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# Refugio Response Information



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## UPDATE 6: Unified Command Continuing Clean Up Operations

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SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — The Unified Command is continuing clean-up operations at the Refugio Beach oil spill in Santa Barbara County.

Continuing in this significant response, more than 349 federal, state and local first responders, and numerous environmental cleanup contractors have arrived on scene and are actively assessing, booming and continuing to remove oil from affected areas.

Responders have so far rescued five brown pelicans. Multiple care facilities have been activated and are ready to triage affected wildlife. A juvenile sea lion was rescued with 35% coverage in oil and was transferred to Sea World for treatment and rehabilitation.

Three Skimmers and five Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques teams have recovered more than 8,358 gallons of oil water mixture as cleanup crews work 24 hours a day and more than 4,500 feet of boom has been deployed. Fifteen additional skimmers are expected to take part in operations and are currently en route.

Cleanup crews are beginning operations to clean the inside of the culvert, which passes under the highway.

Drivers can expect single-lane closures in each direction along sections along U.S. 101 during cleanup operations. The closures are expected to extend the width of the culvert but will only affect one lane in each direction at a time.

Both El Capitan and Refugio beaches have been closed.

A 23-mile by 7-mile area offshore has been closed to fishing because of oil in the affected areas that extends from Arroyo Hondo creek to El Capitan Beach.

For individuals who want to file a claim for compensation please contact 1-(866)-753-3619.

For individuals who come across affected wildlife please contact the Oil Wildlife Care Network at 1-(877)-823-6926.

Anyone wishing to volunteer in the clean-up effort can find more information at [Calspillwatch.com](http://Calspillwatch.com) or contact 1-(800)-228-4544.

Individuals are urged to stay off area beaches as a safety measure and to stay away from petroleum products. Refugio Beach has been closed to the public. If anyone comes into contact with oil and feels any symptoms should seek help and go to the nearest emergency room.

*For more information contact:*

*Joint Information Center*

*[reply@refugioresponse.com](mailto:reply@refugioresponse.com)*

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