

California Department of Fish and Game
Office of Spill Prevention and Response



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard**



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Press Release

Cleanup of oil sheen continues in the Port of Stockton

STOCKTON, Calif. – The U.S. Coast Guard and California Department of Fish & Game (DFG), Office of Spill Prevention and Response continue to oversee the cleanup of diesel and motor oil released from a partially submerged crane barge. Yesterday, the Coast Guard conducted an overflight which revealed a mile-long sheen in the Stockton Deep Water Channel. Pollution Investigators then traced the sheen to the sunken Barge Holland in nearby Mormon Slough.

As a Unified Command, the Coast Guard, DFG, and the barge's owner are currently overseeing cleanup operations. Contractors deployed boom around the barge and across the mouth of Mormon Slough last night to contain escaping oil. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 gallons of diesel and motor oil have released into the water. Although the sheen has dissipated significantly since yesterday, Coast Guard and DFG personnel continue to assess the scene to identify any remaining impacted areas. Currently, there are small pockets of oil in the vicinity of the barge, which contractors are removing with sorbent material. At low tide, contractors will assess how much oil remains inside the barge and then remove this oil with a vacuum truck. An unknown amount of fuel remains on the barge.

To date, no wildlife appears to have been impacted by this spill. Coast Guard and DFG personnel will continue monitoring this situation through the completion of cleanup operations in order to minimize environmental impact.

Members of the public are asked to stay well clear of the cleanup site and avoid direct contact with the spilled oil. Concerned citizens may contact the San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department for more information.

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