

4-560 -A Site Summary- Point Pedernales & Point Arguello

4-560 -A

County: **Santa Barbara**
 USGS Quad: **Point Arguello**

Thomas Guide Location
 365 C x 4-5
 NOAA Chart: **18700**

Latitude N 34.60417
 Longitude W 120.64083

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION E. Special Permission required for access through Vandenberg Air Force Base (see Land Access for more info). This site extends from the Point Pedernales area to the "boat house", approximately 2 miles SSE of Rocky Point. The area is a combination of exposed rock cliffs, wave-cut platforms, fine to medium-grained sand beaches, mixed sand and gravel beaches, many of these being pocket beaches. This is a high energy, west facing coastal segment, with numerous offshore wash rocks. Vandenberg State Marine Reserve is included in this site. This site is associated with the following BLM California Coastal National Monument site: Destroyer Rock. This rock is west of Point Pedernales.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

December through June for Harbor seals pupping and breeding, spring through summer for sea birds nesting. All year for group of five to ten sea otters in the Point Pedernales area. Destroyer rock could likely have ashly storm-petrel nesting.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Rich intertidal biota including black abalone (FE/SE). Black abalone critical habitat. Leatherback turtle critical habitat.

Brown pelican (all year), Pigeon guillemot (all year), Rhinoceros auklet (all year), Pelagic cormorant (all year), Western gull (all year), Black oystercatcher (all year), and various shorebirds

Southern sea otters in point pedernales area; Harbor seals (Mar-Jun) mostly around rocky point.

California spiny lobster, Rockfish, Salmon sp.

Black abalone (all year), and Red sea urchins.

Bull kelp.

CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist on VAFB, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting Ryan Christopher, Chief Cultural Resources VAFB (805) 605-0748, Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Central Coast Archeological Information Center (805) 893-7341.

KEY CONTACTS: Trustee (T); Entry/Owner/Access (E); Cultural (C); or Other Assistance (O)

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E	George Croll Environmental Compliance	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-4749
E	Tom Devenoge Wildlife Biologist	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 605-2015
O	Emergency Command Post	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-9961
E	Rhys Evans Biologist (Birds and Otters)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-4198
T	Federally listed T/E species - Ventura Office	USFWS	(805) 644-1766
E	Fish and Game Office (Access, ATV, Guides)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-6804
C	Lynn Gambell Coordinator	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-7341
T	Mike Harris Marine Biologist	CDFW - OSPR (Marine Mammals & Sea Otters)	(831) 212-7090
T	Kai Lampson Marine Biologist	CDFW - (Nearshore Species)	(805) 965-7216
T	Mary Larson Fisheries Biologist	CDFW - (Steelhead)	(562) 537-8624
E	Law Enforcement Desk (24hrs)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-3911
E/T	David Ledig Coastal National Monument Manager	BLM	(831) 630-5006
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000
E	Operator	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-1110
T	Becky Ota Marine Conservation Manager	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(650) 631-6789
E	Edward Panas Chief Game Warden	Vandenberg AFB (Wildlife Protection)	(805) 606-6804
T	Elizabeth Petras Biologist	National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3238
O	Public Affairs (Media Events)	Vandenberg AFB	(805) 606-3595
E	Rangeland Manager	Vandenberg AFB (Access to range lands)	(805) 606-3271
E	Christopher Ryan Chief Cultural Resources	Vandenberg AFB (Cultural Resources)	(805) 605-0748
T	Steve Wertz Senior Environmental Scientist	CDFW Marine Protected Areas Program	(562) 342-7184

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:

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365 C x 4-5 Santa Barbara

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary spill threat from marine source. Inshore waters and shorelines contain sensitive habitat for invertebrates, birds, sea otters, and other marine mammals which can be injured or killed by oil. Because there are no practicable onshore response strategies for protecting these resources and the shorelines are virtually inaccessible except by foot traffic, landing craft or helicopter, it is best to collect and/or disperse oil offshore, before it reaches inshore areas or the shoreline.

HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

Special Permission required for access via Vandenberg Air Force Base (see Land Access for more info). Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in this area. Check with the county of Santa Barbara's ocean quality hotline, 805-681-4949, regarding health conditions prior to engaging in any activities which would require direct water contact. Use appropriate ppe, safety procedures, and include reference to potential health problems in any site safety plan.

SITE STRATEGIES

Onshore response strategies for protecting onshore and nearshore resources in this area are extremely limited. Whenever possible, attempt to collect and/or disperse oil in offshore locations before it reaches inshore areas or the shoreline.

Strategy 4-560.1 Objective: Shoreline Precleaning - Prevent oiling of wrack, trash, and other materials to reduce collateral contamination and disposal problems.

Shoreline Precleaning - 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. If heavy equipment is required for this operation, request trustee consultation and IC for authorization.

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
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4-560.1

103 2 ATVs, 100 Trash Bags, 1 Hand Tools

LOGISTICS

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

Access to the shoreline is available at the south end of site ("boat house"), but is very limited elsewhere. Old Coast Guard Building located above boat dock may provide a field command post.

LAND ACCESS:

This site is located on Vandenberg Airforce Base. Access to beaches and land sites must be authorized through the Air Force Base. For access authorization to air base roadways, lands and shorelines responders must call the Law Enforcement Desk @ 805-606-3911 and the Fish and Wildlife Office @ 805-606-6804. An escort may be required in some locations.

WATER LOGISTICS:

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Area is rocky.

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available:

Avila Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor. Facilities for small vessel loading occur at the "Boat House" in the vicinity of Rocky Pt. just south of Pt Arguello. These facilities could be utilized with permission from VAFB. Area is rocky.

FACILITIES, STAGING AREAS, POSSIBLE FIELD POSTS AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

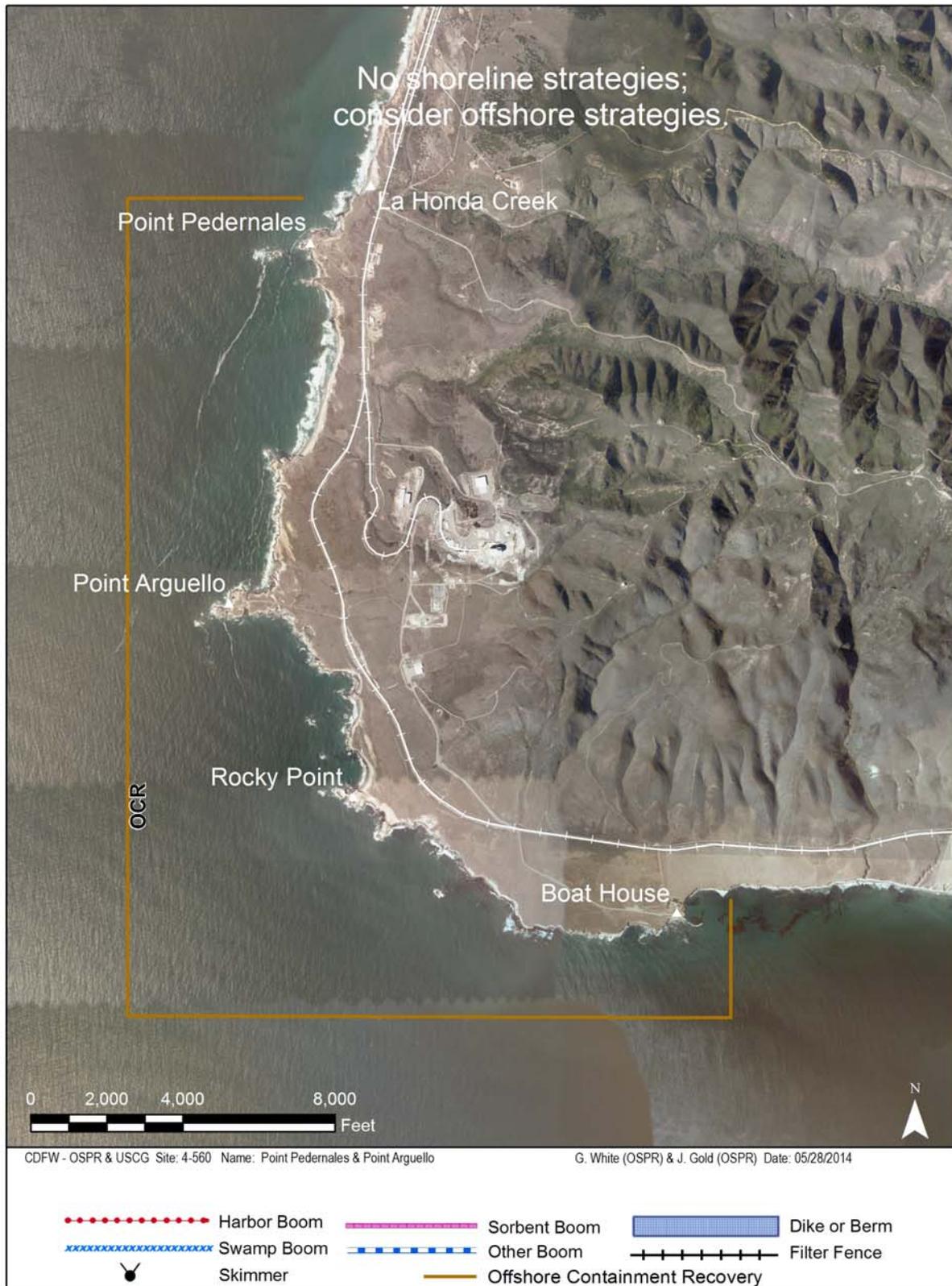
Old Coast Guard Building located on Bluffs above boat dock may provide a field command post.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

Cell phone communications are limited.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:

The California Department of Fish and Game and VAFB must be consulted before the staging of motorized equipment and heavy traffic are permitted.



Imagery: NAIP 2010 (Summer) 4-Band