



Natural Resource Trustee Council for the Torch/Platform Irene Oil Spill

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE,
CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION, U.S. AIR FORCE VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE
AND THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

News Release

DATE: April 14, 2006

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Public Workshop for Platform Irene Oil Spill Restoration Plan And Environmental Assessment will be Held on April 19

Federal, state, and local agencies will hold a public meeting on April 19 in Lompoc to discuss the Platform Irene oil spill draft restoration plan. The plan describes projects designed to restore natural resources that were damaged by the 1997 Torch/Platform Irene oil spill, offshore from Vandenberg Air Force Base in Santa Barbara County. The meeting is at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc.

The draft Torch/Platform Irene Oil Spill Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment was published by the California Department of Fish and Game Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State Lands Commission, U.S. Air Force Vandenberg Air Force Base and the Santa Barbara County Energy Division. The restoration projects included are funded from a \$3 million settlement reached between various State and Federal Agencies and Torch Operating Company, Nuevo Energy Company, and Black Hawk Oil and Gas Company.

The restoration planning process and the proposed most-preferred restoration projects will be discussed. The public is invited to attend, and to offer comments on the draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment. This document is available for review and is posted on the OSPR website, at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/organizational/scientific/nrda/nrdairene.htm>.

Printed copies are also available at the Fish and Wildlife Service office at 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, in Ventura; the Lompoc, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Vandenberg Village and Vandenberg AFB libraries; or by calling the contact below. Comments on the draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment are due June 21, 2006 to the contact below.

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