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*SPECIAL NEWS*

## **UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD FUEL SPILL INCIDENT**

CONTACT: Alexia Retallack  
Incident Command Post  
(916) 216-1301

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### **UNION PACIFIC FUEL SPILL INCIDENT BREAKS ICE FOR MEADOW SAMPLE**

LAKE VAN NORDEN—Special ice boring equipment was brought to the scene to allow samples to be taken of the water underneath the ice in the meadow which lies below the Union Pacific Railroad spill site. Containment and cleanup efforts continue at the fuel spill that occurred on February 26, 1997 in the Donner Pass area.

Prior samples were taken through the snow to the top of the ice, but not beneath it.

Two trenches have been excavated and some free product has been collected. The trenches collect snow melt, and free product is removed through absorbent boom. Rail cars removed soil from the site for testing in Truckee. The train cars were lined and covered to prevent any material from escaping. Soil transportation and disposal issues are being addressed.

Soil sampling continues to provide information that will be used to prepare soil removal plans. Surface water sampling below the spill site is ongoing and will continue until the response effort is complete. Union Pacific Railroad, the California Department of Fish and Game, and Nevada County Environmental Health have plans in place for water and soil testing and monitoring.

The diesel leaked from a fuel line used for transferring fuel from a tank car to a storage tank. The fuel is used for snow removal equipment.

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