

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Update 16: Using volunteers at the Refugio Incident

The public has expressed a passionate commitment to the environment and wildlife through requests to volunteer to help with the Refugio Incident.

A number of *affiliated* volunteers have worked on a variety of activities over the past few days. Since May 20, approximately 132 affiliated volunteers have participated in several tasks, from the following organizations:

- Santa Barbara County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers
- California Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Local Fire Community hand crews
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Natural Resource Volunteer Program (NRVP) volunteers
- Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) volunteers

The CDFW volunteer unit in the Unified Command is in coordination with Cal Volunteers, Cal OES, City of Santa Barbara, and Santa Barbara County to support volunteer efforts.

Volunteers from the general public will be used to assist with beach clean-up and various tasks over the next several days.

In order to volunteer, applicants must be at least 18 years of age and in good health, and they complete the volunteer registration form found online at: <https://calspillwatch.dfg.ca.gov/Spill-Archive/Refugio-Incident/Volunteer>. Registered volunteers will be contacted about task assignments and reporting locations.

Currently, the following trainings have been scheduled. Currently, the following trainings have been scheduled. Again, you must be pre-registered to participate.

Hazard Safety Communication Training:

Monday: May 25 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 100 slots open.

Thursday: May 28: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 100 slots open for each session.

Beach cleanup:

Wednesday: May 27: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday: May 30: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: May 31: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information contact:

Joint Information Center

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