs. Very heavy surf conditions occur along this section of coast. Vandenberg State Marine Reserve is offshore of this site. Various waterfowl and wading birds are present.

**Resources at Risk:**

- ESI and Habitat: 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes
- 9B Vegetated low banks
- 3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	tidewater goby	FE, SSC	Year-round	
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	

FT-Federally Threatened, FE-Federally Endangered, FP-Federally Protected, SE-State Endangered, ST-State Threatened, SP -State Protected, SR-State Rare, SSC-Species of Special Concern, BGEPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

**List of Key Contacts:**

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/	Central Coast Information Center	(805) 682-4711
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
E	/Law Enforcement Desk (24hr)	Vandenberg Space Force Base	(805) 606-3911
E	Wayne Moses/Chief Conservation Officer	Vandenberg Space Force Base	(805) 606-6804
T	Steve Wertz/Senior Env. Scientist Supervisor	California Department of Fish and Wildlife, MPAs	(562) 343-3808
T	/Spill Response Coordinator	US Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal T&E Species	(805) 644-1766

C – Cultural, Historic, Archaeological; E – Entry/Owner/Access; O – Other; S – Safety; T – Trustee; X – Exclusion or Security

**Additional Site Summary Comments:**

**Concerns and Advice to Responders:**

The lagoon is habitat for a Threatened/Endangered fish and other sensitive species. Animals and habitat can be injured by oil and response/cleanup activities unless responders minimize disturbance in stream, lagoon, and associated vegetation; avoid trampling oil into sediments; and follow protective conditions from IC and resource biologists.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Special Permission required for access through Vandenberg Space Force Base (see Land Access for more info).

A. Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in this area. Use appropriate PPE, safety procedures, and include reference to potential health problems in any site safety plan.

B. Safety Considerations- Roads, trails, beach cliffs and hillsides may be unstable in wet weather. Beware of flashfloods in canyons during rainy weather, ticks, poison oak, and rattlesnakes. Beware of trains at unregulated Railroad Crossings. Care must be taken when working on beaches backed by high cliffs. Safe entries to and exits from beaches in this area are related to tides and beach sand levels- YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

**Site Strategies:**

**Site Validation Level: II**

**Strategy: 4-555.1 Objective:** Exclude Oil

**Strategy:** Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet to minimize the likelihood of oiling the estuary. Place the booms in a configuration that forms an adjustable oil collection pocket that can accommodate changes in flow direction. Back exclusion booms with sorbent booms to minimize leakage. Line the shorelines and any side channels within the inlet to prevent collateral oiling. If there is recoverable oil on-water, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers. Monitor, adjust, and replace booms as needed to maintain effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp Boom			200	feet	
Boom	Sorbent Boom			200	feet	
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff	Staff			5		
Anchor				2		

**Strategy: 4-555.2 Objective:** Erect Filter Fence

**Strategy:** Construct a filter fence across the front of the channel where the inlet is narrowest, water flows are low or dry, the ground can receive and hold metal stakes, and the spill is heavy oil. Monitor barrier and replace pom-poms as necessary to maintain effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Fence	Construction Fencing	4 x 100	feet	2	Rolls	
Misc.	Oil Snare (pom-pom)				200	
stakes	T-posts	6	feet	4		
Misc.	Stake Driver			1		
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff				5		

**Strategy: 4-555.3 Objective:** Build Sandbag Dam

*Strategy:* Build a sandbag exclusion/containment dam using onsite materials or imported materials as directed by CDFW biologist. Use clean low silt content sand. If using onsite materials obtain only from un-vegetated areas and have a cultural specialist onsite to monitor. Install underflow pipes and/or a spillway to regulate water flows as conditions dictate. Closely regulate water levels to reduce collateral oiling. If there is recoverable oil on-water, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Sorbent Boom			200	feet	
anchors				4		
Staff				5		
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Sandbags				150		

**Strategy: 4-555.4 Objective:** Shoreline Pre-Clean: Resource Specialist Supervision Required

*Strategy:* Consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Hand crews to move and store kelp, driftwood, vegetative debris, trash, and other materials above high-tide line. Dispose of trash. Replace unoiled debris in its former location once the threat of oiling is past.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Misc.	Trash Bags					
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Staff				5		

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* Access to the creek mouth is by foot and possibly by all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) along a trail at the south end of the site. Sand is soft and may not support larger vehicles.

*Land Access:* This site is located on Vandenberg Space Force Base. Access to beaches and land sites must be authorized through the Space Force Base. For access authorization to air base roadways, lands and shorelines responders must call the Law Enforcement Desk at 805-606-3911 and the VSFB Conservation Office at 805-606-6804. An escort may be required in some locations.

*On-Water Limitations:* Avila Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor. Facilities for small vessel loading occur at the "Boat House" in the vicinity of Rocky Point just south of Point Arguello. These facilities could be utilized with permission from VSFB. Area is rocky.

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:*

*Communications Problems:* Cell phone communications are limited.

*Additional Operational Comments:* Protect the Marine Protected Area (MPA) boundaries.

