



**OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Preparedness/Technical-Advisory-Committee>



*Meeting of  
Wednesday, August 26, 2015  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area  
45211 County Road 32B  
Davis, CA 95618*

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<i>TAC members</i>	<i>Agency Representatives</i>	<i>OSPR Participants</i>	<i>Guests</i>
Steve Ricks	Jonathan Bishop, CCC	Thomas M. Cullen, Jr.	Paul Hamilton, OSPR
R. Mitchel Beauchamp	Debra French, CA SLC	Yvonne Addassi	
John Berge	Mark Gregory USCG <i>(alternate to Timothy Holmes)</i>	Julie Yamamoto	
Matt Rezvani	Linda Scourtis, SF BCDC	Joy Lavin-Jones	
Deb Self <i>(by phone)</i>		Janet Dias	
		Eric Milstein	
		Ryan Todd	

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

*Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator*

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman*

5/06/15 Minutes – R. Mitchel Beauchamp motions to approve the minutes as presented with no edits; Steve Ricks seconded; unanimously approved.

**3. OSPR UPDATE**

*Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator*

*(report provided)*

Since our last TAC meeting OSPR staff were among the first on-scene to a crude oil spill resulting from a ruptured pipeline near Refugio Beach in Santa Barbara County on May 19, 2015. Of the estimated 101,000 gallons of crude discharged into the environment, some 21,000 gallons reached the Pacific Ocean. The spill initiated inland and ultimately impacted the marine region, thus resulting in a dual Federal On-Scene Coordinator. A Unified Command including OSPR leadership was established in Santa Barbara to coordinate cleanup and recovery operations. There were also immense cultural tribal concerns. As of July 27, operations continue with the focus shifting from cleanup to environmental restoration.

Administrator Cullen also offered a brief update of each branch of OSPR, touching on a few highlights. Further updates can be found in the report provided.

**4. AGENCY BRIEFINGS**

*California State Lands Commission*

*Ms. Debra French*

*(report provided)*

- Marine Oil Terminal Inspections – completed on a 24/7 basis. Approximately 50-60% of the vessels and barges that come into the ports are inspected. Quarterly statistics of monitored transfers are included in the report provided.
- Marine Invasive Species Program presented updates on regulation packages, current water treatment systems, and biofouling challenges.
- Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit Activities – audits completed on Platforms Emmy, Esther, and Eva. Action items are being actively addressed and audit results show a high level of commitment on the part of the operators.

**California Coastal Commission**  
(report provided)

**Mr. Jonathan Bishop**

- CCC filled into the Liaison Unit at the Command Post early during the Refugio Oil Spill response.
- In response to the Refugio Spill, the Governor issued an emergency order that revoked the suspension of CCC's permit requirements for spill response activities. Part of CCC's jurisdiction is the area known as Section 5, the location where oil cascaded down the bluff and cliff face onto the beach and into the ocean. Work in Section 5 is largely completed but focusing now on long-term monitoring.
- Area Committee looking at updating plans around lessons learned from Refugio, specifically updates concerning public information, social media, and logistics.

**BCDC**  
(report provided)

**Ms. Linda Scourtis**

- The Navigation work group met in August to become acquainted with the new USCG waterways staff and to discuss the effects of bright halogen lights crab fishermen use making it difficult to differentiate between the port and starboard lights. A marine safety bulletin has issued as a result.
- Request has been submitted to OSPR Administrator that tanker requirements be applied to Articulated Tug Barges given their advanced handling capability.
- The 2015 revised Harbor Safety Plan has been approved by the OSPR Administrator.
- The Dredging work group drafted a letter to Senator Feinstein detailing the need to augment the budget for the Army Corps of Engineers' dredging activities throughout the Bay.

**U.S. Coast Guard**  
(report provided)

**Mr. Mark Gregory**

- 2014 Region IX Regional Contingency Plan posted updates on the RRT IX website (<http://www.rrt9.org/go/doctype/2763/49383>).
- 2014 California Coastal Area Contingency Plans for San Francisco and San Diego are now posted on OSPR's website. LA/LB is in the final stage of review.
- Completion of the MEXUSPLAN and MEXUSPAC Annex revisions is anticipated by this fall.
- District 11 and EPA9 are finalizing the ESA7 Biological Assessment on the California Dispersant Use Plan. It is scheduled for submission to the Services on 8/28/15 and a response by this fall.

**5. FUND CONDITION AND BUDGET UPDATE**  
(report provided)

**Ms. Janet Dias,**  
**OSPR Budget Analyst**

Overviews are presented for Fund Conditions 207, 320, 321, and 322, capturing two prior fiscal years (FY) of actual revenues and expenditures (FY 12/13- FY 13/14) and three fiscal years of projected revenues and expenditures (FY 15/16- FY 17/18). For current fiscal year 14/15, revenues and expenditures were presented reflecting fiscal month 12 (June) actuals and projections through the end of June.

- Fund 207 – Fish & Wildlife Pollution Account: This fund generates no oil events; revenues and expenses are all non-oil. The balance as of the end of June was \$508,311.00 due to an accounting error resulting in an additional sum of \$196,000.
- Fund 320 – Oil Spill Prevention & Administration Fund: This fund brought in over 42 million in regulatory fees, reflecting 99% of what was projected. Expenditures still show less than projected in that OSPR has not yet filled all positions it has the authority to fill. Current balance (as of end of June) in this fund is just under 21 million.
- Fund 321 – Oil Spill Response Trust Fund: Statewide oil spill program expenses are taken from this fund. Funding for the OWCN has shifted from here to Fund 320. The beginning balance of this fund was 9.6 million. Expenditures and appropriations are close to 1.5 million, which is 352% what projected. This is the result of the Refugio Oil Spill in Santa Barbara on May 19, 2015.

Cost recovery efforts are underway.

- Fund 322 – Environmental Enhancement Fund: Expenditures must be spent on restoration and coastal projects. Fines and penalties from all oil spills (marine and inland) are deposited here. Started out with a beginning balance of 1.9 million. Actual expenditures 97% projected at \$738,565.

## 6. REGULATIONS & LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

(report provided)

*Ms. Joy Lavin-Jones,  
OSPR Regulations Analyst*

- Emergency Regulations to Implement SB 861: After review of comments received, the most significant change is a clarification in the distinction between what is truly a terrestrial oil spill response versus what is an inland oil spill response that might require on-water resources.
- Inland OSRO Rating Regulations: Statute dictates that all plan holders must submit a contingency plan and application for a Certificate of Financial Responsibility (COFR) by January 1, 2016. Just as on the marine side, there needs to be an inland OSRO rating program. OSPR is using the same emergency regulations process; have already developed draft language. Hoping for approval by the end of next month and being able to start rating in October.
- Spill Management Teams: Draft regulation language will be routed for an informal comment period. It is anticipated that formal rulemaking impacting marine plan holders only will begin in September. Eventually something comparable will be developed for inland plan holders.
- Shoreline Protection Tables: Updates reflecting changes in the Area Contingency Plan strategies have been approved. These impact marine plan holders only.
- Best Achievable Technology Report: Consists of four components 1) Prevention, 2) Remote Sensing, 3) Mechanical Response, and 4) Applied Response Technologies. All are in various stages of updating and finalization is anticipated by year's end.

## 7. UPDATE ON STATEWIDE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

*Dr. Julie Yamamoto,  
OSPR Assistant Deputy Administrator*

Areas of focus have been on securing new personnel; purchasing; development of emergency regulations for contingency plans, drills, Certificates of Financial Responsibility, inland oil spill response organization ratings; increased outreach/agency coordination; developing geographic response plans to protect inland waterway; wildlife operations within the Oiled Wildlife Care Network; and enhancing the spill communication and data unit.

## 8. UPDATE ON REFUGIO OIL SPILL RESPONSE

*Ms. Yvonne Addassi,  
OSPR Deputy Administrator*

Operations being monitored by U.S. EPA, State Parks, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Barbara County, and cultural/tribal monitors. On water vessel response concluded approximately June 18<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers: 1,000 applications submitted, 263 trained, 159 deployed for beach cleanup. Wildlife Branch field recovery operations and Command Post presence have been demobilized. Care for oiled wildlife continues off-site. Operations cleanup crews are on standby to recover Refugio Incident source oil which have not met Phase I or Phase II end points. Phase II cleanup endpoints have been achieved for 98% of the overall impacted shoreline. Phase III maintenance and monitoring currently in draft form awaiting final UC approval. Sampling will be conducted in December 2015 and March 2016. After March 2016 sampling, the need to continue Phase III will be re-evaluated based on sampling results and Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques Team observations. OSPR and USCG continue to jointly respond to reports to CalOES and the National Response Center of tarball and oil spills in the Santa Barbara/Southern California area since the Refugio Incident.

## 9. REVISED TAC BYLAWS

*Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman*

Deb Self suggested edit to Article 7, Section 1, first sentence should read "...by audio *and/or* video contemporaneous communications..." No other edits suggested. Mitch Beauchamp motions to approve with these changes; John Berge seconds. Revised TAC Bylaws approved.

**10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS, NEXT MEETING**

Next TAC meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 2015; location TBD.

*Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman*

***ADJOURN***

Meeting adjourned 3:16 p.m.