



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

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



*Meeting of
Wednesday, February 7, 2018
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

*San Francisco Estuary Institute
4911 Central Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804*

MINUTES

Attendance:

<i>TAC members</i>	<i>Agency Representatives</i>	<i>OSPR Participants</i>	<i>Guests</i>
Steve Ricks (<i>chairperson</i>)	Debra French, State Fire Marshal	Thomas M. Cullen, Jr.	Vanessa Sutherland, US Chemical Safety Board
John Berge (<i>vice chair</i>)	Jonathan Bishop, CCC	Dr. Steve Hampton	Lynn Korwatch
Matt Rezvani	Linda Scourtis, S.F. BCDC	Dr. Julie Yamamoto	
Sejal Choksi-Chugh	Timothy Holmes, U.S.C.G.	Christine Kluge	
Jenna Driscoll	Jordan Stout, NOAA	Eric Milstein	
	Chris Beckwith, CA SLC	Greg McGowan	
	Kathryn Lawrence, US EPA	Laird Henkel	

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman

October 11, 2017 Minutes – A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. OSPR UPDATE

Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator

(report provided)

Administrator Thomas Cullen, Jr. offered a brief update of each branch of OSPR. Further updates can be found in the report provided.

- The TAC will no longer have alternates. There was nothing in statute regarding alternates for members, even though they are mentioned in the TAC bylaws. Senate Rules Committee’s counsel issued an informal opinion that this was not proper procedure. After discussion with the TAC Chairman and OSPR’s executive team, the recommendation was made to do away with alternates.
- The truck rollover in Placer County that spilled nearly 6,000 gallons of vegetable oil continues to underscore the gap for non-oil events. OSPR did respond and monitor the situation, although this was not a petroleum spill. There was a responsible party so we were able to fund our responders.
- OSPR opened a new facility in Bakersfield for our third Field Response Team (FRT). The OSPR headquarters in Sacramento is moving to a larger facility in West Sacramento some time in the fall [since re-scheduled to spring 2019]. It is a Department-wide consolidation bringing five other Department units under one roof.
- With the coming election and change in administration, we are expecting to have a new Director of Fish and Wildlife. As a matter of protocol, Tom Cullen will be submitting a letter of resignation, but will also be offering to continue to serve as OSPR’s Administrator. The Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Chief Deputy Director, Kevin Hunting, is retiring next week.
- We are working on an OSPR Program Report that will provide an overview of OSPR. It will contain pictures, graphs, charts and various data. The audience for that report will be the public, from industry to legislators.

- Greg McGowan hosted the executive team on a one-day trip to the Feather River. The tour was to highlight the more vulnerable rail routes. It was an excellent opportunity to see the challenges faced in that part of the state, such as the lack of cell phone coverage. Rail traffic was quite busy in the area.
- Ted Mar and his prevention group hosted their bi-annual West Coast Harbor Safety Summit on the Queen Mary. The Summit offered an excellent briefing on the Under Keel Clearance project. Using a Danish computer model, it is the first one that has been fielded in the U.S to use NOAA's and other observing stations data to best predict what the wave action and depth of the water is at any given time to assist pilots with decision making in terms of bringing deeper drafting vessels into port.
- We have learned that the Southern California Ocean Observation System, part of the Scripps Oceanographic Institute, has approached the legislature looking for their own per barrel fee in order to recapitalize their HF Radar program. These shore-based radar stations enable very detailed mapping of ocean surface currents, which is useful for creating oil spill trajectories.

4. AGENCY BRIEFINGS

California Coastal Commission
(report provided)

Mr. Jonathan Bishop

➤ **Meetings**

- Six Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meetings: one in Humboldt; one LA/LB HSC; two Port Hueneme HSC meetings and two in San Diego. Updates for these HSC meeting are ongoing and continuous.
- Three Area Committee (AC) meetings: one SF/BD AC meeting; one Central Coast AC meeting; one LA/LB AC meeting. These include working subgroups engaged in stakeholder engagement and outreach, as well as an offshore workgroup looking at issues surrounding offshore pipelines and platforms.
- One Regional Response Team 9 (RRT9) meeting in Long Beach.

➤ **Harbor Safety Committee Summit, Long Beach**

The Summit allowed the Chairs of the HSC's to discuss recent activities, accomplishments, new best maritime practices, and issues of concern moving forward.

➤ **SF/BD HAS Submerged Cable and Pipeline Forum**

CCC OS Program and Energy Division staff attended the SF/BD HSC sponsored submerged pipelines discussions forum at the Port of Oakland.

➤ **TAC Non-Floating Oil Forum**

CCC OS Program staff attended the Submerged Oil Workshop in Sacramento. The goal of the forum was to address California's risk of and readiness to respond to spills of Non-Floating Oil. Presentations were followed by a moderated discussion.

➤ **NOAA UAS Demo Negative Determination**

CCC Oil Spill Program recently coordinated permitting with NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration to carry-out scientific research on the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems for detecting oil spills.

➤ **DCOR Oil Spill Response Plan Federal Consistency Review/No Effects Determination**

CCC OS Program staff worked with BSEE and OSPR on DCOR's planned revisions to their OSRP. A No Effects Determination was issued for OSRP changes.

➤ **Refugio Oil Spill/Coastal Development Permitting Update**

The public hearing and action on the emergency oil spill cleanup work conducted under Emergency Permit No. G-9-15-006 is scheduled for the March 7-9, 2018 CCC hearing in Ventura. CCC continues to coordinate with trustee agencies and other interested parties on the NRDA process and possible future

mitigation projects.

BCDC

(report provided)

Ms. Linda Scourtis

Technical Advisory Committee

BCDC staff reported on agency activities to the TAC during its October meeting in Richmond. Staff also attended the OSPR Non-Floating Oils Workshop in Sacramento.

Harbor Safety Committee

Staff participated in the October and November HSC meetings.

Navigation Work Group: The work group believes permitted depths for subsea cable and pipeline burial are not adequate, particularly in light of a September 2014 incident involving a vessel experiencing a loss of propulsion. The vessel was forced to drop anchor in Carquinez Strait, damaging a utility cable.

The work group hosted a meeting of relevant regulatory agencies, where staff members discussed their respective authority over placement of cables and pipelines in the Bay.

- **Participate in Studies and Activities that Focus on Improving Oil Spill Contingency Planning and Participate as a Member of the Bay-Delta Area Committee**
- **Review Regulations, Guidelines and Amendments Related to Oil Spill Prevention and Response Activities and Contingency Plans in the San Francisco Bay Region**
- **Coordinate with State and Federal Agencies and Industry Regarding Oil Spill Response Drills**
- **Monitor Office of Emergency Services Spill Reports and Assist the Unified Command if Necessary**

California State Lands Commission

(report provided)

Mr. Chris Beckwith

• **Marine Environmental Protection Division/Mineral Resource Management Division**

- The Marine Environmental Protection Division (MEPD) is still in the process of recruiting for field staff positions.
- Field staff continue to perform daily monitoring of oil transfers as well as inspections of marine oil terminals statewide. (See attached statistics)
- CLSC is updating several sets of regulations including Article 5 (operations) and Article 5.5 (pipelines).
- MEPD is working with State Lands GIS staff to develop data layers related to marine oil terminals and their operations.
- CLSC is working on the implementation of their strategic plan.
- MEPD staff will be developing a Safety Management Systems Audit program that will utilize OCIMF guidelines as a template. This will enhance the safety of operations at marine terminals and will dovetail with their human factors program.

- CSLC is in the process of updating several MOU's with other agencies including OSPR and the State Fire Marshal's Office, as well as working with CARB on the development of additional ships at berth regulations pertaining to tankers and terminals.

MRMD OSPAF Activities during Fourth Quarter

Platform Safety Inspection Program – Monthly inspection program of offshore platforms and islands and onshore drilling and production facilities; comprehensive equipment testing of all facility pollution prevention and safety alarm, control and shutdown devices to ensure functionality, accuracy and reliability.

Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit Activities – The MRMD Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit program is used to verify regulatory compliance and conformance with design, maintenance, spill prevention, and other safety management practices that are key safety elements in preventing accidents and spills for the offshore oil and gas production industry.

Pipeline Inspection Program – MRMD engineers enforce strict pipeline safety regulations that include annual inspections of the twenty-four pipelines from Federal OCS Platforms that pass through State waters.

Structural/Facility Engineering Projects – Continue to review and evaluate the structural adequacy for all platforms, causeways, and piers associated with the State offshore oil operations.

California Emergency Management Agency Spill Monitoring and Spill Drills – A total of 50 spill drills were conducted in the fourth quarter of 2017.

Summerland Well Abandonment Project – Core samples were taken of the Summerland Well in December – a precursor to remediating the well. The well work is slated to occur in late January.

5. VISUAL PRESENTATION OF THE DEEPWATER HORIZON INVESTIGATION – GIVEN BY MS. VANESSA SUTHERLAND, CHAIRPERSON, U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD

6. FUND 320 AND 321 UPDATE

Dr. Steve Hampton, OSPR Assistant Deputy Administrator

(report provided)

- Fund 320 is made up from our six and a half cent per barrel fee on oil that arrives at the refinery door. This fund is used for OSPR day-to-day operations; it does not fund other CDFW programs that are housed in OSPR, such as some of the functions of the laboratories.
- Fund 321 is the Spill Response Trust Fund, which is the money available to respond to a spill.

7. LEGISLATIVE & REGULATIONS UPDATE

*Ms. Christine Kluge,
OSPR Regulation Analyst*

(report provided)

Inland Regulations

- OSPR has commenced the regular rulemaking process to make the provisions of SB 861 permanent. The 45-day public comment period started December 30, 2017 and ends February 22, 2018. Public hearings are scheduled February 13th in Sacramento and February 22nd in Bakersfield.

Shoreline Protection Tables

Updates to shoreline protection site strategies identified by the Area Committees are anticipated to be filed with Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in February 2018. A public hearing will not be scheduled.

Legislation

Assembly Bill (AB) 1197, signed by the Governor on October 8, 2017, requires OSPR to:

- Establish criteria for certifying spill management teams based on their capacity to respond to and manage spills effectively;

- Review applications for SMT certification;
- Certify SMT's, as specified; and
- Adopt regulations to implement provisions of the AB 1197, as appropriate.

There are three informal scoping meetings scheduled to solicit input from interested stakeholders:

- February 13, 2018, 1PM – 4PM, Natural Resources Building, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento
- February 21, 2018, 1PM – 4PM, 12505 Vista Del Mar, Playa Del Rey, CA
- February 22, 2018, 9AM – 12PM, 19466 Flight Path Way, Bakersfield, CA

8. MARINE WILDLIFE VETERINARY CARE AND RESEARCH CENTER *Mr. Laird Henkel,
OSPR Marine Veterinary Care and Research Center Supervisor*

(No report provided)

In 1990, Lempert Keene Seastrand, which created OSPR, also mandated the creation of the facility for the Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center, whose primary role was to care for sea otters affected by oil spills.

The OSPR Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center (MWVCRC) in Santa Cruz was constructed in 1997 as the primary care facility for sea otters affected by oil spills or other marine pollution events. In addition to maintaining the facility and protocols for oil spill response, MWVCRC staff and collaborators conduct research on southern sea otters and other marine wildlife.

The primary role of the MWVCRC is to provide a state-of-the-art facility, equipment, and trained personnel in a state of readiness to enable best achievable capture, care, and rehabilitation of marine wildlife (primarily sea otters, marine birds, and pinnipeds) affected by oil spills and/or other pollution events. In addition to the cleaning and rehabilitation facility, the MWVCRC maintains mobile veterinary labs, several boats, and other equipment for the capture and care of marine wildlife.

9. NON-FLOATING OILS WORKSHOP DISCUSSION *Mr. Greg McGowan, OSPR Program Manager*
(report provided)

THIS PRESENTATION HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS *Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman*

THIS ITEM HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS

11. MEETING DATES *Mr. Stephen Ricks, TAC Chairman*

Next TAC meeting will be decided at a later date.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.