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# DESKTOP REVIEW

## Site: Hermosa Beach Drywells

*Prepared for*

**City of Hermosa Beach  
1315 Valley Drive  
Hermosa Beach, California 90254**

*Prepared by*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (Geosyntec) was retained by the City of Hermosa Beach to perform a desktop review for potential drywell locations east of Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) between 1st Street and 10th Street in Hermosa Beach, California (the “Site”). The City of Hermosa Beach is planning to implement a series of drywells at the Site to capture stormwater and dry weather flows within 118 acres of the Herondo Drain watershed. This desktop review documents the review of publicly available records and regulatory files to assess potential environmental conditions associated with the Site.

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The Site is located east of PCH between 1st Street and 10th Street in Hermosa Beach, California and is surrounded by a mix of commercial and residential properties. The location of the Site and the proposed drywell locations are shown on Figure 1.

## 3. PHYSICAL SETTING - HYDROLOGY

In general, groundwater flow direction may vary depending on area groundwater pumping, surface water bodies, land use and development, localized topography, and other macro and micro features. The Site is located within the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles County Groundwater Basin, West Coast Subbasin. Water bearing deposits within the Basin include unconsolidated and semi-consolidated marine and alluvium sediments. Injection wells in the West Coast Basin Barrier create a north-south trending groundwater mound and influences the groundwater levels and flow direction in the local area (CA DWR, 2004). Groundwater is projected to flow to the west towards the Pacific Ocean, located approximately 0.6-miles west of the Site. Based on groundwater measurements from a Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LADPW)<sup>1</sup> groundwater observation well located approximately 650 feet east-southeast of the Site (Well Number 714Q), depth to groundwater was reported at 156.5 feet below ground surface (bgs) in 2008.

## 4. RECORDS REVIEW

Geosyntec searched the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) GeoTracker online database<sup>2</sup> and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor<sup>3</sup> online database for information relevant to the environmental condition of the Site and vicinity properties located within 1/3 mile from the Site. Properties greater than 1/3 mile from the Site were not evaluated because they are not anticipated to adversely affect the Site based on their location and proximity.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/wells/#>

<sup>2</sup> <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

**Sites considered to be potential environmental concerns:**

- **Desert Petroleum** is located within the northeast portion of the Site at 890 PCH and listed as a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanup case (T0603701296). A LUST case was opened in 1996 for a release of gasoline affecting groundwater. The case is listed as completed and closed in 1999, however, records were not available for review online. Due to the lack of additional information, this facility is considered a potential environmental concern.

**Sites not considered to be potential environmental concerns:**

- **Vasek Polak Porsche-Audo** located approximately 40 feet west (hydraulically downgradient) at 199 PCH was listed as a LUST cleanup case (T0603705055). A release of gasoline impacting soil was discovered during tank closure activities in 1996 and the case was issued closure in 1997. No records were available for review online, however, based on the lack of groundwater impact and downgradient location, this facility is not considered a potential environmental concern.
- **Mobil #11-E3F** located approximately 40 feet west (hydraulically downgradient) at 931 PCH was listed as a LUST cleanup case (T0603704808). The facility is an active Mobile gasoline service station. In 2001, soil contamination was discovered during dispenser upgrade activities. In 2007, soil samples collected during a subsurface investigation reported low to non-detect concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons constituents. Groundwater was not encountered to a total depth of 45 feet (Exxon Mobil, 2007). The case was issued closure by the LADPW in 2010. Based on the lack of groundwater impact, downgradient location and regulatory closure status, this facility is not considered a potential environmental concern.
- **GTE Redondo Beach Central** located approximately 70 feet south (hydraulically cross-gradient) at 102 PCH was listed as a LUST cleanup case (T0603701295). Diesel contamination affecting groundwater was discovered in 1987. The RWQCB issued a NFA letter confirming completion of site investigation and remedial action in 1996. No additional records regarding investigation activities was available for review online. Based on the time elapsed since the release and the closure status of the case, this facility is not considered a potential environmental concern.

- **Jeep Eagle Dealership** located approximately 180 feet southeast (hydraulically cross-gradient) at 125 PCH was listed a LUST cleanup case (T0603705276). A release of aviation fuel to soil was reported in 1991 and the case was issued closure in 1991. No records were available for review online. Based on the lack of groundwater impact and distance from the Site, this facility is not considered a potential environmental concern.

## 5. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Geosyntec has conducted a desktop review of the Site located east of PCH between 1st Street and 10th Street in Hermosa Beach, California. In 1996, a LUST case was investigated at the Site (Desert Petroleum, 890 PCH) involving a release of gasoline to groundwater. The facility received regulatory closure, however, records were not available for review online. Therefore, the Site likely has a high environmental risk potential in terms of hazardous substances and/or petroleum products in the soil, soil vapor, and groundwater from the adjoining historical Desert Petroleum property. However, this case is at least 250-ft from any proposed drywell. Furthermore, no exclusions for drywell suitability, as defined in the California Drywell Guidance Research and Recommendations Report (Geosyntec, 2020), are present at the proposed drywell sites. Exclusions include less than a 10-ft separation between the base of the drywell to the seasonally high groundwater table, sites within contaminated soils or contaminate groundwater plumes, sites with risk of septic effluent mobilization, sites within 150 feet of a drinking water well, sites within 250-ft of sources of surface water and groundwater contamination<sup>4</sup>, and sites with slopes greater than 15% without a geotechnical review. Also consistent with the guidance, given that the contributing drainage areas do not include industrial facilities, the risk of the proposed drywells introducing additional contaminants into the groundwater basin is low to medium; pretreatment appropriate to the level of risk will be implemented as recommended.

## 6. LIMITATIONS

This desktop review is limited in scope and summarizes the findings from online research and documentation available at the time of the Review. No in-person file review or Site reconnaissance were performed.

### Attachments:

Figure 1: Site Layout Map

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<sup>4</sup> Sources of surface water and groundwater contamination include auto shops, gas stations, dry cleaners, hazardous materials sites, contaminated soils, contaminated groundwater plumes, etc.

## 7. REFERENCES

California Department of Health Services, 1999. Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program, January.

California Department of Water Resources, 2004. Coastal Plain of Los Angeles County Groundwater Basin, West Coast Subbasin Description, 27 February.

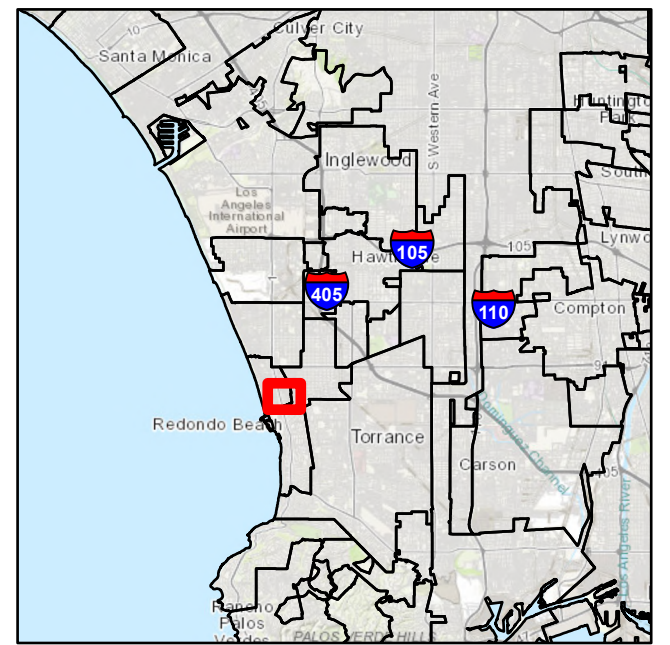
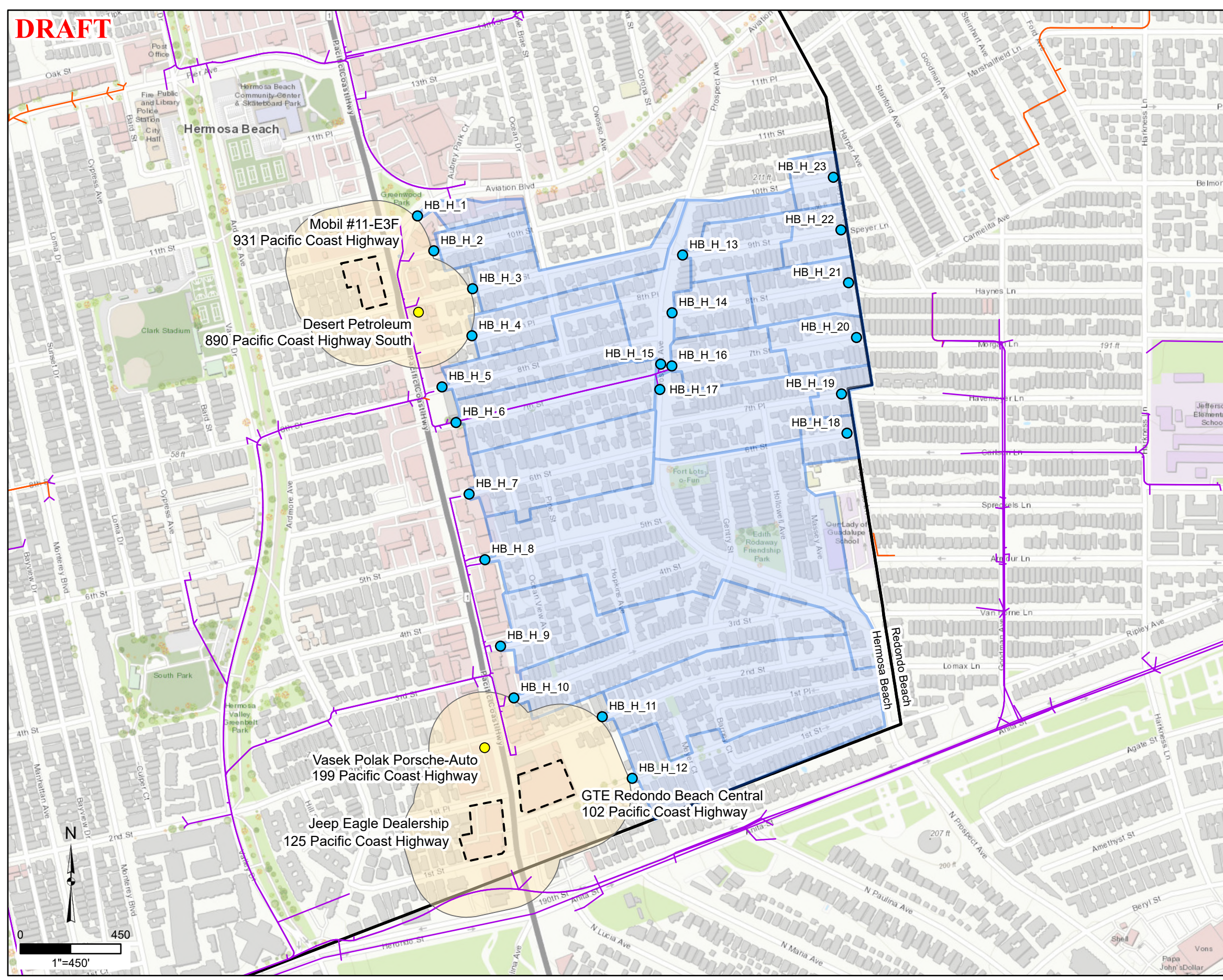
Exxon Mobil, 2007. Soil Assessment Report, Mobil Station 18E3F. September 24.

Geosyntec, 2020. California Drywell Guidance Research and Recommendations, 31 March.

RWQCB, 1996. Underground Storage Tank Case Closure – GTE Redondo Beach Central Office. October 29.

# FIGURES

**DRAFT**



**Legend**

- Proposed Drywell Location
- Approximate Evaluation Site Location
- City Owned Storm Drain
- County Owned Storm Drain
- Evaluation Site Boundary
- Drywell Subdrainage Area
- Environmental Buffer (250 FT)
- City Limits

Data Sources:  
 1. CA State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker, 2022.  
 2. CA Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor, 2022.

**Environmental Screening Results**  
 Hermosa Beach Distributed Infiltration Project  
 Hermosa Beach, CA

		<b>Figure</b>  1
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