



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
www.wildlife.ca.gov/ospr

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



March 18, 2020

RE: OSPR Spill Management Team Regulations COVID-19 Update

To Whom It May Concern:

The State of California is acting quickly to protect public health and safety as we respond to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). [Governor Newsom's March 12 Executive Order N-25-20](#) and local county directives are understandably resulting in delays to the rulemaking for the Spill Management Team Certification regulations.

We understand that postponement of training and other events impacts the regulated community's efforts to comply with the upcoming spill management team regulations, and we will be flexible in response to this dynamic situation. We will consider options for adjusting timelines for compliance based on how long the rulemaking is delayed, and continued impediments to other critical items such as public meetings and trainings. The draft regulations currently include a time lag of 18 months for required training to be completed, so we will reassess this time period and other target dates as we know more about the extent of these delays.

We are committed to working with the regulated community to ensure that changes to planned exercises and trainings are considered in the rulemaking and implementation. We understand that these delays will directly impact your organizations. However, ensuring the safety of our employees and communities is our top priority. Throughout this evolving situation, our team will keep you informed of the status of this rulemaking process.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Rachel Fabian at Rachel.Fabian@wildlife.ca.gov or via mobile phone at (916) 375-4321.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience during these trying times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Addassi".

Ms. Yvonne Addassi
Chief of Preparedness

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870