

Date: November 12, 1997

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Humboldt Bay Oil Spill-Update -- Images currently available in .pdf format: [Large Map](#) [Small Map](#) [Photos](#)

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**CONTACT:**

Contact: Joint Information Center  
DFG, U.S. Coast Guard, OES  
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Time: 7:00 p.m

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EUREKA -- Approximately one-third of the shoreline sites recently targeted for clean-up and containment on the Humboldt Bay oil spill are ready for final inspection. However, clean-up crews will now be centering their efforts on a newly identified 100-yard stretch of beach just south of the Samoa boat ramp that was discovered to be heavily oiled when tides lowered.

As of 5 p.m. today, Wildlife Operations staff members have rescued 444 live birds and recovered 417 dead birds. Among those included from the endangered list are 10 dead marbled murrelets and three brown pelicans - two brown pelicans are still alive. State Department of Fish and Game biologist Paul Kelly said that the latest numbers represent a tapering off of the birds collected and it is expected that most of the oiled wildlife will be collected by the end of the week. "We've recovered just about everything we're going to get," Kelly said. "If they were oiled, they've been weakened enough for us to get to them, eaten by predators, or have left the area. The rain accelerated their weakening process."

Also on Wednesday in Eureka was a regularly scheduled meeting of the North Coast Area Planning Committee, the organization responsible for developing the area contingency plan. Members of the Unified Command thanked the committee for having put together what Capt. Harlan Henderson, Coast Guard Federal On Scene Coordinator, called one of the more user friendly plans in the country. The plan provides an analysis of the areas potentially affected by an oil spill and rates them based on their sensitivity.

**Important Public Telephone Numbers:**

- Report oiled wildlife           707-826-3450
- Damage claims               888-422-2524
- Volunteer opportunities       707-442-3711

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