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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An accident, involving a tank truck with trailer at the intersection of Southbound Interstate 5 at State Route 14 around 2:15 a.m., resulted in the release of approximately 3,800 gallons of cutter stock, a petroleum product, into a storm drain that leads to Newhall Creek on December 13, 1995.

The cutter stock apparently exited the storm drain system into the creek around 7:45 a.m., and has contaminated approximately four miles of Newhall Creek which flows into Van Norman Dam, a sensitive wetland area. The Department of Fish and Game and its Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) have personnel on-scene to monitor spill cleanup activities, and to evaluate the impacts to wildlife and habitat. Though no oiled wildlife have been found at this time, OSPR personnel are prepared to rescue and transport wildlife to treatment facilities as necessary. Two oil spill response contractors, Allwaste and Advanced Cleanup Technologies, Incorporated are also on-scene. A sand bag dike has been placed in the immediate area to contain the material.

Though injuries occurred in the accident, OSPR personnel do not anticipate any threats to public health or safety.