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SPECIAL NEWS

SANTA FE PACIFIC PIPELINE INCIDENT

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DATE: March 7, 1997

CRACK IN SANTA FE PIPELINE FOUND

SUMMIT CREEK—Crews located a dent in the Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline that revealed a short crack upon pressure testing. After locating the leak, crews removed the section of pipe and are replacing it with a new tested piece of pipe. Efforts will be made to reestablish the petroleum service to Reno as soon as possible, but the pipeline integrity must be evaluated before crews can project a date for when the pipeline will reopen.

With the source located, the response will focus on containment, contamination definition and cleanup. The amount of product released is still unknown. Air and water sampling will continue, and Nevada County Environmental Health (NCEH) will monitor and analyze the results. NCEH reports that water sampling information indicates there is no imminent health threat to Donner Lake from the petroleum spill.

The Department of Fish and Game is continuing to monitor wildlife in the area. Aquatic insects in the headwaters of Summit Creek have been impacted. Some trout and beaver have been observed in the lower portions of the creek, but no signs of stress from contact with the product have been observed.

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