

4-670 -A Site Summary- Mission Creek: Laguna Channel**4-670 -A**

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

Thomas Guide Location
 996 C x 5
 NOAA Chart: **18725(d)**

Latitude N
 34.4125
 Longitude W
 119.68667

Last Page Update : 6/30/2014

SITE DESCRIPTION:

THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DIVISION R. Stretch of wide, sandy beach extending from Stearns Wharf on the West to Laguna Channel to the East. Fine to medium-grained beach, backed by a low-lying grassy park or parking lots. Mission creek estuary is near Stearns Wharf, this is the most diverse and sensitive and the mouth is frequently open. Laguna channel is a drainage containment sump which collects runoff water from the lower east side of santa barbara; it is normally closed to the ocean by a flood gate. Accumulated water is pumped to the ocean across the beach (during low tides and significant flow events the gates are raised to allow accumulated water to discharge seaward). There is a small estuary which ponds on the beach. Fine to medium-grained beach, backed by a low-lying grassy park or parking lots.

SEASONAL and SPECIAL RESOURCE CONCERN

Whenever creeks are open to ocean, habitat and biota, including Steelhead trout and Tidewater gobies are at risk in both Mission Creek and Laguna Channel.

May - August for grunion spawning on beach (check local tide book for dates and times of runs). Spring and Summer for Western snowy plovers (no nesting at this beach). All year for high concentrations of seabirds (including Brown pelicans) and shorebirds.

RESOURCES OF PRIMARY CONCERN

Mission Creek estuary and Laguna Channel.

Brown pelicans, seabirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl.

California Grunion (Mar-Sep), Steelhead trout (Mission Creek Dec-Mar), Tidewater goby (Mission and Laguna year round, critical habitat).

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 and 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	Cabrillo Bathhouse	City of Santa Barbara	(805) 897-2680
T	Federally listed T/E species - Ventura Office	USFWS	(805) 644-1766
C	Lynn Gambell Coordinator	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-7341
T	Kai Lampson Marine Biologist	CDFW - (Nearshore Species)	(805) 965-7216
T	Mary Larson Fisheries Biologist	CDFW - (Steelhead)	(562) 537-8624
C	Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO)	California State Parks (Sacramento Office)	(916) 445-7000
E	Parks & Rec. - Emergency (After Hours)	City of Santa Barbara	(805) 963-4286
E	Santa Barbara City Parks and Recreation	Main Number	(805) 564-5418

ADDITIONAL SITE SUMMARY COMMENTS:**REFERENCES:**

1. RPI-ESI MAPS SOUTHERN CALIF. ATLAS
2. INVENTORY OF COASTAL WETLANDS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY INTERIM REPORT. AMBROSE. 1993

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996 C x 5 Santa Barbara

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CONCERNS and ADVICE to RESPONDERS:

Primary spill threat from marine source. The primary objectives are to exclude oil from lagoon, pre-clean debris, and clean oil from shorelines. The lagoon is habitat for Threatened/Endangered fishes 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 resource biologists.

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 - Beware of people and animals on the beach, pedestrians, waves, slips, trips and falls, and water hazards. Safe entries to, and exits from shorelines and facilities in and around the the beach are related to tides, sea conditions, and beach sand levels. When using a vehicle on the beach, sand surface may be soft. YOU MAY GET STRANDED ON THE BEACH - Plan accordingly.

SITE STRATEGIES

Strategy 4-670.1 Objective: Berming - Prevent oil from contaminating the inlet when it is subject to tidal influence, low flows are present, and/or wave washover could occur if berm materials are present.

Berming - First, consult with resource trustees regarding wildlife issues before undertaking this activity. Build an earthen berm across the mouth of the inlet using onsite materials obtained from unvegetated areas below the high tide line to minimize damage to wildlife and habitat. Install under flow pipes in the berm to allow through flows and/or a spillway with a filter barrier to accommodate flow increases as weather conditions dictate. Cover the berm with sheet plastic to minimize erosion. Second, back the berm with swamp and sorbent booms to prevent contamination from entrainment, leakage and or washover. 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 berm and associated features to maintain their integrity and effectiveness.

Strategy 4-670.2 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 4-670.3 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 unoled 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 and kinds	staff deploy	Staff tend
4-670.1		1600		1600	8						226 1 Front End Loader, 2 Roll Plastic, 6 Culvert Pipes, 40 Sand Bags, 160 Stakes (metal), 3 Stake Driver, 10ft Construction Fencing, 1 Waste Bin (20 yd), 1 Portable Oil Storage Tank, 1 Hand Tools	8	2
4-670.2		1600		1600	8						163 160 Stakes (metal), 2 Stake Driver, 1- Vehicle (4wd)	8	2
4-670.3											102 1- Vehicle (4wd), 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.)

From U.S. 101 take Castillo st. exit South, turn left on Cabrillo blvd., East Beach area begins east of Stearns Wharf. Parking lots all along the beach. Area may also be accessed from northbound U.S. 101 take Cabrillo exit toward ocean, Andree Clark Lagoon is just seaward of freeway.

LAND ACCESS:

Contact the City of Santa Barbara to access beaches. Parking lots between Cabrillo Blvd and the beach have parking kiosks, when entering and exiting, inform the attendant you are responding to a spill on the local beach. Most beach parking lots have an access ramp to beach suitable for all vehicles and heavy equipment. Under most circumstances, the beaches are accessible for all vehicles and equipment.

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. Casitas Pier located just south of Carpinteria is operated by Venoco and may be used to load response vessels with permission from Venoco.

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

Access: Easy access to beach from parking lots. Launch ramp at East end of marina and boat and equipment hoist at Harbor's commercial dock. Public restrooms, boat and diving supplies, restaurants, and hotels onsite or nearby.

Equipment: City of Santa Barbara Parks Maintenance division has heavy equipment.

Potential Staging Area: Parking lots along this beach.

Potential Field Command Post: Santa Barbara Harbor; USCG facility or NOAA

Closest Airport: Santa Barbara AP.

COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS:

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL COMMENTS:



Imagery: NAIP 2010 (Summer) 4-Band