

4-610-A Site Summary - Refugio Creek**4-610-A***County:* Santa Barbara **ACP Division/Segment:** SB - J - S01*NOAA Chart:* 18721*Map Book:* 981 D x 5*Decimal Degrees:* 34.4631 -120.0696**Site Description:**

Refugio state beach covers 2.7 linear miles of shoreline in the vicinity of the creek mouth. The boundaries of the site on the beach extend east to west of the width of the channel. For a marine spill, the risk area extends upstream to the upper reaches of tidal influence. For inland spill the risk extends upstream of Highway 101 to the oil pipeline crossing of the watershed. To the east and west of the creek mouth are extensive fine to medium-grained sand beaches in the summer, changing to mixed sand and gravel in the winter. Two-striped garter snakes are present along with abundant seabirds and shorebirds. There is evidence of deer, bear, and mountain lions in the upper portions of the watershed. Extensive eelgrass beds in the area. Grunion spawning occurs in the spring and summer during high tides.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

9B Vegetated low banks

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

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 | |
| Birds | shorebirds | | Year-round | |
| Birds | Western snowy plover | FT, SSC | Oct-Feb | |
| Fish | tidewater goby | FE, SSC | Year-round | |
| Fish | California grunion | | Mar-Aug | |
| Invertebrates | invertebrates | | Year-round | |
| Mammals | Southern sea otter | FT, SP | Year-round | |
| Plants | kelp beds | | Year-round | |
| Reptiles | southwestern pond turtle | SSC | 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 | /Central Control Plant Operations (24hr) | ExxonMobil | (805) 961-4055 |
| T | SURCOM (24-hr)/ | California State Parks (Dispatch) | (951) 443-2969 |
| 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 and stream provide habitat for both sensitive and T/E species (fishes, amphibians, reptiles) which can be killed or 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:

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.

Site Strategies:

Site Validation Level: V

Strategy: 4-610.1 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 | | | 400 | feet | <i>Strategy Updated:</i> |
| Boom | Sorbent Boom | | | 400 | feet | <i>Last Test: 5/19/2015</i> |
| Vehicle | ATV | | | 1 | | |
| anchors | | | | 2 | | |
| Staff | | | | 5 | | |

Strategy: 4-610.2 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 | <i>Strategy Updated:</i> |
| Misc. | Oil Snare (pom-pom) | | | 360 | | <i>Last Test: 5/13/2014</i> |
| stakes | T-posts | 6 | feet | 20 | | |
| Misc. | Stake Driver | | | 1 | | |
| Vehicle | ATV | | | 1 | | |
| Staff | | | | 5 | | |

Strategy: 4-610.3 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 | | | 240 | feet | |
| stakes | | | | 24 | | |
| Vehicle | ATV | | | 1 | | |
| Staff | | | | 5 | | |
| Sandbags | | | | 200 | | |

Strategy: 4-610.4 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 |
|-----------|------------|------|------|-----|------|------------------|
| Vehicle | ATV | | | | | |
| Staff | | | | 5 | | |
| Misc. | Trash Bags | | | | | |

Logistics:

Directions: From US 101 (West of Santa Barbara) exit at Refugio Beach State Park.

Land Access: Access to this site is controlled by California State Parks. Call Surcom for after hours.

On-Water Limitations: Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full-service berthing, launching and fueling.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Excellent access for excavating equipment from large parking lot; good staging area.

Communications Problems: none

Additional Operational Comments: Due to the probable occurrence of western snowy plovers and/or California least terns at this site, please review the Sandy Beach Site Summary and Strategies (Site 4-000-A) for information on response operations when dealing with these sensitive species.

