

Humboldt Bay Unified Command

- United States Coast Guard
- California Department of Fish Joint Media Center (707) 441-4784/4785 and Game
- Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response
- SMQI Services Inc.

Humboldt Bay oil spill Fact Sheet

Spill occurred at 4:20 a.m. Wednesday. Amount spilled is 4,537 gallons of IFO 180 fuel oil. The fuel is used by the Kure during normal operations.

Agencies involved in the Unified Command's efforts include: U.S. Coast Guard, California Department of Fish and Game, Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response, Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Humboldt County Sheriff's Department and the county and state health departments.

Clean up equipment has included: five vacuum trucks; 11,000-feet of containment booms deployed; 3,000-feet of sorbent/snare booms; 17 stationary skimmers; 20 vessels; two helicopters and one airplane; seven barges.

The Coast Guard and the Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response are continuing its investigation into the cause of the incident.

The Wildlife Operations Unit, consisting of fish and game wildlife biologists and trained animal handlers, have rescued 45 live birds affected by the oil spill. Twenty-five birds have been found dead. Live birds have been taken to the Marine Wildlife Care Center at Humboldt State University.

Reports of oiled wildlife can be made to Humboldt State University Wildlife Care Center (707) 826-3450. The public should not attempt to approach or touch oiled wildlife that are alive or deceased.

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Though no volunteers are presently needed, people wishing to clean oiled wildlife may call the Volunteer Center for the Redwoods (707) 442-3711.

The motor vessel Kure is a 639-foot Panamanian-flagged general cargo carrier which had entered the bay to load a shipment of wood chips. As the vessel repositioned during the loading operation it reportedly struck the dock and punctured one of its fuel tanks.

Humboldt County Environmental Health officials used air sampling and monitoring equipment to confirm that air quality is well within safe limits for public health. Monitoring will continue until clean-up of oil is completed. Contact Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health with any spill-related health questions (445-6215).