

County: Monterey*ACP Division/Segment:* MT - E - S010 MT - E - S011*NOAA Chart:* 18680*Map Book:* 1153*Decimal Degrees:* 36.53671 -121.92791**Site Description:**

The Carmel River and San Jose Creek are within the Carmel River State Beach property located at the southern end of Carmel Bay. These coarse grained-sand beaches are interspersed with rock outcroppings along the shoreline. The Carmel River feeds a large brackish marsh along the main channel and dense riparian habitat further upstream. Freshwater marshes branch from both the north and the south of the river mouth. A natural sand berm forms at the Carmel River mouth seasonally but is frequently overtopped by high tides. San Jose Creek is located 0.75 miles south of the Carmel River. The southern portion of Carmel River State Beach where San Jose Creek is located is also called Monastery Beach. San Jose Creek mouth location varies but is most often found at the north end of Monastery Beach. The creek channel wraps around the back of the beach behind a large natural sand berm and passes under Highway 1 at a bridge midway along the beach backshore. A brackish lagoon and marsh forms downstream of the Highway 1 bridge. The natural sand berm along San Jose Creek is overtopped by high spring tides. San Jose Creek outflow will only breach the natural sand berm during heavy rain events. The stretch of land between Carmel River and San Jose Creek is the Ohlone Coastal Cultural Preserve managed by State Parks. The Carmel Area Water District Wastewater Treatment Plant is located within the Carmel River estuary. Site is within the Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area, California Sea Otter Game Refuge, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and is a California Area of Special Biological Significance. Brown pelicans roost within the Carmel River mouth and marsh. Northern legless lizard is found in the backshore dunes of both beaches. Non-breeding Western snowy plovers may be present near the Carmel River mouth.

Resources at Risk:*ESI and Habitat:* 4 Coarse-grained sand beaches

10A Salt - and brackish-water marshes

10B Freshwater marshes

5 Mixed sand and gravel beaches

List of Resources at Risk:

	Resource Name	Status	Presence	Sensitivity
Amphibians	California red-legged frog	FT, SSC	Year-round	Nov-Mar
Birds	Western snowy plover	FT, SSC	Year-round	
Fish	steelhead - Central/Northern California	FT	Year-round	Nov-Apr
Invertebrates	black abalone	FE	Year-round	Apr-Sep
Mammals	Southern sea otter	FT, SP	Year-round	
Reptiles	Northern legless lizard	SSC	Year-round	Sep-Nov
Reptiles	Western pond turtle	SSC	Year-round	May-Aug

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:

Type	Name/Title	Organization	Phone
C	/Coordinator	Native American Heritage Commission	(916) 373-3710
C	/Coordinator	Northwest Information Center	(707) 588-8455
T	/Dispatch, 24-hr	California State Parks (Dispatch)	(916) 358-1300
T	/Emergency Responder, 24-hr	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 236-6797
T	/Agency Representative	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service	(707) 575-6050
T	/Spill Response Coordinator	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:

Moderate recreational use. SCUBA diving at Monastery Beach. Protection strategies 3-460.1, 3-460.2, and 3-460.3 only apply to the Carmel River. Protection strategy 3-460.4 only applies to San Jose Creek.

Concerns and Advice to Responders:

SCUBA diving at Monastery Beach. Northern legless lizard is found in the backshore dunes of both beaches. Non-breeding Western snowy plovers may be present near the Carmel River mouth. Protection strategies 3-460.1, 3-460.2, and 3-460.3 only apply to the Carmel River. Protection strategy 3-460.4 only applies to San Jose Creek.

Hazard and Restrictions:**Site Strategies:****Site Validation Level: III****Strategy: 3-460.1 Objective:** Deploy Containment Boom

Strategy: Deploy 550 feet of boom in the Carmel River lagoon central pool adjacent to the natural sand berm, with a collection point to the north. Anchor to sand beach, avoid vegetated banks. Line upstream side of swamp boom with sorbent boom.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp			550	feet	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 11/1/2023
Boom	Sorbent			550	feet	<i>Last Test:</i> 11/1/2023
Anchor	Danforth			2		
Stakes				2		
Vessel	Skiff or Punt			1		
Staff				4		

Strategy: 3-460.2 Objective: Erect Filter Fence

Strategy: Enhance efficacy of sand berm exclusion by constructing a filter fence across the sand berm where tidal action may overtop the berm. Monitor barrier and replace pom-poms as necessary to maintain effectiveness.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Construction Fence		4 x 100 feet		2	Rolls	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 11/1/2023
Oil Snare (pom-pom)				300		<i>Last Test:</i> 11/1/2023
T-post			6 feet	20		
Stake driver				1		
Staff				4		

Strategy: 3-460.3 Objective: Build Berm

Strategy: Exclude oil from river by building a sediment berm with native sand using heavy equipment. Place sorbent boom 30 feet upstream of berm.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Bulldozer or Loader				1		
Boom	Sorbent			300	feet	
Stakes				2		
Staff				10		

Strategy: 3-460.4 Objective: Deploy Containment Boom

Strategy: Deploy 300 feet of boom in the San Jose Creek lagoon seaward of the Highway 1 bridge, with a collection point near the northeast end of the Highway 1 bridge. Anchor to sand beach and avoid vegetated banks when possible. Line upstream side of swamp boom with sorbent boom.

Table of Response Resources

Equipment	Sub-Type	Size	Unit	QTY	Unit	Last Page Update
Boom	Swamp			300	feet	<i>Strategy Updated:</i> 11/14/2024
Boom	Sorbent			300	feet	<i>Last Test:</i> 11/14/2024
Stakes				10		
Vessel	Hand-Launchable			2		
Staff				4		
ATV				1		

Logistics:

Directions: Carmel Beach parking lot: off Carmelo St. (36.538876°, -121.927843°); 24 parking spaces. San Jose Creek parking: southbound shoulder of Highway 1 (36.522598°, -121.927170°); 33 parking spaces.

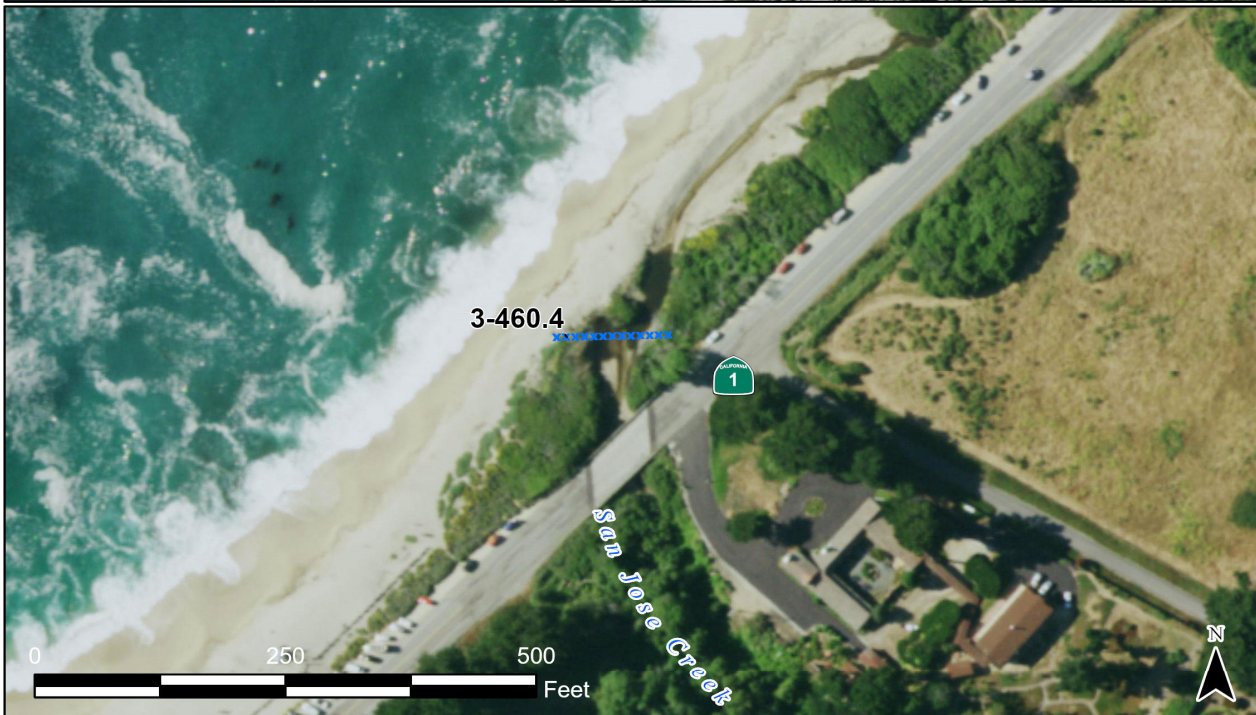
Land Access: Carmel River: Heavy equipment access from parking lot. Scenic Rd. is a one-way street that travels downcoast. San Jose Creek: Heavy equipment access through fence opening near lifeguard tower. Access to San Jose Creek mouth through the adjacent property may be arranged by State Parks (27448 CA-1, Carmel-By-The-Sea, CA 93923).

On-Water Limitations: Nearest vessel launch site is Monterey Harbor (12 nautical miles). Vessel launch via 3-ton hoist at Stillwater Yacht Club Pier in Pebble Beach (2 nautical miles).

Facilities, Staging Areas, Command Posts, Available Equipment: Restrooms at both beaches.

Communications Problems: None.

Additional Operational Comments:



CDFW - OSPR & USCG Site: 3-460 Name: Carmel River and San Jose Creek

A. Caputo (OSPR) & L. Saum (OSPR) Date: 4/25/2025

+++++ Filter Fence

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