

4-005-A Site Summary - San Carpoforo Creek and Beach**4-005-A****County :** San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment :** SL - A - S 002**NOAA Chart :** 18700**Map Book :** 324 E-3**Decimal Degrees** 35.76437 -121.32494**Site Description:**

San Carpoforo Creek Inlet has a well developed freshwater marsh, fronted by sandy beach. Creek mouth closes intermittently. Creek is fronted to the north and south by fine to medium grained sandy beach. Moderate amount of drift wood and algae debris on beach. Property is part of Los Padres National Forest and managed by USFS, site is also owned and managed by State Parks; part of Hearst San Simeon State Park, and is also within the Monterey Bay Natl. Marine Sanctuary. Designated critical habitat for steelhead, western snowy plovers, and leatherback sea turtles. Black abalone may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). California red-legged frogs in creek. Shorebirds include western gulls, willets, sandpipers, black oyster catchers (on rocky intertidal); seabirds include brown pelicans, pelagic cormorants, grebes, loons, scoters, common murre. Kelp beds offshore. Sea otters common offshore. In addition to the creek and beach, Ragged Point is just to the south and has offshore rocks that are considered a significant seabird roosting area.

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

3A Fine- to medium-grained sand beaches

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT	Year-round
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT	Year-round
Birds	shorebirds		
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round
Reptiles	western pond turtle	SSC	Year-round
Reptiles	leatherback sea turtle	FE	Aug - Nov

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, BG EPA-Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SSSP-State Special Status Species

List of Key Contacts:

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-2474
C	/	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
E	Tony Martinez/Spill Coordinator	US Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest	(805) 961-5717
O	Brian Hatfield/Marine Mammal Expert	US Geological Survey, Biological Division	(805) 927-3893
T	Mary Larson/Steelhead	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	(562) 537-8624
T	SURCOM (24-hr)/	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(951) 443-2969
T	Carolyn Skinder/Biologist	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(805) 927-2145
T	Regulatory Coordinator/24hr	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 236-6797
T	Justin Viezbicke/Marine Mammal Stranding	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 506-4315
T	Melissa Neuman/Marine Biologist	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 481-4594
T	Rick Bush/Fisheries Biologist	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-3562
T	Tina Fahy/Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(562) 980-4023
T	/	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:

Steelhead peak spawning March - July; California red-legged frogs breed November - April; western pond turtles breed May - August; leatherback sea turtles most commonly observed August - November; southern sea otters pup year-round. Western snowy plovers nest March - September; refer to Typical Sandy Beach Site Summary and Strategy pages (Site 4-000-A) for information on response operations when dealing with snowy plovers and least terns.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

Refer to Typical Sandy Beach Site Summary and Strategy pages (Site 4-000-A) for information on response operations when dealing with snowy plovers and least terns. Minimize disturbance in riparian/wetland areas when possible. When crews must walk in soft bottom wetland/riparian areas, restrict the number and size of pathways and avoid trampling oil into sediments. If creek conditions allow, boom/fencing deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across creek to position the boom/fencing to reduce disturbance. Steelhead (threatened, critical habitat upstream) peak spawning March - July. Black abalone (endangered) may be present on nearby rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Southern sea otters (threatened) pup year-round.

Hazard and Restrictions:

Poison oak along path to beach. Site is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Sea Otter Game Refuge, USFS (Los Padres National Forest), and State Parks property.

Site Strategies:**Strategy: 4-005.1 Objective:** Deploy Containment Boom

Strategy: When creek mouth is open block entrance with short skirted containment boom (swamp boom) at appropriate angle for swift currents and changing tidal influences; place above high tide line. If creek conditions allow, boom deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across the creek to position the boom (and fence posts or anchors on the bank) to reduce disturbance. Install boom in a configuration/angle which blocks channel and diverts oil to a collection point. Consider booming shorelines of inlet to prevent oiling. Maintenance/monitoring necessary; check boom for effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp			300	feet	
Anchor				2		
skimmer				1		
Staff				6		
Vehicle	ATV			1		

Strategy: 4-005.2 Objective: Erect Filter Fence

Strategy: When creek mouth is closed install excelsior fencing along top of natural berm to capture oil when there is a potential for high tidal washover. When creek mouth is open use a filter fence barrier for exclusion/containment. Use this method when the cross-section of the watercourse does not exceed 30 feet in width, water flow volume is low, the channel bottom is capable of receiving and holding metal stakes, and the spill consists of heavy oil. If creek conditions allow, filter fence deployment and recovery to be done by only having one person slowly walk across the creek to position fencing (and fence posts) to reduce disturbance. Maintenance/monitoring of filter fencing necessary.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Fence	Construction Fencing			300	feet	
Skimmer				1		
Staff				6		
T-Posts				10		
Vehicle	ATV			1		
Misc.	Stake Driver			1		
Misc.	Oil Snare (pom-pom)					

Strategy: 4-005.3 Objective: Build Berm

Strategy: When creek mouth is open, under low flow conditions block creek entrance with sediment berm or sandbag berm, and install flow through pipes as necessary to prevent flooding. Cover berm with plastic sheeting to minimize erosion; and consider backing berm with 10" swamp boom and/or sorbent boom. To create protective berm, take sand from active unvegetated beach face to prevent damage to dune habitat. Manual building of berm preferred over heavy equipment even when heavy equipment can access site. Maintenance/monitoring necessary; check for berm effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
skimmer				1		
Heavy Equip	Backhoe					
Sandbags				200		
Piping						
Vehicle	ATV			1		

Logistics:

Directions: From the north: Take Hwy 101 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 N (or Hwy 5 S to Hwy 41 W to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 N). Follow Hwy 1 N for approx.. 25 miles. Immediately north of bridge is locked gate (private property) and an unpaved road to beach (the post mile marker at Creek Bridge is 71.34). From the south: Take Hwy 101 N to the Hwy 1 Morro Bay exit in San Luis Obispo. Continue as above.

Land Access: North of bridge is locked gate (USFS property), dirt foot path.

On-Water Limitations: Limitations: Depth, obstruction. Launching, Loading, Docking and Services Available: Morro Bay boat ramp approx. 40 miles south.

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Staging area: Small parking area next to house across from beach entrance gate. Command Post: USGS Pierdas Blancas Light House. State Parks office at Hearst Castle, hotels in San Simeon. Airports: San Luis Obispo County Airport, approx. 1 hour 15 min south. Paso Robles Airport approx. 1 hour inland. There is private landing strip for small planes north of Hearst castle Visitor's center, approx. 20 min. south.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments:

