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EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE LIFTING OF FISHERIES CLOSURE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT CAUSED BY AN OIL SPILL AFFECTING MARINE WATERS

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code § 5654, I find and declare that:

Pursuant to Fish & Game Code section 5654, on May 19, 2015, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). declared a closure to the take of all fish and shellfish in the vicinity of Refugio State Beach due to potential public health threats posed by an oil spill in state waters that occurred that day. The closure boundaries extended approximately one mile east and one mile west of Refugio State Beach and included the shoreline and offshore areas between these two points to 1/4 mile offshore.

II.

On May 21, 2015, the original closure area was expanded beyond the May 19 geographic boundaries to include coastal areas from Canada de Alegeria at the western edge to Coal Oil Point at the eastern edge. The closure boundaries included the shoreline and offshore areas between these points to 6 miles offshore.

III.

After further consultation with OEHHA, a determination has been made that there is no longer a potential public health hazard associated with fishing and shellfish harvesting as a result of the May 19 oil spill. Therefore, I hereby ORDER that the area described in the May 21 closure (which is inclusive of the May 19 closure area) is now open to fishing and consumption of fish caught in the vicinity. Attached hereto is a map of the previously closed areas.

IV.

This Order is not intended to, and does not create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its departments, agencies, or other entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

Thomas M. Cullen, Jr., QSPR\Administrator for

Charlton H. Bonham, Director

