

**4-030-A Site Summary - Arroyo Del Corral Creek and Beach****4-030-A****County :** San Luis Obispo **ACP Division/Segment :** SL - A - S 04**NOAA Chart :** 18700**Map Book :** 324 F-5**Decimal Degrees** 35.68387 -121.28744**Site Description:**

Arroyo de Corral is a small intermittent creek that flows through a culvert under HWY 1. Beach is State Park property and offshore is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Sea Otter Game Refuge, and Pierdas Blancas State Marine Reserve MPA, and is governed by special protections established by the DFW Marine Region. Medium to coarse grained sandy beach fronting creek. Woody debris on beach. Species are present year round. Beach fronting creek is a western snowy plover nesting beach. Shorebirds include western gulls, willets, sandpipers, black oyster catchers (on rocky intertidal); seabirds include brown pelicans, pelagic cormorants, grebes, loons, scoters, common murre. Designated critical habitat for tidewater goby, steelhead, and leatherback sea turtles. Black abalone in rocky intertidal habitat. Sea otters common offshore.

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

4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

**List of Resources at Risk:**

	<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Presence</b>
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT	Year-round
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT	Year-round
Fish	tidewater goby	FE	Year-round
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round
Reptiles	leatherback sea turtle	FE	Aug - Nov
Reptiles	western 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:**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Name/Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Phone</b>
C	/	Central Coast Archeological Information Center	(805) 893-2474
C	/	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
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	Becky Ota/Marine Conservation Manager	California Department of Fish & Wildlife, MPAs	(650) 631-6789
T	Steve Wertz/Senior Environmental Scientist	California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marine	(562) 343-3808
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:**

Tidewater goby peak nesting in estuary sediments April - May; steelhead peak spawning March - July; California red-legged frog peak breeding November - March; 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. Potential for oil burial or penetration in coarse grained sand. 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. Avoid disturbing bottom lagoon sediments to protect tidewater gobies (endangered) especially April-July, goby nesting season. Equipment and foot traffic entering wetted areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practical to prevent crushing tidewater gobies, their burrows, and eggs. If supplemental water is used to flush recommend gradually increasing the intensity/volume during the flush for gobies. Steelhead (threatened) peak spawning March - July. Black abalone (endangered) may be present in rocky intertidal habitat (designated critical habitat). Southern sea otters (threatened) pup year-round.

**Hazard and Restrictions:**

Beach is Hearst San Simeon State Park property and offshore is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Sea Otter Game Refuge, and Pierdas Blancas State Marine Reserve MPA.

**Site Strategies:**

**Strategy: 4-030.1 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			200	feet	
Anchor				2		
Staff				4		
skimmer				1		

**Strategy: 4-030.2 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			200	feet	
stakes				30		
Staff				4		
skimmer				1		
Misc.	Oil Snare (pom-pom)					
Misc.	Stake Driver			1		

**Strategy: 4-030.3 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
Heavy Equip	Backhoe					
Sandbags						
Staff				6		
skimmer				1		
Piping						

**Logistics:**

*Directions:* From the south: Take HWY 101 N to Hwy 1 Morro Bay exit in San Luis Obispo. Creek is 1 mile north of Piedras Blancas Lighthouse. From the north: Take HWY 101 S to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 N or (Hwy 5 S to Hwy 41W to Hwy 46 W to Hwy 1 N).

*Land Access:* Foot access only.

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

*Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment:* Command post and Staging area: U.S. Geological Survey research facility is located at the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse; staging, parking, water, and phones are available. State Parks office at Hearst Castle. Airports: SLO County Airport, approx. 1 hour south. Paso Robles Airport approx. 45 min. inland. Private Landing strip for small planes north of Hearst castle Visitors center, approx. 15 min. south.

*Communications Problems:* None.

*Additional Operational Comments:*

