STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUICK RESPONSE LEADS TO QUICK CLEANUP IN COMPTON

COMPTON, Calif.-- Approximately 420 gallons of SAE 20 motor oil were spilled into a storm drain, which migrated into the Dominguez Channel. The California Department of Fish and Game's Region 5 and Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) responded. Together with with a local oil spill response company, Advanced Cleanup Technologies, Incorporated, they have much of the oil contained and cleaned up. The spill, which appears to have originated from the Mouren-Laurens Oil Company, was reported to OSPR late on the evening of December 23.

Because of the quick response to the spill, cleanup is going very well, even the rains have been a benefit. "Actually, we've been pretty fortunate; the rains are having a cleansing effect and resulting in a better cleanup," said Lieutenant Mark Caywood, Incident Commander. Caywood projected that if current conditions continue, the cleanup operations will be completed by sunset today. There is no threat to the public, and there appears to be no immediate threat to wildlife, so the workers are focusing on cleanup of the Channel water. Cleanup crews are using hazing methods to keep any nearby birds and wildlife out of the area until the cleanup is completed. Crews have deployed sorbent and containment booms at five locations along the Channel, from just above Victoria Street to Carson Street. Skimming devices have been deployed, along with the boom.

The OSPR has opened an investigation into the exact causes of the spill.