

**4-607 -A Site Summary- Arroyo Hondo Preserve and Creek****4-607 -A**

County: **Santa Barbara**  
 USGS Quad: **Gaviota**

Thomas Guide Location  
 365J X 7  
 NOAA Chart: **18721**

Latitude N  
 34.474  
 Longitude W  
 -120.141

Last Page Update : 11/19/2014
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**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION I. This creek is owned by the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County. For a marine spill the risk area extends upstream to the upper reaches of the tidal influence. For an inland spill the risk extends upstream of Highway 101 to the oil pipeline crossing of the watershed which is the Plains-All American Coastal Pipeline. There is also a natural gas line that crosses the creek. The railroad trestle also crosses the creek mouth, lagoon and marsh. To the east and west of the creek mouth are cobble beaches.

**SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN**

Tidewater Gobies (federally endangered species) are found in the estuary year round. Whenever the creek mouth is open, wetland biota are at risk from a marine spill. This creek supports red-legged frogs, southwestern pond turtles, and two-striped garter snakes. It also supports spawning migrations of coastal steelhead. There is evidence of deer, bear, and mountain lions in the upper portions of the watershed.

**RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN**

Intermittent coastal wetland habitat, estuary lagoon and riparian habitat in upstream areas

Shorebirds, waterfowl

Southern sea otters, dolphins and whales move through the area, southwestern pond turtle, two-striped garter snake, red-legged frog

Tidewater goby (all year), Steelhead, Surfperch, Kelp bass

**CULTURAL, HISTORIC, and ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITIES**

Cultural, Historical, and Archeological sites are known to exist in the area, however, the exact locations of these sites must be ascertained by contacting the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710, the State Office of Historical Preservation (916) 445-7000, and/or the Central Coast Archeological Information Center (805) 893-2474.

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

Type	Name / Title	Organization	Phone
E		Land Trust for Santa Barbara County	(805) 966-4520
C	Channel Coast District	California State Parks	(805) 585-1850
T	Federally listed T/E species - Ventura Office	USFWS	(805) 402-6612
C	Lynn Gambell Coordinator	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-7341
T	Kai Lampson Marine Biologist	CDFW - (Nearshore Species)	(805) 965-7216
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000
T	SURCOM (24-hr)	California State Parks Dispatch	(951) 443-2969
E	John Warner Preserve Manager	Arroyo Hondo	(805) 567-1115

**ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:****REFERENCES:**

1. RPI-ESI MAPS SOUTHERN CALIF ATLAS
2. COASTAL INLET PROTECTION FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE (DFG, MSRC)
3. INVENTORY OF COASTAL WETLANDS OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - INTERIM REPORT.-- R. AMBROSE. 1993.

# 4-607 -A Site Strategy - Arroyo Hondo Preserve and Creek

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County and Thomas Guide Location  
365J X 7 Santa Barbara

NOAA CHART  
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Latitude N Longitude W  
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Last Page Update : 12/18/2014

## CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary spill threats from inland and marine sources. The primary objectives are to minimize oiling of stream and lagoon, pre-clean debris, and clean oil from shorelines. 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. There is a beach gate to provide access to the estuary and the code is 1842. Access for the estuary is through a pathway on the east side of the creek. Carrying equipment along the pathway could be hazardous.

## HAZARDS and RESTRICTIONS:

A. Water Contamination - Unhealthy levels of coliform bacteria have been found intermittently in streams and on beaches in the Santa Barbara County area. Check with the Santa Barbara 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.

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. Sand surface may be soft. **YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH** - Plan accordingly.

## SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-607.1 Objective: Booming - Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet entrance to protect sensitive species and habitats when suitable berm building materials are unavailable, water flows are too great, or water depths are too great for berming.

Booming - Deploy exclusion booms across the inlet to minimize the likelihood of oiling the estuary. Place the booms in a configuration which forms an oil collection pocket which can be adjusted to 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 skimmable oil present, deploy sorbents and contact the IC immediately regarding the use of skimmers and or other mechanical means for collecting oil. Monitor, adjust, and replace booms at least 2 x per day to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

Strategy 4-607.2 Objective: Filter Barrier - Minimize oil contamination in unoiled areas using a filter barrier.

Filter Barrier - Construct a filter barrier across the inlet or at the high tide berm of the estuary to catch oil from the ocean from wave wash-over. Use this method when the inlet is narrow, water flows are low, the bottom can receive and hold metal stakes and the spill is heavy oil. Monitor the barrier constantly and replace pompoms as necessary to maintain effectiveness. Do not use in high surf conditions.

Strategy 4-607.3 Objective: Shoreline Precleaning - Prevent oiling of the 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	Anchoring type and gear	Boom boat	Skiffs punts	Skimmers No	Special Equipment or comment	staff deploy	Staff tend
4-607.1		300		300	2					52 1 Waste Lind (20 yd), 1 Portable Oil Storage Tank or Vacuum Tank	4	2
4-607.2			360 snar							482 150 ft Construction Fencing, 20 Stakes (metal), 1 Stake Driver, 1 Hand Tool	5	2
4-607.3										102 1-Vehicle (4wd), 100 Trash Bags, 1 Hand Tool	5	

## LOGISTICS

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

Traveling north on Hwy. 101, the Preserve is approximately 23 miles past La Cumbre Rd. overpass. Approximately 5 miles past Refugio State Beach look for Call Box #101-402 and then after that Call Box #101-412. The driveway is adjacent to Call Box #101-412. Slow down when you see the call box coming up and make traffic slow down behind you as you signal your turn. Make a sharp right turn from the highway into the Preserve driveway. If the gate is open, come down the driveway, cross the bridge and park by barn.

To Get Back to Santa Barbara: From the top of the driveway, wait for all traffic to clear, then turn right (north). Go 3 miles and exit at Mariposa Reina. Go over bridge and enter southbound on-ramp.

Traveling south on Hwy. 101, approximately 6 miles past Gaviota State Park and ¼ mile after the Vista Point Rest Area, make a U-turn at the Tajiguas Landfill into the northbound lanes of Hwy. 101. In a ½ mile, make a sharp right turn into the

Preserve driveway immediately after CalTrans Call Box #101-412.

**LAND ACCESS:** Access to this site is controlled by the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County. Call the County at (805) 966-4520 (between 0800 -1700).

**WATER LOGISTICS:**

Limitations: depth, obstruction

Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Santa Barbara Harbor is the nearest full service civilian harbor for full service berthing, launching and fueling. Response vessels could be loaded and small boats can be launched at Gaviota Pier with permission from State Beaches and Parks. Larger vessels can be loaded at Ellwood Pier with permission from Venoco and at Goleta Pier with permission from Santa Barbara County Parks.

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

There is a good amount of parking at the entrance of the reserve.

**COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:** none

**ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:**



Imagery: NAIP 2010 (Summer) 4-Band