

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF FEDERAL DOCUMENT

In the Matter of the May 19, 2015 *Refugio Beach Oil Spill*
Final Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment

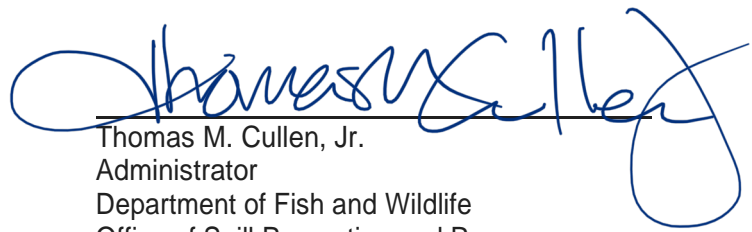
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (CDFW/OSPR) will adopt and use the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) prepared by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for the *Refugio Beach Oil Spill* Final Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment (DARP/EA). The documents will be used in place of a negative declaration. CDFW/OSPR believes that the Federal documents comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Accordingly, the lead agencies for the project(s) may rely upon or adopt the DARP/EA, and the NOAA FONSI towards compliance with CEQA where appropriate.

A Final DARP/EA has been prepared by the Natural Resource Trustees ("Trustees") for the natural resources injured by the *Refugio Beach Oil Spill*. The Trustees include CDFW/OSPR, NOAA, the United States Department of the Interior (DOI) represented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Park Service (NPS) and the Bureau of Lands Management (BLM), the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR), the California State Lands Commission (CSLC) and the Regents of the University of California (the Regents). Prior to finalizing the DARP/EA, the Trustees held a 45-day public review and comment period from April 22, 2020 through June 8, 2020 for the draft DARP/EA, and two (2) virtual public meetings on May 13, 2020. Notification of the availability of the draft DARP/EA and the virtual public meetings was provided in a press release sent to statewide media, posting on CDFW/OSPR's webpage, and an e-mail announcement to over 1000 individuals, including State and local representatives in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties, as well as members of the public and organizations that had requested notification. After considering the public comments, the Trustees revised the DARP/EA to address a number of the questions and comments received.

Upon environmental review and evaluation of the Final DARP/EA, NOAA determined the proposed action does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality for the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. USFWS concurred with NOAA's determination. Additionally, the projects are expected to have beneficial impacts on ecosystem function and species bioavailability and best management practices and mitigation will be employed to limit any potential adverse impacts.

Copies of the Federal documents (NOAA FONSI and DARP/EA) are available through the CDFW/OSPR webpage at www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/NRDA/Refugio.aspx or by contacting Michael Anderson at (916) 375-6672 or Michael.Anderson@wildlife.ca.gov.

Dated: May 17, 2021


Thomas M. Cullen, Jr.
Administrator
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Office of Spill Prevention and Response