



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

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
CDFW/OSPR
California Poppy Conference Room
1010 Riverside Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95605

The following members were in attendance:

TAC members: Matt Rezvani (Chairman), John Berge (Vice Chair) (*phone*), Peter Santillan, Lynn Korwatch, Tracy Van Houten, Janell Myhre, John Ambert, Sejal Choksi-Chugh (*phone*), Joseph Cobb; **Agency Representatives:** Jennifer Lucchesi, California State Lands Commission, Jonathan Bishop, California Coastal Commission, Linda Scourtis, San Francisco BCDC (*phone*), Bill Bartling, CalGEM, Jordan Stout, NOAA; **Guest Presenter:** Dr. Michael Ziccardi, Director, OWCN; **OSPR Participants:** Thomas M. Cullen, OSPR Administrator, Dr. Julie Yamamoto, Deputy Administrator, Dr. Steve Hampton, Deputy Administrator, Eric Milstein, Assistant Chief Counsel, Kathleen Jennings, Branch Chief Environmental Response, Greg McGowan, Spill Response Technology Program Manager, Renee Rose, Budget Analyst, Christine Kluge, Regulations Analyst, Dave Reinhard, Contingency Planning and Certification Unit Supervisor

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr, OSPR Administrator

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Matt Rezvani, TAC Chairman

September 20, 2019 Minutes, at 10:25 a.m., TAC member Tracy Van Houten made a motion to amend the minutes to read *John Berge requested a more detailed financial report be presented to the TAC at the next TAC meeting*. Joseph Cobb seconded the motion to amend the minutes. Members voted unanimously to approve the minutes with the added amendment.

TAC Chair, Matt Rezvani, requested minutes to October 24, 2019 meeting held in Fairfield to discuss final wording of 2017-2018 Biennial Report be presented at next scheduled meeting.

3. OSPR UPDATE

Captain Thomas Cullen, Jr., OSPR Administrator

Administrator Thomas Cullen, Jr. offered a brief update of each branch of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, touching on a few highlights. Further updates can be found in the report provided.

First TAC meeting to be held here at our new location in West Sacramento.

The holiday season was remarkably busy for OSPR with over 9000 hours billed on spills in the first two fiscal quarters this year.

There are two new Environmental Scientist Supervisors for our field response teams; David Bell in our Central office and Kris Weise in the Southern office.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the 9 Regional Water Quality Control Boards. Eleven years were spent on reaching this agreement which will assist us with clearly defined roles in a joint response.

A comprehensive settlement is now imminent against Plains All-American Pipeline, the responsible party for the 2015 Refugio Oil Spill in Santa Barbara.

OSPR issued a Cease and Desist Order against planholder HVI Cat Canyon, formerly known as Greka, after it was discovered they did not have a current oil spill contingency plan or certificate of financial responsibility on file for their facilities. To date they have submitted oil spill contingency plans and COFRs for three of their facilities, which has allowed the CDO to be lifted from only those facilities.

The surface expression discovered in Chevron's Cymric area was a significant release of produced water and oil. It did not affect the groundwater, there were minimal wildlife impacts, and it had no public health impact. A joint Senate and Assembly hearing was held last month with the Dept. of Conservation, OSPR, and the VP of Chevron to discuss the surface expressions, lessons learned, and wildlife protection measures that were taken. These surface expressions will be an ongoing challenge going forward.

The Department of Finance will be doing its audit of the OSPAF, which it does every four years, commencing in the fall.

4. **Budget Update**

Dr. Steve Hampton

Fund 320, the OSPAF fund, funds primarily OSPR and State Lands. A fixed amount of \$2.5 million goes to OWCN and a small percentage goes to administrative charges. The revenues for that fund are the 6.5 cent per barrel fee. The expenditures from that fund are the appropriations from the Governor's budget. The increase in expenditures is largely driven by salary increases over the last few years. State employee bargaining units negotiate the increases; we have no control over that. The bargaining units negotiate the contract and when the contract is signed, the increases can be for two, three, or four years and they take place at the beginning of the new fiscal year. There increases vary across dozens of different bargaining units.

OSPR can apply for an increase in the appropriation from the Governor's budget thru a Budget Change Proposal.

OSPR's planned expenses generally exceed revenues and the way we balance our budget is through anticipated salary savings from spills and vacancies. OSPR does not want a lot of vacancies because those positions are necessary for our operations; spill responses are unpredictable.

OSPR's two sources of revenue are from the non-tank vessel fee and the six and a half cent per barrel fee collected at the refinery door. The barrel fee decreases about a third of a percent a year due to declining oil use.

The fund balance will go down to \$9 million this year. The Governor's budget allocation from the Fund is about \$9 million more than the anticipated revenues, implying the fund balance will be near zero at the end of FY20-21.

OSPR is looking at a fee increase with a Cost-Of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) for the future.

Member Tracy Van Houten requested more detailed and accurate financials, accurate past expenditures, and more detailed salary increase information be provided to the TAC at the next meeting.

5. **STATE LANDS COMMISSION UPDATE**

Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer

We are primarily a land and resource management agency. We also have a regulatory component that charges to the OSPAF for oil spill prevention. Chris Beckwith is our Division Chief for our Marine and Environmental Protection Division, which is our regulatory unit that regulates marine terminals, inspects and monitors transfers of product through marine oil terminals and also runs our marine oil terminal and engineering and maintenance standards program to ensure our marine oil terminals are up to date in terms of seismic activities.

The other main division we have that charges to the fund is our Mineral Resources Management Division. They charge to our general fund appropriation, but they also charge to the OSPAF for oil spill prevention activities. These include inspections and safety audits of offshore oil and gas facilities. There are four platforms in state waters, pipelines associated with those platforms, as well as the pipelines and other infrastructure that cross state waters from the federal platforms.

CSLC is an independent commission run by two constitutional officers, the State Controller and the Lieutenant Governor; the 3rd commissioner is the Director of Finance. All the decisions that our agency makes are made in public meetings. Our budget as it relates to the OSPAF is focused on two divisions – the Marine Environmental Protection Division which is our regulatory arm and our offshore leasing division for oil operations.

The OSPAF funds that are directed to our Marine Environmental Protection Division – which is primarily regulatory – funds our engineers in those divisions that are going out and monitoring transfers in the San Francisco bay area, Long Beach/Los Angeles and San Diego areas – the marine oil terminals based on a risk base approach methodology. It also funds our engineers in that division for implementing our marine oil terminal engineering and maintenance standards program, reviewing compliance reports and audits about how operators of these marine oil terminals are upgrading their terminals to comply with those regulatory standards. They also have staff analysts that focus on abating our regulations associated with each of those two programs in that division. In our Mineral Resources Management Division, our offshore oil and gas leasing arm, the OSPAF funds positions and the time that our engineers and inspectors actually spend on inspections. These are monthly inspections of all offshore facilities as well as nighttime inspections and platform and island safety audits, which occur every 5 years.

CSLC is also involved in remediating legacy oil gas wells offshore, which are primarily found in the Santa Barbara Channel. We are involved when those legacy wells are leaking and those do not have a responsible party for billing – so we work with OSPR or CalGEM.

State Lands is in the middle of planning our next Prevention First Symposium which is slated for September.

6. **AGENCY BRIEFINGS**

California Coastal Commission

Jonathan Bishop (report provided)

Meetings

Commission staff attended the following meetings:

TAC Meeting Minutes 3/4/2020

Nine Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meetings: one Humboldt HSC meetings (11/21); two Port Hueneme HSC meetings (11/7 and 2/6); three LA/LB HSC meetings (10/2, 12/4 and 2/5); and three San Diego HSC meetings (9/25, 11/20 and 1/29).

Six Area Committee (AC) meeting: two North Coast AC meetings (11/21 and 1/16); two Central Coast AC meetings (10/10 and 1/9); two LA/LB AC meeting (11/13 and 1/22).

Annual Statewide Area Committee Meeting, (January 14th, Carlsbad).

Regional Response Team Region IX (RRT 9) Quarterly Meeting, (January 15th, Carlsbad).

DCOR and Freeport McMoRan Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) Updates. A request by DCOR and Freeport McMoRan regarding removal of one of MSRC's (the OSRO for both companies) Fast Response Vessels (FRVs) currently stationed in Santa Barbara Harbor from its OSRP. MSRC's two FRV's located at the Cojo anchorage and Ventura Harbor will remain at their current locations and would still be available for service under the OSRPs. With this change it was determined that response times and containment/ storage would remain sufficient to address a WCD. It was determined that this change resulted in a position equal to or better with respect to protection of coastal resources.

Refugio Draft Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan. CCC staff has reviewed the draft damage assessment and has provided informal comments to OSPR's NRDA staff.

New Legislation/Regulation

AB 1197 (Limon) Spill Management Teams (SMT's) – This bill regulates Spill Management Teams. CCC OS program staff is tracking this bill.

AB 864 New or Replacement Pipelines Near Environmentally Sensitive Areas in the Coastal Zone. CCC OS program staff is tracking this bill.

Public Education and Outreach – Oil Spill Workshops on Emergency Communication. In Coordination with CA State Parks, the CCC's Boating Clean and Green Program will be holding four free workshops in So Cal marinas that present oil spill response resource information.

Coastal Development Projects

Construction of Private Stairs to the Beach – Ventura County.

Avila Pier Rehabilitation (Pile Driving in and around a Hydrocarbon Plume)

Moss Landing Dredge

Fairhaven Fuel Dock Emergency Permit, Humboldt Bay

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission Linda Scourtis, (report provided)

SF Harbor Safety Committee

BCDC staff joined the Navigation work group in discussing with NOAA staff developing Best Maritime Practices to reduce the number of whale strikes in the HSP AOR.

Staff presented a briefing of BCDC's participation in prevention and response planning to the Commission during its November meeting following an overview of OSPR by Kathleen Jennings.

A number of safety brochures produced by the HSC with OSPR are in need of update. As a member of the Prevention through People work group, BCDC will participate in their revision

TAC Meeting Minutes 3/4/2020

The Tugs work group met to discuss an approach to developing a guidance document that would be implemented for emergency docking of tugs along the Bay shoreline.

The Draft EIR for the proposed ballpark at Howard Terminal is expected to be issued by the end of February.

Area Contingency Planning

BCDC spill staff participated in the November 19, 2019 Area Committee meeting in Berkeley as well as the February 11 meeting in Oakland.

BCDC Enforcement staff continue to participate in the USCG Abandoned Vessels working group as well as the Richardson's Bay Regional Authority and City of Sausalito efforts to improve navigational and open waterways.

Response and Related Activities

BCDC participated in a Shell Pipeline exercise October 29, 2019.

Staff joined Fairfield FRT for its annual eight-hour HAZWOPER refresher class in early February.

Staff continues to monitor reports on an ongoing basis. BCDC issued no spill-related emergency permits during the period.

State Lands Commission

Chris Beckwith, (report provided)

The Marine Environmental Protection Division (MEPD) is in the process of recruiting to fill seven (7) field staff positions, one (1) Associate Process Safety Engineer position and one (1) Marine Safety Supervisor position.

From January 1 thru December 31, 2019, staff monitored 27 percent of oil transfers (1,546 of 5,723 transfers) conducted at marine oil terminals (MOTs) in California. This represents a decrease from 2018, during which 33% of every oil transfer was monitored. The decline is due to a shortage of personnel in both field offices.

We are preparing to start the process of 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. To date all Marine Oil Terminals in Northern California have been done except for Eureka.

We are working with the other State Lands Divisions, the Commissioners and the public to begin the development of the agencies new strategic plan for 2021-2025 as well as the implementation of our new Environmental Justice policy which was adopted by the Commission this last year.

Commission staff has taken steps to address unmanaged systemic hazards at marine oil terminals. Staff is developing a systems safety risk identification and management program.

In 2019, staff completed the rulemaking process to update the Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance Standards (MOTEMS).

Planning for Prevention First 2020 has begun with participation from OSPR and several of the divisions within State Lands. The symposium will be held at the Westin, Long Beach on September 29-30, 2020.

State Lands staff is working with OSPR in reviewing the condition of the OSPAF and to assist with possible solutions moving forward to insure fund viability.

NOAA Emergency Response Division (ERD)

Jordan Stout, (report provided)

Response Oil Assay and Database Workshop

NOAA chemists and modelers are working to develop software and collect data for a shareable database of oil physio-chemical properties.

Remote Sensing.

Working on a multi-agency project that verifies sensors' abilities to qualitatively distinguish differing oil thicknesses and emulsions of Alaska North Slope and South Louisiana crudes, improving detection of potentially 'actionable' oil layers on the water's surface.

ESI User Survey and Workshop

NOAA's Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps have been a key oil spill planning and response tool since 1979 to help identify potential natural resources at risk to marine oil spills and associated cleanup activities. NOAA is exploring how future ESI maps might evolve in times of increasingly constrained budgets.

In-Situ Burn Guidance

Updating oil spill In-Situ Burn (ISB) guidance in CA. Many existing plans are over 10 years old and based on outdated smoke plume model (ALOFT-FT), which is no longer supported by the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST).

NOAA ERD supported 185 incidents across the Americas (152 oil, 16 chemical, 17 other), of which 18 involved California.

Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique Team Member training in Novato, CA

CALFIRE

Doug Allen, (report provided)

Pipeline Safety Seminar

CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) will be hosting the 2020 Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Seminar on April 21, 2020. This one-day seminar will be held at the Hilton Long Beach Hotel and will cover various topics including:

California Best Available Technology (AB 864) Regulation,

Out-Of-Service and Abandoned Pipeline Guidance,

OSFM Operator Portal,

Pipeline Integrity Management Requirements,

Pipeline Notifications and Reporting Requirements,

Hydrostatic Testing Firm Program,

Purged Pipelines and Deferral Requests

Regulations

Assembly Bill 864 (codified in California Government Code section 51013.1) established new statutory requirements for operators of pipelines located near environmentally and ecologically sensitive areas in the directed the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The proposed regulations will require pipeline operators to: identify pipelines subject to the proposed regulations, submit risk analysis evaluating spill volumes and dispersion that could impact environmentally and ecologically sensitive areas, propose use of best available technology to reduce spill volumes, and are subject to review and approval by the OSFM.

TAC Meeting Minutes 3/4/2020

Operators must retrofit existing pipelines with best available technology in a specified time frame. Following implementation, operators are required to review and update risk analyses on a set schedule in the future to ensure that technologies on the pipeline continue to limit the consequences of a release and take account for migration, movement, and discovery of important natural resources.

The third 15-day comment period ended on February 6, 2020. OSFM Pipeline Safety staff are currently reviewing the comments submitted and will respond to each one.

United States Coast Guard

Timothy Holmes, (report provided)

Meetings, Plans & Coordination

RRT9 - January 14-15 Mtg: The combined RRT/CA Statewide Area Committee meeting took place January 14/15/2020 in Carlsbad, CA. Thank you to US FWS for hosting the meetings.

RRT9 – April 28-29 Mtg: The upcoming April meeting will take place in Phoenix, AZ on April 28-29, 2020.

RRT9 – July 14-15 Mtg: The summer meeting will be held at Shell Clubhouse, Martinez. To include a highlight on the 30-year anniversary of the T/V AMERICAN TRADER spill in HB, passage of LKS Act, and the creation of CA OSPR.

CA Area Committee Planning Activities

San Francisco Area Committees (1-3)

Sector SF Pollution Responses received 62 NRC reports, had 1 federal case, issued 19 Letters of Warning and 6 Notice of Violation.

Los Angeles Area Committees (4-5)

2019 ACP has been submitted for D11 approval and signature. The document addressed comments submitted by the National Review Committee and were included in the update. Sector LA-LB Pollution Responses received 67 NRC reports, had 1 federal cases, issued 12 Letters of Warning and 1 Notice of Violation.

San Diego Area Committee (6)

A sensitive site survey at San Clemente Island was undertaken on February 18-20, 2020. Sector SD worked with CDFW to survey all marinas within their zone and id all derelict or abandoned vessels. All data is in the process of being added to ERMA.

Historic Properties

US DOI's Regional Environmental Officer is working with the National Park Service to bring a workshop for Historic Property Specialists to the Sacramento Area. US DOI seeks broad participation by USCG, EPA, SHPO, Tribes and State spill response agencies. Tentative date is September 14th.

Mexico-US Response

The MEXUSPAC JRT will hold a binational oil spill response workshop on June 18, 2020 in San Diego. The workshop will include discussion on the binational program, planning, response operations, science of spills, ICS. On-going topics are cross-border transportation (USCG HQ) and oiled-wildlife care (CA/SEMAR), use of ART near the maritime border (D8/Z-1).

MEXUSGULF workshop will take place on March 19, 2020 in New Orleans.

Regional Contingency Plan 2019

The final plan was signed and published on 10/1/2019. Since then there have been several updates noted on the Record of Changes page. Susan Krala is in the process of correcting all the cross-references from the coastal ACPs to the RCP. She will provide corrected wording to the Sector ACP Coordinators by March 15th in the form of an Excel spreadsheet. After that she will correct all the OSPR phone numbers which have changed due to OSPR's move to its new West Sacramento office.

Area Contingency Plans

Mr. Jonathan Smith at USCG HQ chairs a national NRT-ACP Workgroup. After a national ACP survey project in September 2019, he has developed the following strategic goals: Improve ACP accessibility, Improve ACP content, structure and usability, Ensure ACPs (including GRS/GRPs) are validated and relevant, Maintain/improve workgroup administration and functionality, Improve, sustain area contingency planning participation, Establish standards for GRS/GRP data/platforms, Improve marketing and optics for area contingency planning mission, Address different organizational cultures and resolve associated challenges, Develop new NRT AC Planning policy doctrine/guidance, Improve RCP content, functionality and NRS alignment, Improve risk analysis and evaluation processes, Address/mitigate staffing and resource challenges, Improve training and information exchange for AC planning practitioners.

HQ/NRT:

PREP Compliance, Coordination and Consistency Committee (PREP4C): PREP4C will begin updating PREP Guidelines (v2016.2). Additionally, MER-2 is considering revising its "request for real world credit" process, as well as changing the full-scale exercise cycle from one every four years to one every five years.

ESA7: ESA Workgroup products for emergency consultation, including QRG/checklist and a post spill response checklist, are continuing to move forward.

ICCOPR: Upcoming Quarterly Mtg is March 18, 2020 at BSEE in Sterling, VA and will feature a Human Health theme.

NRT-RRT April 21-23, 2020: Seattle, WA

All USCG and EPA RRT Co-Chairs and Coordinators meet annually with reps from the Nat'l Response Team and EPA and USCG HQ.

Clean Pacific: Seattle, WA 06/09-11/2020

Training & Preparedness

DRAT presented Dispersant Ops and CANUSPAC19 Ex. to the North Pacific Coast Guard Forum in Vladivostok, RU. Oct 2019

DRAT w/CA OSPR held Oil Spill Boom refresher training for Berkeley Marina and SF Fire Dec/Feb 2019/20.

DRAT w/SEC SD & LA/LB, CA OSPR, MSRC, FWS conducted a survey of sensitive sites on San Clemente Island Feb 2020. Situation: Eight environmentally sensitive sites on SCI have not been reevaluated since early 2000's. State of sensitive site habitats were unknown and the possibility of identifying other sensitive site candidates existed. Also, little data existed in terms of logistical constraints/restraints if an oil spill response were to take place. D11 DRAT, PACAREA, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) and Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) conducted a three-day survey of eight environmentally sensitive sites on SCI. Four personnel evaluated sites from land and twelve

personnel evaluated sites from MSRC 65' vessel M/V OCEAN GUARDIAN and CDFW 27' Response Boat. Supporting Assets: 16 personnel, AIRSTA Sacramento C 27 (18 FEB), MSRC 65' Vessel (M/V OCEAN GUARDIAN), CDFW 27' Response Boat, U.S. Navy Contract Aircraft (20 FEB). All eight sensitive sites were surveyed by land and sea Hundreds of photos captured, habitat and oil spill response logistical data identified, and potential new sensitive site candidates identified.

GIUEs: D11 Sectors completed 4 required GIUEs 1st & 2nd QTR of FY2020; 4 pass, 0 fail.

7. **OSPR Legislative**
Christine Kluge, Regulations Analyst
(report provided)

Spill Management Team Certification
Regulatory language complete.

Finalizing content of the two applications, which require review and approval by Department.

No additional informal scoping meetings are anticipated.

Regulatory Timeline:

Commencement of formal rulemaking process anticipated within next couple months. Submit final regulations to OAL by fall of 2020.

Non-Floating Oil

AB 936- Introduced by Rivas on 2/20/19; approved by the Governor 10/12/19. Regulatory Timeline: Scoping sessions with interested stakeholders anticipated in fall of 2020.

Articulated Tug Barge

Revisions necessary to include specificity to the combinations of tanker and tank barge based on the mechanical connection system. OSPR hopes to commence rulemaking activity in 2021.

Shoreline Protection Tables

OSPR is exploring alternate ways to present the myriad details laid out in the tables, such as including the timing requirements in the ACPs.

Other Initiatives

OSPR is working towards harmonizing the marine and inland regulations. This process will include adjustments to COFR levels, RWCS volume levels, as well as other potential improvements.

The updated spill response cost study by Catalyst Environmental Solutions Corporation has been completed. This is the first real study evaluating spill volume, cleanup costs, damages, etc., since the Mercer study was completed shortly after OSPR's inception in 1990. This study will serve as a guide in determining more realistic COFR levels.

8. **OSPR LEGAL UPDATE**
Eric Milstein, Assistant Chief Counsel

Refugio Incident

Criminal Enforcement: On September 7, 2018, the jury returned their verdict and the defendant, Plains All-American Pipeline, was found guilty of multiple counts under the California Government and Fish and Game codes. The court denied Plains' motion for a new trial and a sentencing hearing was held on April 25, 2019. Plains was ordered to pay a

penalty of \$3.34 million dollars by July 15, which was paid. A hearing regarding restitution was held on February 21, 2020, decision pending.

Civil Enforcement: Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) – The NRDA Trustees include representatives from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California State Parks, California State Lands Commission, UC Regents, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the US Department of the Interior. Legal staff are working closely with trustee attorneys, state and federal technical staff, and outside experts to evaluate Plains' position with regard to the pathway of the oil and possible restoration projects, to gather additional evidence, and to refine the Trustees' claim for natural resource damages. The Trustees are preparing for additional settlement negotiations with Plains in the coming months. The measure of natural resource damages is based on the cost to restore the injured resources and compensate the public for the loss of use and enjoyment of natural resources, public beaches and other public resources. The Trustees have reached out to the public, local governments, and NGOs for restoration project ideas for resources injured by the spill. They are also coordinating with Marine Protected Area representatives, academics and other local experts.

Injunctive Relief/Civil Penalties: Legal staff are also coordinating with counsel for other federal and state enforcement agencies, including U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Office of the State Fire Marshall, as well as the U.S. Department of Justice and California Department of Justice to develop a global settlement offer. The global offer will include civil penalties, injunctive relief, natural resource damages and cost recovery.

HVI Cat Canyon Inc., aka Greka

The civil trial against Greka occurred on the week of October 22, 2018 in Federal District Court in Los Angeles in response to a series of spills and incidents occurring at facilities in the Santa Maria area. The matter is with the court for a decision.

On July 25, 2019, HVI Cat Canyon Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. OSPR legal staff and the Attorney General's Office continue to monitor this bankruptcy action and file motions when applicable.

On January 17, 2020, the OSPR Administrator issued a Cease and Desist Order against HVI Cat Canyon Inc. for all their facilities in Santa Barbara and Orange Counties.

9. **OILED WILDLIFE CARE NETWORK** **Dr. Mike Ziccardi, Director, OWCN**

The OWCN is constantly working to increase California's readiness to respond to oiled wildlife events. Being ready means having a team of trained responders from border to border, pre-staged equipment and supplies around the state, specialized facilities ready to receive oiled animals, and a plan to bring it all together. This includes protocols for capture, transportation and care developed specifically for the wildlife found in our state.

OWCN CORE AREAS

Responders

Well trained staff and volunteers provide both best achievable care to wildlife and important benefits to the state and the community affected by a spill. Staff provide knowledge, experience and consistency, while empowering and mentoring volunteer responders to take ownership and pride in the wildlife response.

During spill management, the majority of our senior roles are staffed by experienced responders from the OWCN Management Team as well as experienced responders from our Member Organization.

Volunteers are crucial to oiled wildlife response efforts in California. OWCN works with three kinds of volunteers:

Pre-trained volunteers who are actively linked to one of our network Member Organizations

Affiliated volunteers whose organization has an established role in the oil spill response structure (requires pre-existing arrangement with a government agency)

Spontaneous volunteers who are concerned members of the public who want to help out during a spill event.

Maintaining an engaged response community is achieved through an active network of Member Organizations comprising of wildlife care providers, academic institutions, zoological parks/aquariums and scientific organizations.

Training and Drills

Since its inception, OWCN has been a world leader in developing written protocols for oiled wildlife care utilizing the expertise found within the Member Organizations, as well as scientist and responder colleagues around the world. Our protocols are reviewed and updated annually. Our training program ensures a foundational understanding of the principles the protocols are based on and instills common techniques and practices to provide consistent, high quality care. Regular Exercises and Drills provide the practice and testing to measure our progress.

Equipment and Supplies

OWCN maintains caches of equipment and supplies throughout the state. The focus of many of these stockpiles is to ensure that first responders have the equipment and supplies necessary to hit the ground running. A timely response is essential in oiled wildlife response.

Specialized Facilities

In collaboration with OSPR and the OWCN Member Organizations we have built a network of purpose-built oiled wildlife rehabilitation facilities. They are strategically placed along the length of the state to facilitate a rapid response to affected wildlife. These include large facilities in the San Francisco Bay and Los Angeles harbor areas, as well as smaller capacity facilities.

Because no single oiled wildlife care center can effectively meet the needs of an early stage of a catastrophic oil spill, the OWCN has developed numerous regional care facilities with substantial overflow capacity to other centers. All of these facilities are maintained in a constant state of preparedness for spill response.

There are currently 12 facilities throughout CA that were either designed and built specifically for oiled wildlife care, or are OWCN participant facilities that have been modified in order to facilitate spill response. Each facility within the OWCN is multi-use in nature, allowing them to function for the managing partner organization during non-spill periods. This arrangement allows for shared cost-effective maintenance and the ready availability of trained volunteers and staff on-site, reducing start up time during spills.

For OWCN/OSPR managed facilities, on-going operations and maintenance costs are addressed through a budgetary line item in each of the respective budgets. Any facility-use fees assessed during spill response go directly to OSPR for OWCN for equipment replacement and facility maintenance for spill response operations only.

OWCN/OSPR-Managed Facilities

Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center (Santa Cruz) is the primary care facility for sea otters affected by oil within California and the first center to be completed. During non-spill periods, research is conducted by OSPR personnel and UC Santa Cruz and UCD collaborators on marine wildlife and nearshore ecosystems.

San Francisco Bay Oiled Wildlife Care and Education Center (Fairfield) is one of the two primary oiled bird facilities. It is designed to accommodate 1,000 birds indoors during a large oil spill in the Bay area, includes specialized areas for bird intake, holding, washing, drying, isolation and recovery as well as for food preparation, radiography/surgery and necropsy. During non-spill time, the facility is used by IBRRC and UCD as an international training center for oil spill response and for non-oil related marine bird rehabilitation.

Los Angeles Oiled Bird Care and Education Center (San Pedro) opened in March 2001 and can care for up to 1,000 birds in the first 24 hours of a spill.

10. **NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE**

Mr. Matt Rezvani, TAC Chairman

A Doodle Poll will be sent out to determine the best available dates during the first week of June.

11. **TOUR AND OBSERVATION OF OSPR OPERATIONS SUPPORT CENTER DRILL**

Dave Reinhard, Contingency Planning and Certification Unit Supervisor

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 3:10 p.m.