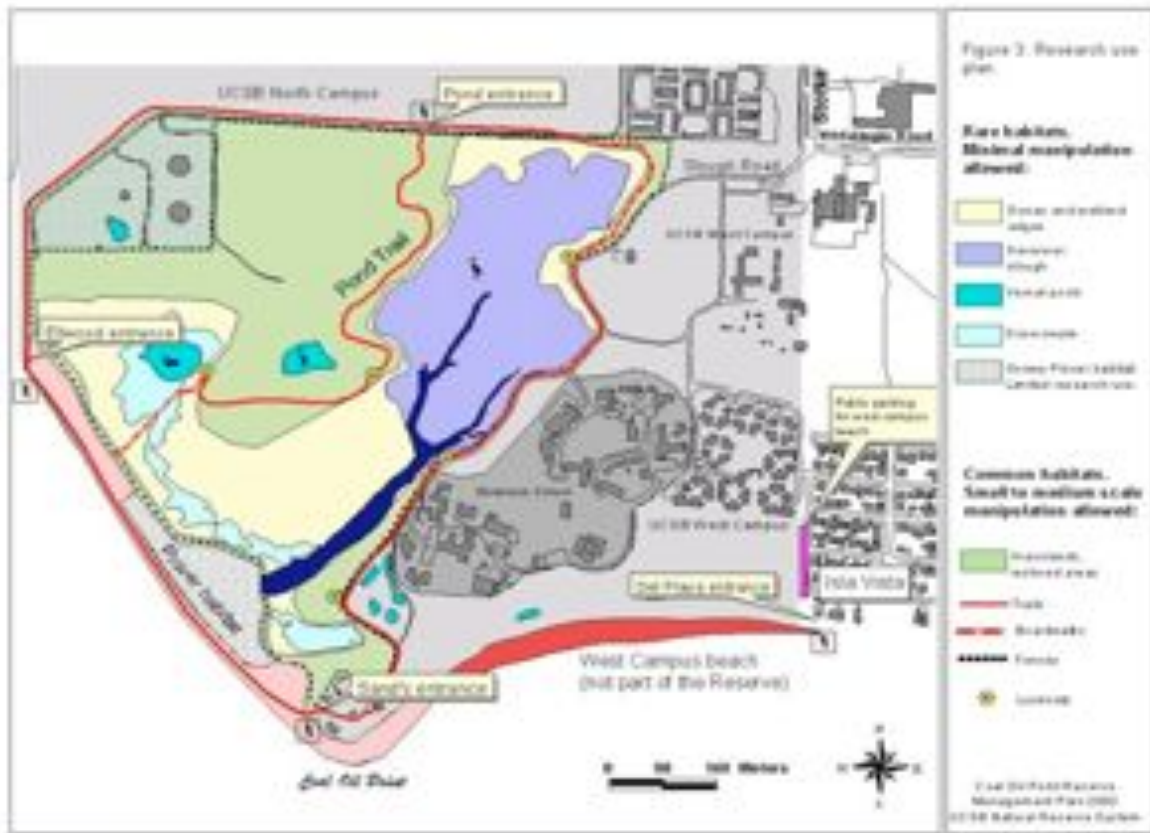


11:00 - 11:15: Walk to Coal Oil Point and explore
 11:15 - 11:20: Meet at tables for introduction
 11:20 - 11:30: Session 1
 11:30 - 11:40: Session 2
 11:40 - 11:50: Session 3
 11:50 - 12:00: Questions and observations

Tour of Coal Oil Point

November 30, 2018

Current Map of Area



Courtesy of UC Natural Reserve System

Perspectives

Some things to think about as you explore!

Ranching and Early Oil History (early history – 1940s)

- **The Campbells invested millions of dollars into developing the landscape and building infrastructure.** In what ways do you think the history of Coal Oil Point would have unraveled differently without the Campbell's resources? What traces of their placemaking do you see at the site today?
- **Early oil infrastructure was cheap and unstable, indicating that it was not meant to be the beginning of a long-term business venture.** Does this remind you of any other stories of extractive industries? If yes, why? If no, how is it different than other "boom and bust" situations?
- **There are few sights or signs that tell Chumash history, even though they were present here for far longer than the Campbells or the Devereux School.** What kinds of interpretation (e.g. signs and events) would you add to tell more of this history?

ARCO History (1980 – 1990s)

- Platform Holly is *not just one structure with one method of extraction*. Instead, like other oil platforms, there are 32 wells that are invisible to us from the surface. In the 1980s, ARCOs planned to build two more platforms (Holly and Heron) which would have produced over 100 new wells. But, this request was denied by California. How does this reality of what “lies beneath the surface” challenge our thinking about extraction?
- ARCO sought to create new onshore and offshore platforms here at Coal Oil Point. The responses by UC Santa Barbara and environmental groups like the Sierra Club to ARCO were crucial in stopping the project. How might we better commemorate or remember such “battles” and their actors? Could media remediate these sites to ensure the visibility of such flashpoints?
- Since ARCO’s project was unable to move forward, the company sued the California government for nearly 800 million dollars. Our class learned several weeks ago about how taxpayer dollars are being used to pay for the closure of Rincon Island – despite the former parent company still being in operation. How do oil companies, in particular, seem to utilize a particular concept of temporality in a way that allows them to frequently place responsibility on denizens?

Coal Oil Point Nature Reserve: Contemporary relationships between oil and conservation (1990 – present)

- The restoration projects at Coal Oil Point have not only restored ecosystems and conserved habitats, but they’ve also turned the beach into a place for the local community to enjoy. In the process, almost all trace of the wells and infrastructure that once existed here have been erased. In what ways does making this infrastructure invisible shape our relationship to the land here?
- Until it went bankrupt in 2015, Venoco, the company operating Platform Holly, was helping the Reserve decommission oil infrastructure and restore this area. This relationship can be interpreted in different ways. Was it a cynical public relations maneuver? Was it an attempt to make the impacts of oil development invisible and justify further development? Was it a genuine commitment to restoring the land and supporting the Reserve? How do *you* interpret this relationship?
- People often say Santa Barbara is the birthplace of modern environmentalism, yet Santa Barbara County remains the 4th largest oil-producing county in California and California is the 4th largest oil-producing state in the US. The juxtaposition of Platform Holly offshore looming over the onshore Coal Oil Point Nature Reserve, especially the Snowy Plover reserve, captures this irony beautifully. What different narratives might this juxtaposition tell about environmentalism in Santa Barbara?



A beautiful day at Coal Oil Point

Map of Oil Development in the Area in the 1920s

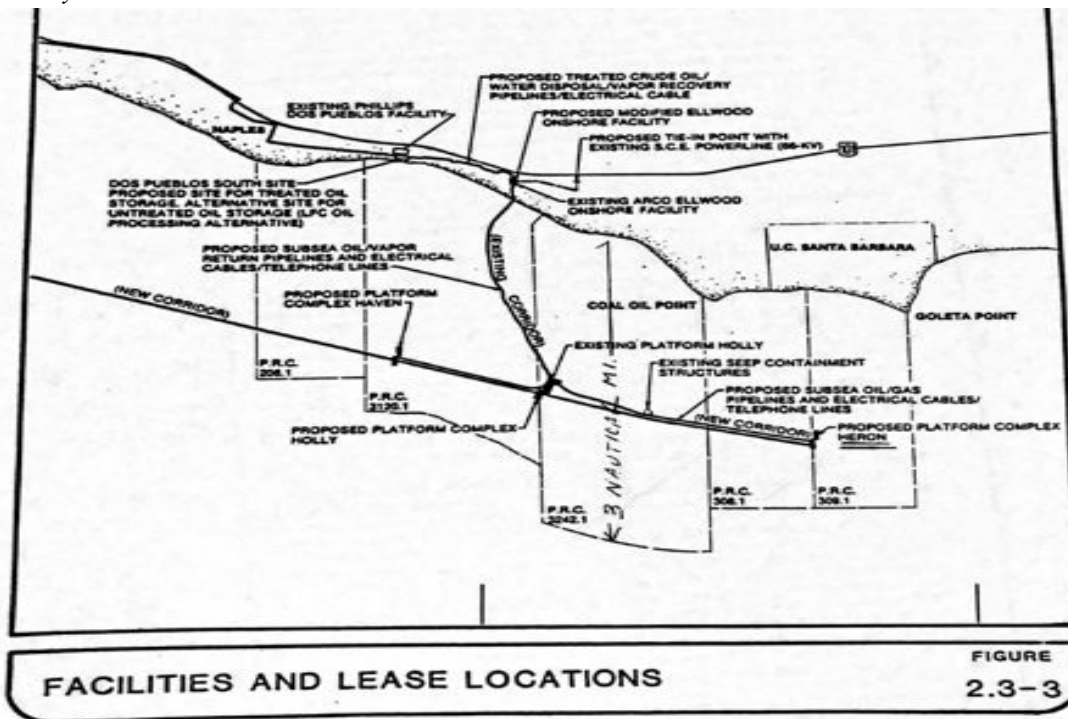
Each rectangle offshore represents an area permitted to oil companies to develop early offshore drilling.



Courtesy of UC Santa Barbara Special Collections

Map of Proposed ARCO Plan in the Area in the 1980s

Pay special attention to the proposed platforms (Holly and Heron). Platform Holly - now decommissioned - still exists today.



Courtesy of UC Santa Barbara Special Collections

