RESOURCE GROUP Sandy Beach





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Potential Effects or Impacts

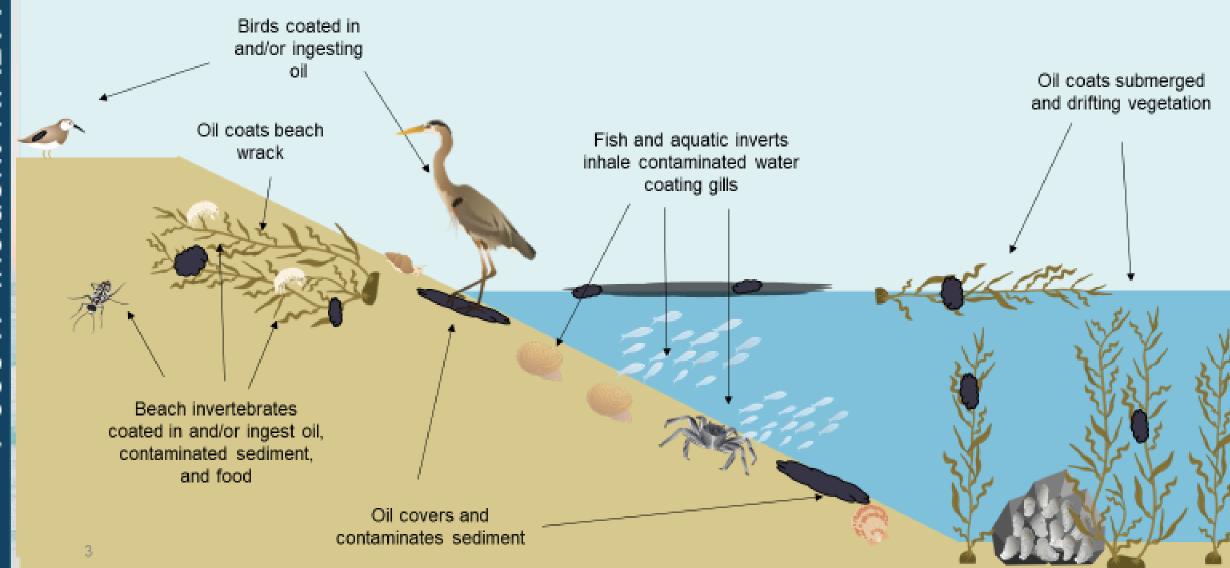


- Contaminated beach sediment
- Reduced diversity and altered community dynamics of sand dwelling animals
- Reduced abundance and diversity of birds and fish
- Reduced abundance and increased bioaccumulation of oil compounds in mollusks and bivalves



Pathway of Injuries - Direct Impacts of Oiling

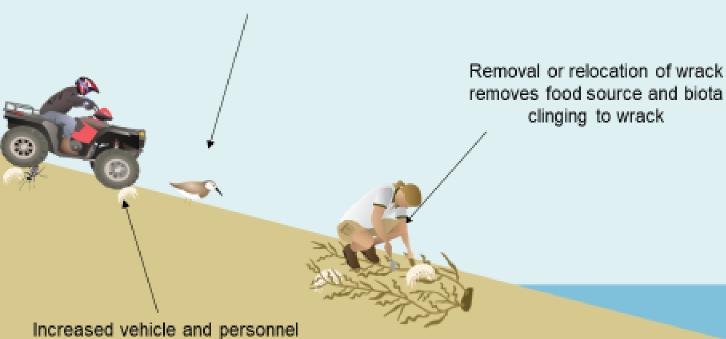




Pathway of Injuries - Impacts of Clean-up



Using motorized vehicles in areas that could hit wildlife



Increased vehicle and personnel traffic crush invertebrates and compacts sediment preventing burrowing

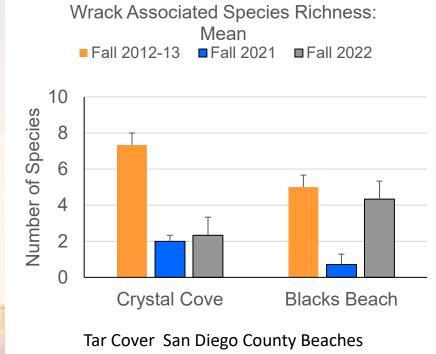


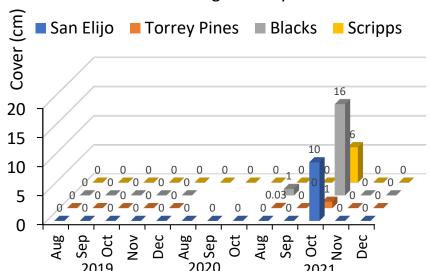
Preliminary Observations & Findings

- Oil compounds in pore water, sediment, and animal tissues in the weeks immediately following the incident
- Increased occurrence of tar balls
- Significantly reduced species richness of beach invertebrates



Photo credit: Jenny Dugan UCSB





Next Steps or Tasks

- Chemical analysis of samples collected in October 2022
- Analysis of beach invertebrate survey cores collected in 2022
- Comparison of chemical and biological surveys from the time of the spill to those collected in October 2022
- Spatial integration of shoreline cleanup assessment technique data with beach biota data
- Over 300 samples collected across 764 miles of coastline
- Evaluate potential restoration projects

