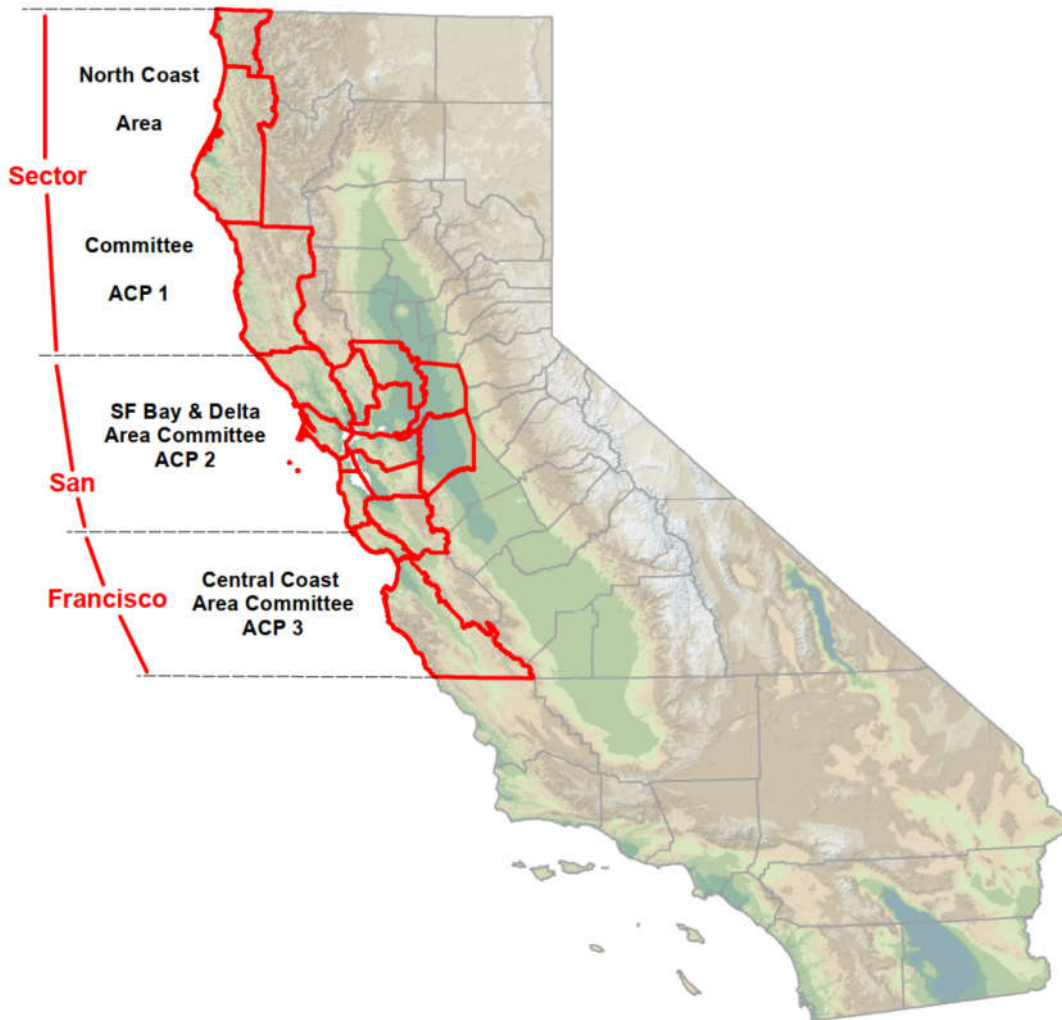


# Sector SF

## Area Contingency Plans (ACP)

Volume II: Section 9800 - Area Committee Detail  
for ACP 1 – North Coast  
ACP 2 – San Francisco Bay and Delta  
ACP 3 – Central Coast  
June 2022



Emergency Spill Notification Numbers  
National Response Center 1-800-424-8802  
California Office of Emergency Services 1-800-852-7550

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## **List of Maps: Environmental Sensitive Sites + Operational Divisions Overview**

ACP 1 GRA Overview

ACP 1 GRA 1 Del Norte County

ACP 1 GRA 2 Humboldt County

ACP 1 GRA 3 Humboldt Bay

ACP 1 GRA 4 Mendocino County

ACP 2 GRA Overview

ACP 2 GRA 1 Sonoma and North Marin Coast

ACP 2 GRA 2 Gulf of the Farallones and San Mateo Coast

ACP 2 GRA 3 South San Francisco Bay

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ACP 2 GRA 7 West Delta

ACP 2 GRA 8 North Delta

ACP 2 GRA 9 South Delta

ACP 2 GRA 10 East Delta

ACP 3 GRA Overview

ACP 3 GRA 1 North Santa Cruz County

ACP 3 GRA 2 South Santa Cruz County

ACP 3 GRA 3 North Monterey County

ACP 3 GRA 4 Central Monterey County

ACP 3 GRA 5 South Monterey County

## **9800 Introduction, Organization Overview, and Response Prioritization**

The focus of spill response contingency planning is the identification and protection of environmental, cultural/historic, and economic resources at risk. Section 9800 is a catalog of environmental, cultural, and economic resources identified by the Area Committees. Strategies to protect resources from oil and collateral impacts are included for some of these resources. During a spill, sites and resources that may be at risk and the measures that should reasonably be deployed to protect them are determined by a suite of factors. This includes the probable trajectory from the spill, prevailing conditions that may favor or constrain feasible deployments, the type of material released, and the threat the spilled material poses to the resources at risk. These, in combination with operational and geographic constraints that impact spill response measures, define the response need and focus response decisions.

### **9800.1 Organization of Section 9800**

Section 9800 provides geographically organized information about environmental, cultural/historic, economic, and other significant resources that may be at risk from spills in ACP 1 – North Coast, ACP 2 -- San Francisco Bay and Delta, and ACP 3 – Central Coast.

The information in this section is grouped by Geographic Response Areas (GRAs). In some instances, GRAs fall along political boundaries such as a county line, or may be delineated based on the geomorphology, and in other instances GRAs are based on local hydro-geographic areas, where contaminants such as oil are likely to concentrate. Section 9800 is organized first by GRA and then into subsections for each GRA. Local variations accommodate the needs of each Area Committee.

### **9800.2 Response Prioritization**

The Environmental Unit and the Environmental Unit Leader are responsible to provide environmental information, trajectory projections, and measures necessary to mitigate impacts. Foremost among these is to provide a prioritized list of protection strategies for resources at risk based on trajectories. A Resources at Risk Technical Specialist conducts this sensitive site prioritization.

Protection prioritization in a spill response should be determined by two considerations: the driving consideration is how soon the oil will reach the sensitive site and the predefined protection priority associated with the site. This second consideration is applied only when there are insufficient response resources to protect all resources at risk before they are impacted by the oil. Responders should not assume that sensitive locales equidistant from the source of a spill are at equal risk from the oil. This means that the urgency to protect a key resource is first determined by the likelihood that it will be impacted in the near future before it can be protected by requisite response staff and equipment. If the sites are too numerous to protect with the response resources available within the projected times of impact, then triage of protection follows a prescribed order.

For the purpose of prioritization, "risk" is defined as "the probability of spilled oil reaching the vicinity of a sensitive site of concern." During an oil spill, the relative likelihood of a site coming into contact with the oil is a function of the proximity of the spill to the site and whether prevailing conditions - the wind, current, and tides at the time of the spill, will move the oil toward or away from it. It is essential that at least a simple trajectory be developed to enable this assessment.

## **9800.2.1 First 24 Hour Guidance**

Protection strategies described in this section are primarily intended to serve as initial guidance for the first 24 hours of a spill response until further guidance based on real-time conditions, sensitivities, and constraints are identified and addressed. Additional or modified protection strategies may also need to be considered depending on spill conditions. In other words, strategies presented here in ACP 4 and 5 may need to be modified based on actual spill conditions and/or direction from the Unified Command.

## **9800.2.2 “Dynamic Site” Pre-response Assessment Strategy**

The mouths of some of the creeks and rivers in coastal counties of ACPs 1-3 may cease to flow during extended periods of dry weather. These mouths may become “closed” due to the long shore movement of beach sand under the combined influence of water currents, waves, tides, and wind. Ideally, the status of these dynamic coastal sites should be evaluated before any response equipment is ordered and dispatched.

## **9800.2.3 Initial List of Site Protection Priorities**

Using simple trajectory methods, the list of site protection priorities may be generated quickly by initial responders (typically OSPR Resources at Risk Technical Specialists) and relayed to the Operations Section. The sites can be prioritized using the probable time of impact and the prioritization criteria below. Strategies most appropriate can be chosen from the ACP pages and listed in a time of impact priority sequence. Responders with local knowledge may modify the priorities based on seasonal differences in resource distribution and other local conditions.

## **9800.2.4 Prioritization – Predefined Hierarchy of Protection in Statutes**

State and Federal law establish three priority levels for dedication of emergency oil spill response resources.

- First Priority – Protection of human health and safety and critical infrastructure
- Second Priority – Protection of environmental resources
- Third Priority – Protection of socioeconomic resources

Examples of resources that will receive a first priority response include drinking water intakes, power plant intakes, and first responders’ on-water facilities at risk. There are no identified protection strategies for these resources, but managers of these resources could be informed through Liaison.

Within the Second Priority – Environmental Resources – sites are ranked by sensitivity in terms of habitat and/or species present. This sensitivity may be useful in making priority decisions between two sites if both may be impacted simultaneously, but inadequate resources are available for concurrent protection.

Within the Third Priority –Economic Resources – sites are listed by County within Geographic Response Areas (GRAs). This sensitivity may be useful in making priority decisions between two sites if both may be impacted simultaneously, but inadequate resources are available for concurrent protection. These resources are best protected with local response equipment.

## 9801 Environmental Sensitive Sites

### 9801.1 Geographic Response Strategies

Protection strategies for the identified Environmental Sensitive Sites in the Area Contingency Plans are referred to as Geographic Response Strategies (GRSs). The GRSs described in this section are grouped by GRAs and include Site Summary, Site Strategy, and Site Diagram pages.

### 9801.2 Sensitivity Ranking

Each site has an environmental sensitivity ranking. The ranking index was developed in order to identify the relative sensitivities of these sites to oil and, in turn, to help determine protection priority of sites. The environmental sensitivity differs by location or season depending on conditions or the presence of species. Accordingly, each site is ranked A, B, or C based on the following definitions:

**Category A - Extremely Sensitive** – highest concern for protection: Wetlands, estuaries, lagoons with emergent vegetation (marsh, riparian ESI 10), Sheltered tidal flat (ESI 9); habitats for rare, threatened or endangered species (State or Federal); sites of significant concentrations of vulnerable and sensitive species (e.g., pinniped pupping or major bird roosting/nesting sites).

**Category B - Very Sensitive** – very high concern for protection: Major pinniped haulout areas during non-pupping seasons; moderate concentrations of vulnerable and sensitive species; other low energy habitats (ESI types 8A, 8B, 7 and 6B).

**Category C - Sensitive** – high concern for protection: Higher energy habitats (ESI 6A through 1); habitats important to large numbers of species of sport, commercial value, and scientific interest or species experiencing significant population declines though not yet listed for protection.

The A, B, or C ranking should not be misconstrued as defining whether a site can be effectively protected from oiling. Some “A” sites or portions of “A” sites may not be feasible to protect using conventional techniques. For example, some seabird colonies and pinniped haulouts may be in such high energy environments that booming is precluded, and the primary protective measure/strategy would be offshore containment and recovery and/or use of applied response technologies, such as dispersants and in-situ burning. Assigning a response priority is usually guided according to the time by which the oil slick is likely to impact a sensitive site regardless of sensitivity ranking.

Some sites have no inherent environmental sensitivity but represent key oil protection sites through collection, deflection, or exclusion. The protection strategies at these sites are designed to stop the spread of oil, or to prevent impacts to nearby sensitive sites. Prioritization of these site deployments will be made for each response using an appropriate spill-specific trajectory.

These sites are identified as:

**Category X – Key Protection** – oil collection, deflection, or exclusion sites that have little inherent environmental sensitivity, but implementation of their strategy or strategies may protect more environmentally sensitive sites. Not all ACPs (or GRAs) have Category X sites.

Each Environmental Sensitive Site identified in the GRA sections will have a Site Summary Sheet, which describes why the site is environmentally sensitive and provides points of contact. Each have a Site Strategy Sheet, which provides information on protection strategies, recommended resources, and site logistical and access information. Most sites also have an associated Strategy Diagram that should be considered a guide (i.e. exact placement of boom may vary from what is depicted on Strategy Diagram depending on conditions at the time of a spill).

## **9802 Cultural and Historic Resources**

An important and immediate consideration in the event of an oil spill in California marine waters is whether areas that are culturally sensitive or contain historic resources may be impacted. The effects of oil upon these resources can be extremely damaging. The response actions themselves can be of great concern to the preservation of cultural and historic resources too, such as the establishment of equipment staging areas in sensitive cultural or historic areas. The locations of cultural and historic resources are often not publicly available and are often difficult to identify visually; therefore, pre-spill planning and coordination with trustees for these resources becomes essential to avoid damaging these resources during an active spill response.

The term "historic property" is defined in the National Historic Preservation Act as: "any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register"; such term includes artifacts, records, and remains which are related to such district, site, building, structure, or object. 16 U.S.C. Section 470(w)(5) Criteria for listing a property in the National Register of Historic Places are found at 36 CFR Part 60. Cultural resources can be defined as physical evidence or place of past human activity: site, object, landscape, structure; or a site, structure, landscape, object, or natural feature of significance to a group of people traditionally associated with the resource.

California has many identified historic or cultural sites of significance near marine waters of the State, yet this information is confidential and only available from specific sources and to specialists in the field. Many of the coastal areas of significance to Native Americans are known or have been identified but are often confidential information as well. Furthermore, all coastal areas for each tribe are to be considered economically significant because fishing and other traditional uses span the length of coastline for each group. A list of cultural and historic resources is not included in this ACP due to the confidential and sensitive nature of this information. This section contains contact information for local and regional historic and cultural resource trustees and experts who may be able to assist with the protection of these sensitive resources (e.g., National Park Service).

Cultural and historic resource impact mitigation is addressed in the Region IX Regional Contingency Plan (RCP). The key guidance is the Emergency Response Program Guidelines to Implement the National Programmatic Agreement on Protection of Historic Properties (Guidelines). These Guidelines provide the process for the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) to protect and conserve cultural and historic resources during a response through the FOSC's Historic Properties Specialist (HPS). Provided in the Guidelines is the procedure for determining when to activate an HPS, a checklist for the HPS to follow upon activation by the FOSC, and a form to document actions taken that resulted in unavoidable injury to historic



properties. The Guidelines can be found in the appendices along with additional information in Section 1930 of the RCP (2019 version).

### **9802.1 Cultural and Historic Resources Contacts**

The California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) is an elaborate database maintained by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) of the California Department of Parks and Recreation and nine local Information Centers. Access to this database is restricted to certified archaeologists, including the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), to keep the locations of these resources as secure as possible. The Information Centers are under agreement with the OHP to integrate newly discovered sites and information on known sites into CHRIS, supply information on known sites and archeological surveys to governments, institutions, and individuals who have a justifiable need to know, and supply a list of consultants who are qualified to do archeological field work within their area.

It is the responsibility of the Environmental Unit (EU) to address protection of cultural and historic resources during response (USCG Incident Management Handbook, 2014). The typical mechanism is that a representative from the EU contacts the appropriate Information Center to request a finding of presence/absence of cultural and historic resources in the spill vicinity or area of impacted shoreline. If resources are present, the EU Leader will recommend that the FOSC contract with an HPS from one of the federal agencies, or if they are not available, through a contractor that is designated to advise the FOSC.

#### **California Department of Parks and Recreation**

##### **Office of Historic Preservation**

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
Office Number: (916) 445-7000  
Fax Number: (916) 445-7053  
Email: [info.calshpo@parks.ca.gov](mailto:info.calshpo@parks.ca.gov)

Contact: Jenan Saunders (Deputy SHPO)  
Office Number: (916) 445-7050  
Email: [Jenan.saunders@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Jenan.saunders@parks.ca.gov)

##### **Northwest Information Center:**

Counties Serviced: Alameda, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Yolo Counties

Sonoma State University  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
Office Number: (707) 588-8455  
Contact: Bryan Mulch  
Email: [nwic@sonoma.edu](mailto:nwic@sonoma.edu)

## **North Central Information Center**

Counties Serviced: Amador, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Yuba

California State University, Sacramento

Sacramento, CA 95819

Office Number: (916) 278-6217

Fax Number: (916) 278- 5162

Contact: Paul Rendes

Email: [ncic@csus.edu](mailto:ncic@csus.edu)

The California State Lands Commission maintains a database of known shipwrecks and other underwater marine archaeologically significant resources in state waters.

## **California State Lands Commission**

100 Howe Ave., Suite 100

South Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

Office Number: (916) 574-1900

Fax Number: (916) 574-1810

## **9802.2 Tribal Contacts**

Oil spills which occur on or near federally recognized land may have the potential to impact cultural resources on traditional ancestral lands. These ancestral lands may be of importance to several federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes. The CA Public Resource Code (PRC) Section 21073 states “California Native American tribe means a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purposes of Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.” When it is determined that an oil spill has the potential to impact cultural resources, the tribal representatives will be contacted and invited to participate in the response for the purpose of cultural resource protection.

Section 106 of the NHPA requires tribal consultation in all steps of the process when a federal agency project or effort may affect historic properties that are either located on tribal lands, or when any Native American tribe or Native Hawaiian organization attaches religious or cultural significance to the historic property, regardless of the property’s location. When an oil spill response occurs on tribal land, the federal agency must notify appropriate Native American tribes of the undertaking and give those tribal groups the opportunity to consult, should they wish to do so. In the event of an oil spill that may impact tribal resources, the federal agency is responsible for notifying appropriate Native American tribes. In the absence of an FOSC, the SOSC will ensure appropriate notification of and coordination with tribes.

NAHC should be notified to evaluate known cultural resources sensitivity and to determine if a tribal representative is required to be on scene of a response. Contact information for local or regional tribal representatives may be obtained from the Native American Heritage Commission as the primary source of this information. Often outreach to tribes is managed through the Liaison Officer for the response.

## **Native American Heritage Commission**

1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
Office Number: (916) 373-3710  
Email: [nahc@pacbell.net](mailto:nahc@pacbell.net)

Contact: Andrew Green  
Office Number: (916) 373-3710  
Email: [Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov)

Contact: Katy Sanchez  
Office Number: (916) 373-3710  
Email: [Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov)

## **9803 Additional Resources at Risk**

### **9803.1 Essential Fish Habitat**

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has legislative authority for fisheries regulation in the United States, in the area between three-miles to 200 miles offshore and in the high seas (beyond 200 miles from the coast), under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). In 1996, the MSA was re-authorized and amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267) to emphasize the sustainability of the nation's fisheries and establish a new standard by requiring that fisheries be managed at maximum sustainable levels and that new approaches be taken in habitat conservation. This habitat is called "Essential Fish Habitat" (EFH). The Act established procedures designed to identify, conserve, and enhance EFH for those species regulated under a Federal fisheries management plan. NOAA has developed an online mapping tool for EFH, which can be found at <https://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/efh/efhmapper/>.

Although the concept of EFH is similar to that of "Critical habitat" under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), measures recommended to protect EFH by NMFS or a Council are advisory, not proscriptive. Note that consultation under the ESA is a separate consultation and not the same as a consultation for EFH. The MSA requires Federal agencies to consult with NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, authorized, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect EFH (MSA §305(b)(2)). See ACP Section 4800 for consultation procedures.

The EFH mandate applies to all species managed under a federal Fishery Management Plan (FMP). For the Pacific West Coast (excluding Alaska), there are FMPs, covering groundfish, coastal pelagic species, Pacific salmon and highly migratory species (e.g., tuna, swordfish and shark). Therefore, Federal agencies must consider the impact of a proposed action on EFH for any species managed under those FMPs. A brief description of EFH identified in each FMP follows.

### **9803.2 Groundfish**

The EFH for Pacific coast groundfish is defined as the aquatic habitat necessary to allow for groundfish production to support long-term sustainable fisheries for groundfish and for groundfish contributions to a healthy ecosystem. Descriptions of groundfish EFH for each of the

83 species and their life stages result in more than 400 EFH identifications. When these EFHs are taken together, the groundfish EFH includes all waters from the mean higher high water line, and the upriver extent of saltwater intrusion in river mouths, along the coasts of Washington, Oregon and California seaward to the boundary of the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

### **9803.3 Coastal Pelagic Species**

Amendment 8 to The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan describes the habitat requirements of five pelagic species: Northern anchovy, Pacific sardine, Pacific (chub) mackerel, jack mackerel, and market squid. These four finfish and market squid are treated as a single species complex because of similarities in their life histories and habitat requirements. EFH for coastal pelagic species is defined as: The east-west geographic boundary of EFH for CPS is defined to be all marine and estuarine waters from the shoreline along the coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington offshore to the limits of the EEZ and above the thermocline where sea surface temperatures range between 10° – 26° C. The southern boundary is the U.S.-Mexico maritime boundary. The northern boundary is more dynamic and is defined as the position of the 10° C isotherm, which varies seasonally and annually.

### **9803.4 Pacific Salmonids**

*Chinook, coho, steelhead, and Puget Sound pink salmon:* EFH for the Pacific coast salmon fishery means those waters and substrate necessary for salmonid production needed to support a long-term sustainable salmonid fishery and salmonid contributions to a healthy ecosystem. To achieve that level of production, EFH includes all those streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, and other currently viable water bodies and most of the habitat historically accessible to salmon in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. They did not identify “specific areas” in the Pacific Ocean that contain essential features for Salmonids, but in general, salmon EFH extends from the near shore and tidal submerged environments within state territorial waters out to the full extent of the exclusive economic zone (370.4 km) offshore of Washington, Oregon, and California north of Point Conception.

*Southern California Steelhead:* Southern steelhead may have occupied as much as 15% of the winter steelhead range in California, but the present distribution in southern California has been reduced to perhaps 1% of the stream miles they formerly inhabited (E. Gerstung, CDFG, 1995). Juvenile steelhead rear in freshwater 1- 4 years and then spend 1-5 years (usually 2-3 in California) in the ocean. Southern steelhead usually spend less time in fresh water because of inhospitable conditions in the lower reaches of Southern California streams. Therefore, they may migrate to the ocean or have greater dependency on coastal lagoons during the first year. Fish movements both upstream and downstream coincide with flow pulses from storms. These coastal streams are characterized by sand bar build up during low flow summer months at the mouth.

The Evolutionary Significant Unit includes all naturally spawned populations of steelhead (and their progeny) in streams from the Santa Maria River to Malibu Creek. The Estero Bay Hydrologic Unit includes all naturally spawned populations of Southern California steelhead (and their progeny) in streams from San Carpoforo Creek to Arroyo Grande Creek in the estuarine and stream channel areas. The Santa Maria River, Santa Ynez, and South Coast Hydrologic Units include all naturally spawned populations of Southern California steelhead (within Santa Barbara county) and their progeny in estuarine and stream channel areas. The Ventura River,

Santa Clara-Calleguas, and Calleguas Hydrologic Units include all naturally spawned populations of Southern California steelhead (within Ventura County) and their progeny in the estuarine and stream channel areas. Steelhead trout can be found at several Environmentally Sensitive Sites in ACPs 4 and 5.

### **9803.5 ERMA Resource Layers**

The Environmental Response Management Application® ([ERMA](#)) is a NOAA developed web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) tool that assists both emergency responders and environmental resource managers in dealing with incidents that may adversely impact the environment. ERMA integrates and synthesizes various real-time and static datasets into a single interactive map, thus providing fast visualization of the situation and improving communication and coordination among responders and stakeholders.

The following lists resources at risk contained as data layers within ERMA that can be accessed online during a response.

#### **Federal Trustees Natural Resources**

- **BLM CA Coastal National Monument** (<https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/california-coastal>)
- **NOAA NMFS Critical Habitat** (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/criticalhabitat.htm>)
  - Black Abalone Critical Habitat
  - Chinook - CA Coast, Central Valley Spring Run
  - Steelhead - CA Central Valley, Central CA Coast, Northern CA, South Central CA Coast, Southern CA
  - Stellar Sea Lion
  - Leatherback Sea Turtle
  - Whales-Humpback, Killer
- **NOAA - Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)**  
([http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat/fish\\_habitat/efh\\_consultations\\_go.html](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat/fish_habitat/efh_consultations_go.html))
- **NOAA - National Marine Sanctuaries & Other Coastal Resources**  
(<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>)
  - Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Marine Protected Areas  
(<http://channelislands.noaa.gov/>)
  - Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (<http://farallones.noaa.gov/>)
  - Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>)
  - Sea Bird Surveys - Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter (1975-2008)
  - Coho - Coho Distribution, Coho Salmon Range
  - Antipatharia Cover - Black Coral
  - Submerged Aquatic Vegetation- Eelgrass
  - National Estuarine Research Reserves
  - Pinniped Rookeries and Haulouts
- **USFWS Critical Habitat** (<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/critical-habitats.html>)
  - Tidewater Goby
  - Western Snowy Plover

- **NOAA - Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI)** (<http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/esi>)
  - **For Northern California, San Francisco, Central, and Southern California:**
    - Anadromous Fish Streams
    - Bird Habitat
    - Bird Nest
    - ESI Index
    - Fish Habitat
    - Hydrologic Classification
    - Invertebrate Habitat
    - Management Areas
    - Marine Mammal Habitat
    - Reptile Habitat
    - Shoreline Classification
    - Vegetated Habitat
  - **Northern California (NOAA 2008) ESI additional layers:**
    - Terrestrial Mammal Habitat
    - San Francisco (NOAA 1998) ESI additional layers:
      - Terrestrial Mammals
  - **Central Cal (NOAA 2006) ESI additional layers:**
    - Alerts, Central CA
  - **Southern Cal (NOAA 2010) ESI additional layers:**
    - Bird Habitat- California Least Tern
    - Bird Habitat- Light- Footed Clapper Rail
    - Bird Habitat- Western Snowy Plover
    - Wetlands- Southern California

## California Trustees Natural Resources

- **Land Use & Land Cover**
  - Bay Area Protected Lands
  - California State Parks (<http://www.parks.ca.gov/ParkIndex/>)
  - California Fish & Wildlife Owned and Operated Lands
  - CA Lakes
  - CA Streams
- **Managed Areas** (<https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/lands/>)
  - California State Game Refuges
  - California State Marine Life Refuges
  - California Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
    - ([http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/mpa\\_summary.asp](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/mpa/mpa_summary.asp))
- **Sea Otter Distribution and Linear Density**
- **ACP Environmental Sensitive Sites**

## California Economic Resources

- ACP Economic Sensitive Sites
- California Aquaculture Lease Locations (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/aquaculture>)
- Coastal Marinas of California
- NOAA - Environmental Sensitivity Index: Human- Use Sites
- Cultural Resources & Human Use

### 9804 Human Health and Safety Sites and Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling

The primary purpose of this section is to identify and incorporate into emergency oil spill response planning the specific resources subject to impacts of the highest consequence if not protected (e.g., contacts notified, sites boomed, access closed). This section identifies coastal infrastructure essential to human health and safety, which will be the first priority for response during any oil spill. These resources do not have specified strategies for protection. Also identified in this section are economic resources that are susceptible to impacts from a marine oil spill. Due to limitations of time, personnel, and the availability of information, not all resources of significant economic value and susceptibility to oil spills are identified in the ACP. These lists of human health and safety resources, critical infrastructure, and economic sites and their maintenance are dependent upon input from state and local agencies, and their content will vary by GRA. Response planners recognize that marine resources that are deemed economically sensitive can have environmental, cultural, or historical importance as well, such as coastal parks or important fishing areas. In these cases, a higher environmental ranking would be used to delineate response planning. Therefore, many of those resources are not captured within the Lists of Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling, and instead can be found in the Environmental Sensitive Sites section for each GRA. The listing of economic resources susceptible to oiling in this plan is provided to assist Liaison Officers and other responders with contact information that may be useful during the early stages of a response before Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and local Area Representatives (AREPs) are available to assist.

Lists of economic resources are not intended to be exhaustive and may include various types of sites and resources depending on the specific features of each GRA. Regardless of inclusion in the Lists of Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling, any entity may submit a third-party claim for damages and costs incurred due to specific oil spill impacts to these resources. Additionally, some businesses, as well as local government offices or departments, may have access to privately owned or contracted response equipment and resources that can be deployed at these locations. It is encouraged that stakeholders with jurisdictional authority over their economic resources arrange for their protection and/or file a third-party claim for impacts.

#### 9804.1 Human Health and Safety Resources plus Critical Infrastructure

Coastal resources and structures that are essential to public health and safety, such as drinking water intakes and emergency response facilities, will receive first priority protection during oil spill response operations. This ACP provides contact information for a defined list of human health and safety resources and critical infrastructure, which will facilitate initial notifications and protection considerations. These are not exhaustive lists, more resources may be considered on a spill-specific basis, and some are not included on maps or in plans due to security issues (e.g.,

power plant intakes). Ultimately, public entities, like water supply and health agencies, are tasked with ensuring the protection of human health and safety.

Examples of resources or critical infrastructure that would receive a first priority response (because of human health and safety concerns) include:

- Drinking water intakes
- Desalination plant intakes
- Power plant intakes
- Other health/safety intakes
- First responders' on water facilities

### **9804.2 Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling**

Per the federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990, economic resources are categorically designated as the third priority for dedication of oil spill response resources, following human health and safety (including critical infrastructure) and environmental resources. Economic resources that have a greater potential for long-term high consequence impacts receive a higher priority for emergency response and are captured in these lists. Protection of economic resources under direction of Unified Command may occur when response equipment, personnel resources or significant extenuating factors dictate adaptations in a response's priorities. Economic resources susceptible to oiling may include facilities, businesses, or other resources that directly use coastal waters to support their economic activity and are at risk of long-term, high consequence impacts due to oiling.

Examples of economic resources that could be captured in the Lists of Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling include:

- Aquarium and marine laboratory infrastructure and water intakes
- Aquaculture and mariculture facilities
- Salt pond intakes
- Public marinas and harbors
- Public transit ferries
- State, county, and city parks and beaches, as appropriate

### **9804.3 Lists of Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling**

Lists of economic resources susceptible to oiling are published at the end of each GRA section in the ACP. Below is a description of the types of information that may be provided for each identified economic resource. For security purposes, some information has been omitted for specific resources identified within the ACP.

- Site name
- Geographic location
- Contact numbers (24-hour access if available)
- Brief description

Economic resources naming structure:



*ACP number - GRA number - Two Letter County Identifier - Site Number – “Priority Code” [HHS or D]*

“Priority Code” designations:

- HHS = Human Health and Safety Resources plus Critical Infrastructure, as identified in Section 9804.1
- D = Economic Resources Susceptible to Oiling, as identified in Section 9804.2

Economic resources susceptible to oiling with locations and details (excluding sites that have security concerns, e.g., power plant intake locations) can also be found in the NOAA Environmental Response Management Application ([ERMA](https://erma.noaa.gov/southwest/erma.html) or <https://erma.noaa.gov/southwest/erma.html>). See Section 9803.6 for a list of ERMA economic resource data layers.

### **9805 Shoreline Operational Divisions**

Pre-defined Shoreline Operational Divisions are presented in the ACP as front-loaded information to assist in rapid response planning to provide for quickly organized operational objectives and assignments along affected shorelines. The Operational Divisions have been developed in conjunction with the US Coast Guard, California Fish and Wildlife OSPR, and various Oil Spill Response Organizations. Experience has demonstrated that in the earliest stages of spill response having organizational structures in place facilitates an effective response.

The Shoreline Operational Divisions are organized and named according to County boundaries. Within county domains, division boundaries are guided by logical geopolitical features such as coastal physical characteristics and land ownership/management issues, shoreline cleanup logistical considerations, and manageable sized coastline segments (generally not longer than ten miles). Logistics, access, and manageability were driving considerations in this effort, particularly as it relates to types of cleanup operations required and problems likely to be present.

In ACP areas having more than one county, Shoreline Operational Divisions will utilize county codes followed by a single alpha character (A to Z). Shoreline Operational Divisions are labeled from north to south in each county. For example, the northern-most Operational Division in Los Angeles County is “LA-A.” In large bays (i.e. San Diego), the labeling will progress in a clockwise direction to accommodate changing coastline angles. Divisions can be easily subdivided (as necessary) by the Operations Section management to provide for appropriate work assignment effort.

Double digit alpha characters (AA to ZZ) will be used for all offshore operational areas and any other special operational areas needed during response.

## 9806 Shoreline Access

Some Area Committees have provided detailed shoreline access to aid Planning and Operations Section managers in the rapid deployment of field response personnel and equipment on coastal beaches during the emergency phase of spill response. If this information is available for a particular Area Committee area of responsibility, it will be found in a separate document or computer application such as the Environmental Response Management Application ([ERMA](#)).

## 9807 Glossary of Acronyms and Nomenclature Used in Strategies

To minimize repetitious verbiage in protection strategies, the following acronyms and nomenclature may be used in the strategies.

**Anchoring Systems** – Whether expressly stated or not, anchoring systems must be sufficient to hold boom in the currents wherever boom may be deployed. To insure successful anchoring, the anchoring system should include: anchors with anchor buoys to control placement and anchor chains which equal or exceed the weight of anchors indicated, enough line to produce adequate scope to hold anchors (rule of thumb is 3:1 (line to depth), but 5-7:1 (for high current areas), and a buoy between anchor line and boom (crown buoys) to keep the anchor from sinking the boom under tension conditions.

**BBE** – boom boat equivalent: A vessel able to safely transport and deploy 600 feet of harbor boom or 1800 feet of swamp boom.

**Bboat** – see Boom Boat.

**Boom Boat** – a boat suitable for transporting, towing and deploying large amounts of boom, usually crewed with a helmsman and two deck hands for handling the boom deployment. Boom boats should generally be capable of grounding without sustaining damage. (Also see Shallow Water Boom Boat and Very Shallow Water Boom Boat).

**Danforth** – refers to “Danforth anchors” with chain, typically presented as a number of anchors and minimal weight (e.g., 3/12+ - means three anchors of a minimum of 12 lbs each) with at least an equal weight of anchor chain. Without substantial anchor chain mass, anchors will not hold. Northill anchors are equivalent.

**Harbor Boom** – an inland waters type boom (greater than 18” and less than 42” overall (flotation and skirt)) of a curtain boom design (skirted boom with solid flotation). Some strategies clarify boom size by indicating flotation and skirt as follows: 9” x 9” which indicates a boom with at least 9” of flotation and 9” of skirt.

**Hboom** – see Harbor Boom.

**Shallow Water Boom Boat** – a boom boat capable of safely working in three feet of water depth or less, which can also withstand routine beaching or stranding.

**SKF** – see Skiff.

**Skiff** – a small two person craft able to operate in 3 foot waves or larger and capable of delivering personnel and equipment to shores.

**SORBM** – Sorbent Boom, with or without a skirt.

**SPS** – Self-Propelled Skimmer - a small to medium sized skimmer with its own propulsion and storage – which could be a VOSS.

**SFS** – Stationary Floating Skimmer - a floating platform supporting a skimmer and storage, including VOSS equipment.

**SSS** – Shore Side Skimmer, includes a skimming unit, such as a rope-mop or weir skimmer and its support pack and a storage container such as a vacuum truck, baker tank, or other tank.

**Swamp Boom** – a river boom type (less than 18” overall) of a curtain boom design.

**SWPBM** – see Swamp Boom.

**Towed Skimming Array** – a skimming system with two boats towing collection booms which funnel oil to a skimming system.

**TSA** – see Towed Skimming Array

“**V**” – Skimming Array -Same as TSA.

**Very Shallow Water Boom Boat** – a boom boat capable of working in two feet of water or less, which should be durable enough to withstand repeated stranding without sustaining damage.

**VOSS** – Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System – a portable skimming system (skimming device, pump, power supply, and storage) installed on a vessel not designed for skimming.

**VSA** – “V”-Skimming Array -Same as TSA.

**Weir Skimmer** – a skimmer with an adjustable dam, to minimize water collection.

**Xboom** – is any boom other than harbor boom, swamp, or sorbent boom. This term is used to simplify equipment tables. A type designator should be used as well as a length. Type designators include:

- TB or TBB – tidal barrier boom
- OB – ocean boom
- FB – fence boom
- OS – oil snare
- BB – bushy boom