

STATE OF CALIFORNIA**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response

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DATE: March 7, 1996
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JET FUEL SPILL CLOSES MARINA, AFFECTS WILDLIFE

SAN DIEGO, Calif. -- The San Diego Bay Yacht Club marina has been closed as a result of an estimated 350-500 gallons of JP-5 fuel (jet fuel) spilled into the Shelter Island Yacht Basin from a leak in a U.S. Navy underground pipeline on March 7, 1996.

Navy crews have closed off the pipe and are excavating the affected section of the pipe. The cause of the leak is unknown at this time. Representatives from the Department of Fish and Game and its Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), the U.S. Coast Guard, the San Diego Fire Department and the State Fire Marshall are on scene.

The Navy has activated three skimmers, and crews have deployed sorbent and containment booms. Due to the nature of the product, much of it is expected to evaporate.

Wildlife crews are keeping birds and wildlife out of the area using hazing methods which will continue until the cleanup is completed. The OSPR mobile veterinary laboratory is en route and expected to arrive on-scene around midnight and are expected to be operational by first light tomorrow. Personnel from Hubbs-Sea World will be assisting with the care of oiled birds. Eight live oiled birds have been captured, but several others have been spotted in the area by survey teams. Crews are working to rescue other birds. Three dead birds have also been recovered.

Some of the product has gotten into the area where yachts are docked, and individuals with boats in the marina are asked to call the U.S. Navy at 619-532-1937 for additional information.

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