

**Office of Spill Prevention and Response
Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Agenda**

Thursday, February 19, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Oiled Wildlife Care Network, 4369 Cordelia Road, Fairfield, CA 94534
Other locations: San Francisco Baykeeper, 1736 Franklin Street, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94612

At the appropriate time, [join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#).

To participate via telephone: Call 1 (916) 535-0984, Conference ID: 759 325 270#

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, including assistance with disability accommodations, please contact Brenda Brantley at (916) 557-3411.

TAC Members: Matt Rezvani, Chair, Janell Myhre, Vice Chair, John Berge, Sejal Choksi-Chugh, James Farner, Rue Furch, Edward Harmon, Lynn Korwatch, Kathleen Rogers, Peter Santillan, Michael Young

1. Introduction (Heather Geldart, 5 Min.)
2. OSPR Update (OSPR Program Managers, 25 Min.)
3. Minutes from 10/2/2025; allow time for public comments prior to approval (Matt Rezvani, Chair, 5 Min.)
4. Agency Briefings (90 Min.)
 - a. San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission – Cody Aichele-Rothman
 - b. California Coastal Commission – Jonathan Bishop
 - c. California State Lands Commission – Grace Kato, Matthew Dumlao
 - d. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Doug Allen
 - e. California Geologic Energy Management Control Board – Doug Ito, Rohit Sharma
 - f. California State Water Resources Control Board – Mark Bare
 - g. California Energy Commission – Max Solanki
 - h. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – John Tarpley
 - i. US Coast Guard – Ben Perry-Thistle
 - j. US Environmental Protection Agency – Katherine Lawrence, Lynn Keller
5. Tour of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (Victoria Hall, Wendy Massey, International Bird Rescue, 30 Min.)

Lunch (60 Min.)

6. OSPR Budget Update (Amir Sharifi, 15 Min.)
7. Regulatory and Legislative Update (Christine Kluge, 15 Min.)
8. IT Modernization (Hannah Ferguson, Ravinder Singh, 20 Min.)
9. OSPR Enforcement Presentation (Lt. Paul Ton, OSPR LED TAC Liaison, 20 Min.)
10. Other TAC Business (Matt Rezvani, Chair, 10 Min.)
 - a. 2025-2026 Biennial Report
 - b. TAC Member position update
11. Next Meeting (Matt Rezvani, Chair, 5 Min.)

Adjourn Meeting

Financial and Administrative Services Branch

Finance:

In accordance with Government Code section 8670.42, the California Department of Finance (DOF), Office of State Audits and Evaluations, completed their audit of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) financial basis and programmatic effectiveness of the Oil Spill Prevention, Response, and Preparedness Program (Program). Their findings were published on December 31, 2024, and CDFW will provide the next status update to our Corrective Action Plan (CAP) on March 1, 2026. The audit period covered the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024, time-period.

Cost Recovery:

The fall months were steady for OSPR, with on-going spill incidents and billings. Spill incidents include Sunken CFV Victoria (9/6/2025), Hamp Slop Tank Release (11/18/2025), and San Martinez Grande Incident (11/26/2025). The Cost Recovery Unit (CRU) continues to assist with billing for the following responses: Pipeline P00547 NRDA (10/1/2021) and Dunsmuir Historical Oil (10/23/2018).

The CRU opened 26 statewide spill cases from September 2025 through December 2025. Since September 2025, OSPR has recovered \$136,252.61 in response costs from 17 incidents (which includes 80071 Tank Release, Alameda & Sepulveda Incident, and Channel 3 Response); \$8,255 in fines and penalties from Little Creek Properties Black Satin Lease Incident.

Procurement/Contracts:

The OSPR Procurement and Contract teams are working hard to ensure services and supplies are received in a timely manner to meet our mission-critical needs. We have entered our peak contract/purchasing time of year as we prepare for FY 25/26 end and the beginning of FY 26/27. Our staff are working with leads to ensure that requests are in the queue to meet BMB deadlines.

Since our last update, OSPR Procurement has prepared one hundred and two Purchase Orders for non-IT goods and nine Purchase Orders for IT goods. The bulk of OSPR needs continue to be for field, safety and office supplies for day-to-day operations. This time around we had an increase in purchase requests for tires as staff were preparing for the winter months.

Between the months of September 2025 and January 2026, OSPR Contracts has worked to execute sixteen new payable grants, six standard agreements, four amendments, eight short form contracts, and one spill agreement. Additionally,

OSPR Contracts has prepared several agreements for the upcoming FY, which are pending execution for a July 1st start date.

Facilities:

OSPR Facilities continues to assist with the building and grounds needs of all OSPR offices. Our team recently extended the lease for our West Sacramento warehouse. Additionally, we have been informed that our Department's Leased Facilities Unit has entered a two-year lease extension for our current Seal Beach Office. Seal coating and striping has been completed for our West Sacramento Office parking lot, and we have completed our sustainability road map for our Santa Cruz Facility.

Fleet:

OSPR Fleet continues to set up regular maintenance services for all pool vehicles and provide guidance to field response team staff on their vehicle maintenance/repair needs. Unfortunately, the transfer of our OSPR Command trailer to the Oiled Wildlife Care Network did not work out. As a result, we will be surveying the asset. OSPR's Communications Van buildout has been completed. Training on the use of the van has started and we are excited to use the van in future responses.

Since our last report, we have surveyed two old trailers, one truck, and have successfully smogged our Communications Van, after two years of unsuccessful attempts. Strict standards on electric vehicles requirements have hindered our ability to purchase replacement fleet for our aging assets. As a result, OSPR only has one vehicle listed for replacement on the 25/26 Fleet Acquisition Plan. Our Management Team is working with the Business Management Branch Fleet Section to find a solution, and the Department of General Services has provided some guidance for upcoming changes. We are hoping for permanent full solution soon.

Personnel Updates:

Staff changes throughout OSPR branches include:

Incoming:

Abigail Cohen, Research Data Analyst II, Response Technology & Support Branch (GIS) – (11/2025); Emily Tibbett, Environmental Scientist, Laboratory Program – (11/2025); Allison Wilder, Sr. Environmental Scientist (Specialist), Preparedness Branch – (11/2025)

Outgoing:

Lea Fehringer, Fish & Wildlife Scientific Aid, Laboratory Program – (9/2025); Krish Prasad, Fish & Wildlife Scientific Aid, Laboratory Program – (9/2025); Josh Brooks, Attorney, Legal – (10/2025); Andrew Wilkens, Environmental Scientist, Laboratory Program – (10/2025); Dennis Chastain, Oil Spill Prevention Supervisor I, Prevention Branch – (11/2025); Chris Thixton, Sr. Environmental Scientist, Supervisor, Preparedness Branch – (12/2025); Sharon Shiba, Sr. Environmental Scientist, Specialist, Laboratory Program – (12/2025); Doug Post, Environmental Scientist, Laboratory Program – (12/2025); Marguerite Diaz, Associate Governmental Program Analyst (RA), Legal Branch – (12/2025)

Internal Transfers/Promotions:

David Lyons (Promotion), Sr. Environmental Scientist (Specialist), Environmental Response Branch – (10/2025); Bruce Joab (Promotion), Environmental Program Manager I (Supervisory), Resource Restoration Branch – (11/2025); Vanessa Enriquez (Promotion), Staff Services Manager I (Specialist), Preparedness Branch – (12/2025)

Preparedness Branch

Report to the Technical Advisory Committee February 17, 2026

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Preparedness>

The Preparedness Branch is composed of the following units:

- Outreach and Training Unit
- Drills and Exercise Unit
- Response Certifications and Planning Unit
- Certificate of Financial Responsibility Unit

Outreach and Training Unit

The Outreach and Training Unit under the Preparedness Branch unites the Liaison, Training, and Statewide Contingency Planning programs. This unit coordinates grants, outreach events, response training, Geographic Response Plans (GRPs), Area Contingency Plans (ACPs), and other statewide-regionwide contingency plans, and also leads the Liaison Officer, Tribal Coordinator, and Volunteer Unit response positions.

Liaison Unit

Allison Wilder (Senior ES Specialist) was hired as OSPR's new Liaison Officer. Allison joins OSPR with emergency response experience from CalEPA and the Red Cross. From October 2025 to December 2025, the Liaison Corps was activated for 1 incident response, put on standby for 3 responses, and participated in 24 exercises. The Tribal Coordinator was activated for 2 responses and completed 7 Presence/Absence determinations to assist the field Environmental Scientists. The Volunteer Unit was put on standby for 1 incident response and attended 12 exercises. The Unit also facilitated the below outreach events, California Native American Preparedness grants, and local government grants.

Outreach Events

In addition to attending ACP and Regional Response Team meetings, OSPR's Liaison Unit and relevant subject matter experts travel statewide to meet with local, state, and federal agencies as well as California Native American Tribes and Non-Governmental Organizations to share information on California's oil spill response structure, spill notification requirements, outreach during spill response, oil spill prevention, and available grants. The Unit also attends Sensitive Site Strategy Evaluation Program deployments hosted by OSPR's Environmental Response Branch staff to engage with various interested parties.

Events from October 2025 to December 2025 include:

- County of Trinity Oil Spill Response Equipment Grant Trailer Delivery Training
- City of Newport Marina Refresher Boom Training
- San Rafael Fire Department Boom Deployment Training
- Culver City Fire Response Equipment Grant Site Visit
- Statewide Area Committee Coordination and Regional Response Team IX Meeting
- Regional Response Team IX Cultural/Historic Resources and Tribal Engagement Committee Meetings (3)
- CDFW-OSPR Sensitive Site Strategy Evaluation Program (Cabrillo Beach Wetlands); attendees included the Gabrielino-Tongva Indian Tribal Members

- CDFW-OSPR Sensitive Site Strategy Evaluation Program (Ventura Harbor); attendees included the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Tribal Members
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Suppression & Planning Actions for Restoring Communities & Species and CDFW Oil Spill Response Collaboration Meeting
- CDFW Tribal Liaison Monthly Coordination Meetings (3) with OSPR/Regions
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Spring Tribal Coordination Meeting

CA Native American Tribes Response Equipment and Preparedness Grants

OSPR provides funding to California Native American Tribes to purchase oil spill response equipment as well as host Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Training, participate in exercises and ACP/GRP meetings, and other spill response planning efforts.

Thus far in FY 25/26, OSPR has initiated \$35,000 in grants for the following California Native American Tribes:

- Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians – Preparedness Grant \$10,000
- Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians – Preparedness Grant \$15,000
- Blue Lake Rancheria – Preparedness Grant \$10,000

Local Government Response Equipment and Area Contingency Planning Grants

OSPR provides funding to cities, counties, and special districts for the acquisition of oil spill response equipment. Additionally, the Local Government Grant program provides grants to counties to complete, update, or revise a county-wide oil spill contingency plan. The grant also includes funding for ACP meetings, OSPR Overviews, and oil spill response related training.

Thus far in FY 25/26, OSPR has initiated \$130,000 in local government grants for the following recipients:

- Morro Bay Harbor District – Equipment Grant \$5,000
- City of Lake Port – Equipment Grant \$10,000
- Alameda County Fire Department – Equipment Grant \$45,000
- Santa Cruz Harbor Port District – Equipment Grant \$5,000
- City of Eureka – Equipment Grant \$5,000
- Port of San Luis Obispo – Equipment Grant \$5,000
- Huntington Beach Fire Department – Equipment Grant \$5,000
- Marin County Fire OEM – Local Government Grant \$10,000
- Humboldt County Environmental Services – Local Government Grant \$25,000
- Sonoma County Permit & Resource Management Department – Local Government Grant \$10,000
- Noyo Harbor District – Equipment Grant \$5,000

Response Training

The Response Training Program is responsible for funding, coordinating, and tracking all response training that supports OSPR staff in performing their oil spill response roles. Key programs under the Response Training Program include formal classroom trainings and general program management led by the Training Coordinator, internal exercises led by the Internal Preparedness Coordinator, and the Position Specific Response Training Program led by Retired Annuitant, Yvonne Addassi (with support from the Training and Preparedness

Coordinators). Please see the key highlights for each program below between October and December of 2025.

General Program Management/Formal Classroom Trainings

- Total OSPR staff training hours: 2,672
- Executed response trainings:
 - Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS) Training
 - Expert Witness Training
 - CFRT HAZWOPER Supervisor
 - 8 Hour HAZWOPER Refresher (for US Forrest Service in Santa Cruz)
- Response Training Committee
 - The Response Training Team continues to implement the FY25/26 plan and is initiating the planning process for next fiscal year.
 - Response Training Committee held meeting on October 16, 2025.

Position Specific Response Training Program

The goal of this effort was to initiate and implement a self-sufficient Position Specific Response Training Program that was fully functioning and run by the position specific Subject Matter Expert (SME) Leads. The program improves internal SME Lead coordination and staff training for response roles with a greater emphasis on collaboration across positions.

Over the October-December 2025 timeframe, the program's key successes included:

- Held October SME Lead meeting on October 6, 2025, which was planned and led by two of OSPR's SME Leads.
- Held SME Lead Individual Program Follow-up meetings to assess areas of success, identify best practices, and areas for improvement.

Moving forward, SME Leads will continue to take on the role of facilitating the meetings and will continue to advance and improve their individual position specific training programs as mentors for their teams.

Internal Preparedness Program

The goal of the Internal Preparedness Coordinator (IPC) is to coordinate opportunities for OSPR staff to train and gain proficiency in the response roles they would fill during a spill response through the facilitation of internal exercises. The IPC also coordinates with the OSPR Drills and Exercises Unit to identify additional training opportunities within industry exercises for OSPR staff that fall outside of the mandatory industry objectives outlined in regulation.

From October-December 2025, the IPC successfully coordinated with the Drills and Exercises Unit to identify additional billets for OSPR staff to fill and participate in one industry tabletop exercise. The position filled during this industry exercise included:

- Wildlife Branch Director

The IPC also planned and executed one internal exercise between October-December 2025. The exercise was held on November 6, 2025, and focused primarily on Geographic Information System (GIS) Technical Specialist staff, with a supplemental training opportunity for several response positions such as Fisheries Closure Technical Specialist, Wildlife Reconnaissance Group Supervisor, Safety Officer, and NRDA Technical Specialist.

The IPC drafted and executed two contracts for response training courses between October-December 2025. The first contract that was executed is for two one-day complex internal exercises that will be the center of the upcoming OSPR Off-Site Training Event which will be held in May 2026. The second contract is for several Incident Command System

position specific training courses that will be offered throughout the first two quarters of 2026. Both contracts were with EMSI for facilitation services and their expertise that they provide to the training with their extensive background in oils spill response.

Relevant Metrics

- Number of participants in OSPR internal exercises:
 - GIS Technical Specialist Internal Exercise: 12 OSPR Staff
- Number of additional participants in industry exercises: 3
- Number of internal exercises planned for Fiscal Year 25/26: 6

Statewide Contingency Planning

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Contingency>

Area Contingency Plans

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) serves as OSPR's partner for developing Area Contingency Plans (ACPs) along the coast and has experienced significant turnover in their ACP Coordinator positions throughout the state. Additionally, OSPR's ACP Coordinator position is currently vacant. However, OSPR's Outreach and Training Unit Supervisor, in coordination with Environmental Response Branch staff, continues to track progress on the various ACP revisions and attends meetings. ACPs are available at

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Contingency> and information on ACP meetings is posted to <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Public-Meetings>.

- San Francisco (ACPs 1, 2, and 3): This plan is being updated to reflect the new USCG ACP architecture guidelines, due by October 2026. A major revision is scheduled for 2027, and an internal working group was established in coordination with the Environmental Response Branch staff to coordinate updates to Annex C and the base plan.
- Los Angeles/Long Beach (ACPs 4 and 5): Revisions to incorporate USCG's new ACP architecture were completed in 2024. Annual minor revisions are ongoing, and the next major revision is scheduled for 2029.
- San Diego (ACP 6): This plan is being updated to reflect the new USCG ACP architecture guidelines, due by October 2026. A major revision is scheduled for 2028.

Geographic Response Plans (GRPs)

The GRP Coordinator is overseeing new plans and revisions as outlined below. Completed GRPs are available at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Contingency>.

New Plans:

- Lower American River (Sacramento County) – Completed.
- Klamath River (Siskiyou, Humboldt, Del Norte Counties) – Completed.
- Salinas River (Monterey County) - Draft GRP has gone through GRP Subcommittee review and is now with OSPR Executive for final review and approval.
- San Diego River (San Diego County) - Planning Cycle 3: Beginning stages of reconnaissance and determining the GRP boundary.
- Middle Santa Ana River (Riverside County) – Planning Cycle 3: Beginning stages of field work.
- Ventura River or Santa Clara River (Ventura County): Planning Cycle 3, making determination on which plan to develop first.

Revisions:

- Ballona Creek 5-Year Update (Los Angeles County) – Completed.
- Cajon Pass 5-Year Update (San Bernardino County) - GRP Subcommittee Review is completed. Will go to OSPR Executive for final review and approval.
- Kern River 5-Year Update (Kern County) - Field work completed. Completing document development.

- Walker River Update (Mono County) – Field teams have completed data collection. Working on document development. Working with the State of Nevada as this is an interstate plan.
- Truckee River Update (Placer, Nevada, and Sierra Counties) - OSPR FRT staff conducted field reconnaissance for the existing Truckee River GRP response strategy sites along with State of Nevada partners and an Oil Spill Response Organization (OSRO) in the summer of 2023. Additional field visits will be scheduled for the Nevada sections of the Truckee River.
- Lake Tahoe Contact Sheet Update (El Dorado and Placer Counties) - Completed and posted to USEPA Website (Lake Tahoe GRP is hosted on USEPA's Website).
- North Fork American River, Upper Sacramento River, Russian River 5-Year Updates in early stages.
- Completed contact updates throughout document on the Lower Santa Ana River and Santa Margarita River GRPs.

Statewide Oil Spill Contingency Plan

OSPR revises the State Oil Spill Contingency Plan every three years. The 2026 revision was submitted to the Governor's Office for approval in July 2025 and we are still awaiting approval.

Key updates include:

- ADA compliance implemented across the document
- Updated legislative and regulatory references
- Overall restructuring and content edits to improve clarity, remove duplication, and employ direct language
- ICS chart updated to reflect California-specific positions
- Dispersant authorization zone map added
- New section on Renewable Fuels to reflect the expanded statutory definition of oil
- Agency descriptions added and updated based on reviewer feedback
- Updated sections for California Native American tribes and volunteer coordination in alignment with new OSPR positions and Department priorities

Significant outreach and review occurred during the revision process. Including:

- Input solicited from OSPR subject matter experts across programs
- All 58 California counties engaged through respective Offices of Emergency Services
- 23 state agencies consulted, including regulatory, emergency management, and natural resource agencies
- 20 federal entities engaged in oil spill response and oversight
- 9 non-governmental organizations provided feedback

Once approved, the 2026 plan will be available at

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Contingency>.

Regional Contingency Plan

OSPR is collaborating with the USCG and USEPA to update the Regional Contingency Plan (RCP). The RCP outlines emergency coordination to hazardous materials releases within California, Nevada, and Arizona. The RCP Update Workgroup is aligning the structure of the document to recently approved RCPs from other regions, as well as streamlining content to create a more functional document. The Workgroup will coordinate with subject matter experts for review before submitting them to the Executive Steering Committee.

Drills and Exercises Unit (D&E)

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Drills-Exercises>

General Information: With the end of 2025, the D&E has completed the first three-year cycle operating to 14 CCR § 820.1. D&E is now working diligently to process credit request submissions associated with these events and preparing to conduct scheduled events in 2026.

To close out the year, the D&E Supervisor, Chris Thixton, retired after more than two decades of state service. Work is ongoing to backfill his position, as well as a vacancy for a drill coordinator for Northern California.

September 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Total Drills and Exercises Statewide

- Total Drills and Exercises: 43
 - Total Equipment Deployment Drills: 0
 - Total Tabletop Exercises: 43
- Total CalTriVEX: 0

Total Drills and Exercises in Northern California

- Total Drills and Exercises: 11
 - Total Equipment Deployment Drills: 0
 - Total Tabletop Exercises: 11
- Total CalTriVEX: 0

Total Drills and Exercises in Central California

- Total Drills and Exercises: 12
 - Total Equipment Deployment Drills: 0
 - Total Tabletop Exercises: 12
- Total CalTriVEX: 0

Total Drills and Exercises in Southern California

- Total Drills and Exercises: 20
 - Total Equipment Deployment Drills: 0
 - Total Tabletop Exercises: 20
- Total CalTriVEX: 0

Response Certification and Planning Unit (RCPU)

Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSRO) Program

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/RCPU>

General Information: The OSRO website includes lists of Marine, Terrestrial, and Inland On-water rated OSROs as well as their contact information.

Current OSROs by rating type:

- Marine: 8
- Inland On-water: 8
- Terrestrial: 20

OSRO Drills conducted October 2025 – December 2025

- Marine – Passed: 1
 - Marine – Failed: 0
 - Marine – Modified: 0
- Inland On-water – Passed: 2
 - Inland On-water – Failed: 0
 - Inland On-water – Modified: 0
- Terrestrial – Passed: 2
 - Terrestrial – Failed: 0
 - Terrestrial – Modified: 0

Industry Oil Spill Contingency Plans:

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/RCPU/Vessel-Contingency-Plan-Program>

Current Approved Vessel Contingency Plans: 1316

- Vessel Contingency Plans Processed October 2025 – December 2025
 - Approved New Plans: 33
 - Approved Resubmitted Plans: 22
 - Vessel Revisions: 1042
 - Withdrawn Vessel Plans: 20
- Current Facility Contingency Plans:
 - Approved: 101
 - Renewal Pending: 15
 - Pending New Plans: 7
- Facility Plans Processed October 2025 – December 2025
 - Marine Plan Approvals: 7
 - Marine Revisions: 10
 - Inland Approvals: 2
 - Inland Revisions: 4
 - Inland Exemptions: 7
 - Withdrawn: 2

Spill Management Team (SMT) Program

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/RCPU/Spill-Management-Teams>

The SMT program established a two-phase certification process to allow SMTs to obtain rigorous training and complete a certification exercise. SMTs are issued an interim certification after filing a complete application and training plan, and full certification is issued after the successful completion of the training and certification exercise requirements.

Most interim certifications were issued in 2022 and expired at the end of 2025, so certification exercises ramped up towards the end of 2025. SMTs must apply for certification renewal three years after receiving a full certification.

- SMT Certification Exercises Conducted October – December 2025: 5
- SMT Certification Exercises Scheduled January – March 2026: 1

SMT Certification Status:

- Plan Holder SMTs:
 - Interim Certification: 22
 - Full Certification: 10
- External SMTs:
 - Interim Certification: 7
 - Full Certification: 11

Certificates of Financial Responsibility (COFR) Unit

Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Financial-Responsibility>

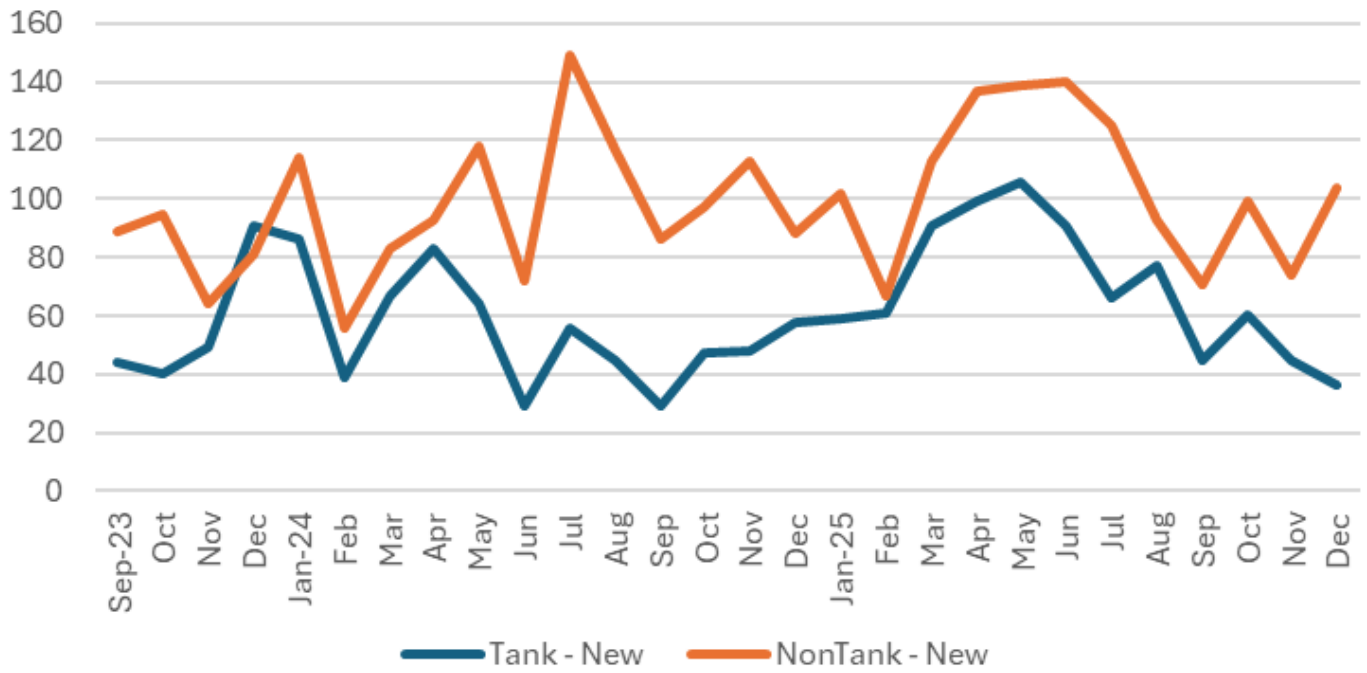
General Information: Though vessel and facility applications surged from February through June, they have slowed considerably from July through December (see charts below).

Vessel and Facility COFR Certificates issued October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025:

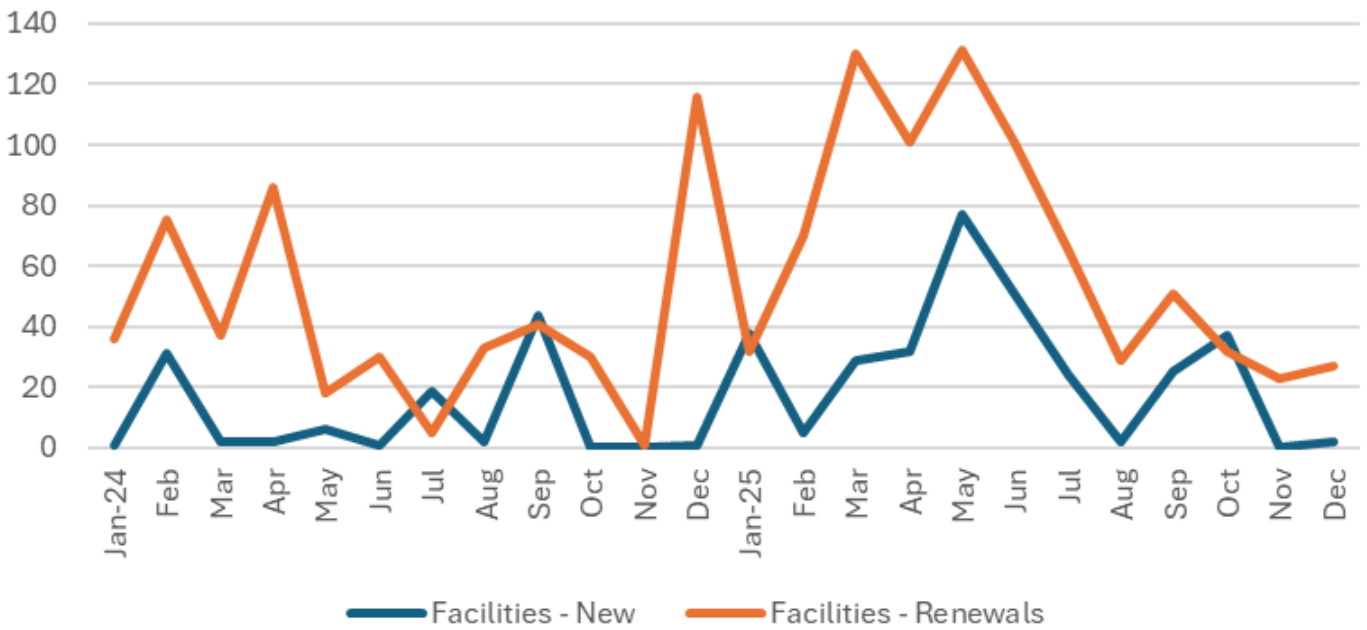
Total COFRs issued: 1109

- Tank Vessels:
 - New: 141
 - Renewal: 363
- Non-Tank Vessels:
 - New: 277
 - Renewal: 207
- Facilities:
 - New: 39
 - Renewal: 82

New Applications - Vessels



All Applications - Facilities



Laboratory Response Unit Activities for February 2026 TAC Update

Sample Analysis (since last report)

Performed petroleum fingerprinting analysis to support twelve (12) spill investigations and responses.

Training Provided

Petroleum Chemistry Laboratory (PCL) staff provided sampling training to OSPR field staff, including environmental scientists, law enforcement, and oil spill prevention specialists. Training was held in Mather on September 23, 2025.

An internal exercise of the sample coordinator ICS position was held at OSPR headquarters on January 22, 2026.

Research

As part of an ongoing effort to assess fingerprint variation in oil reservoirs of the Huntington Beach oil field, sixteen (16) well samples were received at the Petroleum Chemistry Laboratory (PCL) on September 30, 2025. These samples were collected from the same reservoirs as collected previously in the Huntington Beach oil field, but they were collected from different locations in the same reservoirs allowing an assessment of fingerprint variation in space and time.

The PCL began analytical work to quantify hydrocarbon concentrations in sediment samples collected from an OSPR funded terrestrial toxicity test. This sediment toxicity study is a laboratory exposure of earthworms to renewable diesel and petroleum diesel, respectively. Sediments from renewable diesel exposures are being analyzed for total hydrocarbon concentrations and sediments from petroleum diesel exposures are being analyzed for total hydrocarbons and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). These studies will fill data gaps on the toxic effects of renewable diesel to a terrestrial species.

Prevention Branch

The Southern California Supervisor position remains open, with the review process underway and interviews planned soon. All other positions are currently filled.

Looking ahead, the Prevention Branch is continuing updates to our website to make it more interactive and informative for users. The Vessel Watch computer program, which will automatically vet incoming vessels to California, is currently being tested by IT and will be implemented soon. By leveraging new technology, we have streamlined the data available to us and established an Application Programming Interface feed that allows the program to automatically report vessel compliance—significantly reducing the time required to vet all ship traffic entering California.

Additionally, the Prevention Branch has initiated a coastal visibility study to identify existing means of tracking ship arrivals at major ports and to determine areas along the coast that currently lack visibility through the Marine Exchanges.

Statistics:

October 2025 through December 2025

Vessel Arrivals: **2,113**

Category 1 – 4 Risk Boardings: 0

Oil/Fuel Transfer Notifications: **1270**

Oil/Fuel Transfer Monitors: **44**

Percent of Transfers Monitored: **3.46%**

Facility Contingency Plan Verifications: **4**

Facility Contingency Plan Exemptions: **14**

Marine Outreach: **64**

Inland Outreach: **31**

Marine Oil Spill Incidents: **81**

Inland Oil Spill Incidents: **110**

Vessel Compliance Checks **90**

Drills attended: **33**

OSRO/GIUE Drills attended: **2**

Number of grant trailer refresher trainings: **5**

Environmental Response Branch (ERB)

Report to the Technical Advisory Committee – February 2026

Recently Filled and Vacant Positions

ERB HQ – Interviews for SSM I Supervisor for OSPR Spill Desk to be held in February.

NERB – No vacancies.

CERB – No vacancies.

SERB – There is one vacant Senior Environmental Scientist Position in Seal Beach Office.

OSPR Spill Desk

OSPR Spill Desk staff remain heavily engaged in coordination with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES) and their IT contractor in transferring spill reporting data from their new Cal-Watch System to the OSPR Incident Tracking Database (ITDB), as well as developing workarounds for Lotus Notes functions including Spill Notes to document notifications and email notifications to on-call Field Response Teams (FRTs). OSPR Spill Desk continues working with OSPR IT on the new system replacing outdated Lotus Notes software.

Preparedness:

Geographic Response Plans (GRPs)

OSPR Statewide Internal GRP Workgroup Meeting was held on 12/10/2025.

Current GRPs in progress (North to South):

NERB:

Five-year updates to the Russian River, Upper Sacramento River and North Fork American River GRPs are in early development.

An update to the Truckee River GRP is underway, with field work being conducted in both California and Nevada, alongside the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Working to plan a boom deployment exercise to test 1 or 2 response sites on the Truckee River in coordination with Industry partners and OSRO partners.

An update to the Lake Tahoe GRP Contact Sheet was completed in November of 2025. A complete update to the Lake Tahoe GRP will be conducted over the next year or so.

The Klamath River and Lower American River GRPs are complete and uploaded to the CDW-OSPR website.

CERB:

The completed draft Salinas River GRP was submitted to OSPR executive team for review on 12/23/2025. Review to be completed by 02/13/2026.

Kern River GRP 5 Yr. Update. Staff have visited all access points, refreshed site photos, updated resources at risk, and are in the process of updating maps.

SERB:

Cajon Pass 5-year update is with Executive Review Committee.

Fieldwork continues for the Middle Santa Ana River GRP.

Fieldwork continues on the San Diego River GRP.

Desktop work resumed on the Walker River GRP.

Area Contingency Plans (ACPs)

ERB Staff will attend the RRT9 Meeting on 03/20/2026 both virtual and in-person. ERB virtually attended OSPR internal ACP Workgroup Meetings (now called ACP Coordinators Meetings) on 10/08/2025 and 02/12/2026.

Sector San Francisco (ACPs 1, 2, 3)

North Coast (ACP 1) Area Subcommittee Meetings held on 09/18/2025 and 01/15/2026.

San Francisco Bay & Delta (ACP 2) Area Committee Meeting held on 08/02/2025 and 11/18/2025 and scheduled for 02/10/2026. Central Coast (ACP 3) Area Subcommittee Meetings were held on 10/09/2025 and 01/08/2026.

Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach (ACPs 4, 5)

Area Committee Meeting was held on 11/04/2025.

Sector San Diego (ACP 6)

Area Committee Meeting was held on 12/09/2025.

Sensitive Site Strategy Evaluation Program (SSSEP)

SSSEP Workgroup Meeting was held on 07/21/2025 and scheduled for 02/25/2026.

NERB

ACP2 – Stockton Channel, 2-010 was successfully tested on 09/09/2025.

Goodyear Marsh, 2-654.3 Pre-Deployment Assessment has been sent to USCG for approval, tentatively first quarter of 2026.

CERB

ACP 3 – Monterey Harbor and USCG Pier (3-370) was successfully tested and deployed by the Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) on 10/15/2025.

ACP 4 – Ventura Harbor (4-747) was successfully deployed by MSRC, SoCal Ship Services, and Patriot Environmental Services on 10/22/2025.

ACP 4 – Morro Creek (4-140) was successfully deployed by Republic Services on 10/28/2025.

SERB

SERB Staff are planning for deployments in 2026, most of which will take place in the Fall. There were 4 deployments in ACP 5 and 2 deployments in ACP 6 in this reporting period:

ACP 5 - Ballona Creek (5-140) was deployed by So Cal Ship Services on 10/22/2025.

ACP 5 - Cabrillo Wetlands (5-210) was deployed by West Coast Environmental Services on 10/29/2025.
ACP 5 - Santa Ana River (5-350) was deployed by Patriot Environmental Services on 10/08/2025.
ACP 5 - San Gabriel River (5-270) was deployed by National Response Corporation Environmental Services 10/23/2025.
ACP 6 - Buena Vista Lagoon (6-253) was deployed by Patriot Environmental Services on 10/21/2025.
ACP 6 - South Bay National Wildlife Refuge (6-455.2 & 3) was deployed by Marine Spill Response Corporation and National Response Corporation Environmental Services on 11/05/2025.

Drills and Exercises

NFRT

10/01-02/2025 - Martinez Refining, Martinez
10/30/2025 - P66, Rodeo
10/31/2025 - IMTT, Richmond
11/03/2025 - Marine Express, Richmond
11/05/2025 - Valley Pacific Petroleum, Eureka
11/12-13/2025 - Martinez Renewables, Martinez
11/20/2025 - Wickland Pipelines, Roseville
12/10/2025 - BWC Terminals, Stockton
02/05/2026 - Golden Gate Ferry, Larkspur

CFRT

10/03/2025 - Bayview Industrial Services & Environmental Services, Ventura
10/06/2025 - Tractide Marine, Port Hueneme
10/22/2025 - PTL Marine, Ventura
10/28/2025 - CRC SJV, Bakersfield
10/29/2025 - Berry Petroleum, Bakersfield
11/06/2025 - Kern Energy, Bakersfield
11/18/2025 - DCOR, Oxnard
11/19/2025 - Freeport McMoran, Oxnard
12/11/2025 - California Marine Cleaning, Ventura
12/18/2025 - CalNRG, Ventura

SFRT

10/14/2025 - Beta Offshore, Platform Elly, Long Beach
10/15/2025 - Marine Energy Solutions Inc., Long Beach
10/22/2025 - Ultramar/Valero, Wilmington
10/24/2025 - Graymar Environmental Services Inc., Fontana
11/05/2025 - The Termo Co., Long Beach
11/06/2025 - Torrance Logistics Pipeline, Cerritos
11/13/2025 - Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc., Signal Hill
11/14/2025 - Blackbeard Marine, National City
11/21/2025 - Mesa Environmental Services Inc., Signal Hill
11/25/2025 - Continental Marine of San Diego LLC, San Diego
12/04/2025 - SC Commercial MTU, San Diego

12/05/2025 - AMMEX Tank International, MTU, National City
12/09/2025 - High Seas Marine Fuel Dock, San Diego
12/11/2025 - Bridgeland Resources, Santa Fe Springs
12/16/2025 - Pacific Tank Cleaning Services LLC, Chula Vista
12/19/2025 - 365 Marine and Shoreside Services LLC, San Pedro
02/11/2026 - Brea Energy, Placentia
02/13/2026 - Marine Energy Solutions Inc., Gardena

Shoreline/Site Protection Tables Workgroup

New OSPR Site Protection Table Regulations became effective on January 1, 2026. ERB and Regulations Unit presented to North Coast Area Committee on 01/15/2026, Workgroup subsequently disbanded.

Training

NERB

- 10/21/2025 NERB participated in Traffic Incident Management Training
- 10/22/2025 Taylor participated in TIMS "train the trainer" in Sacramento
- 11/20/2025 NERB participated in expert witness training
- NERB continues monthly SCAT training at various locations

CERB

- CERB participated in HAZWOPER Supervisor Training on 11/13/2025.
- CERB participated in Expert Witness Training on 11/18/2025.
- CERB participated in an 8-hour HAZWOPER Refresher on 02/18/2026.
- CERB staff participated and will help conduct NOAA Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) training 02/24-26/2026.
- CERB completed quarterly SCAT exercises in November and February.

SERB

- SERB Staff participated in an 8 Hr. HAZWOPR Refresher on 03/12/2026.

ERB

- ERB Staff continue UAV (drone piloting) practice to maintain pilot currency.
- ERB staff continue monthly field SCATologue training as schedules permit.
- EROS Training Workgroup met on 10/03/2025.
- The Response Training Committee met on 10/16/2025 and 1/16/2025; ERB Staff participated.
- The Subject Matter Expert (SME) Program met on 10/06/2025 and 01/14/2026, and plan to meet again on 03/11/2026.
- Select ERB staff participated in Tribal Consultation Training.
- ERB Staff Participated in Expert Witness Training in Cordelia on 11/20/2025

UAS

ERB Pilots continue to conduct three practice flights every three months to maintain Department currency status. Workgroup oversight transitioning to Response Support

- OSPR UAS workgroup met on 01/28/2026 to review order and capabilities of Skydio X-10 drones.

Response (Selected)

NFRT

25-4669 Richmond Inner Harbor – September 14, 2025, ES responded to a report of a release of diesel fuel into the Sante Fe channel in Richmond that occurred. This was a follow-up report to 25-4640 where a 100'x 100' sheen was reported in the same area. Maritime Centre staff reported dead crabs were observed in the marina where sheen had been observed previously. A vessel on the westside of the Richmond Inner had been observed making an internal transfer of fuel between 10 and 50 gal over the weekend. The US Coast Guard issued a warning and Notice of Federal Intent to the vessel owner.

25-5748 – Lakehead, CA. - November 13, 2025, Slate Creek and the Upper Sacramento River were impacted by a big rig that was speeding down I-5 South north of Lakehead, CA. FRT responded and identified unrecoverable amounts of diesel on the roadway, storm drain and creek. LE is filing a 5650 charge against the driver.

26-0095 – January 6, 2026, a big rig was towing a large flatbed trailer of misc. items including pallets stacked with buckets of different materials (Concrete Curing solution and Forming oil). Materials were not properly secured, 60+ buckets fell out onto the roadway. Many spilled their contents (~100 gallons). Some spilled material made it into a storm drain that leads to Nelson Creek ultimately leading to Lake Shasta. FRT responded and LE filing a case.

CFRT

25-5557 Ventura Oiled Bird Incident. November 1, 2025, Ventura Harbor Patrol reported an unknown sheen from an unknown source offshore in front of Ventura Harbor. CFRT staff responded and found fresh tar on the beach and collected samples, no source was detected and no affected wildlife observed at this time. Late in the day on 11/02/2025, reports of oiled grebes started coming in from local wildlife rehab facilities. 11/03/2025, there was a full CFRT response to conduct search and recovery for wildlife, conduct SCAT surveys, and collect additional samples. Field operations continued for several days. Injured grebes were transferred IBR staff for transport to San Pedro.

25-5858 Hamp Slop Tank Spill. November 18, 2025, Ventura County Fire reported that an unknown amount of crude oil was releasing into Sisar Creek from an above ground tank on a Carbon California facility. CFRT responded to oversee cleanup and conduct investigation. Ventura County and USEPA also responded to incident. Cleanup of Sisar Creek and the tributary creek was completed on 11/28/2025.

SFRT

25-5925 – One Henry Hudson Fire Incident: On November 21, 2025, there was an explosion and fire onboard the container vessel One Henry Hudson at the Yusen Terminal Berth 218 in the Port of Los Angeles. USCG, LA Port Police, Long Beach FD, and LAFD were on scene and due to safety concerns with potentially hazardous smoke, the FRT was standing by remotely. After the vessel was moved to a safer location to control the fire, CDFW-OSPR was asked to participate in a Potential Places of Refuge (PPOR) analysis to verify that the vessel was brought to the safest location, Los Angeles Outer Anchorage G4. The PPOR analysis was in alignment with the

chosen location. An estimated 1,000,000 gallons of diesel fuel was on board and MSRC was on standby and available to respond in a timely manner if the integrity of the ship's hull was at risk of failing. At 0900 on November 23rd, the FRT members attended an Incident Situation Brief and demobilized their physical response since the incident and condition of the vessel was stable. Throughout the incident, no discharge of petroleum or sheen on the water was observed.

25-5995 – San Martinez Grande Incident: On November 26 the SFRT responded to a release of crude oil released from a waste-water injection line that was not in service at a West Energy Operating production facility in Castaic. The cause of the release is under investigation. The leak occurred right above a dry creek bed which leads to the Santa Clara River. Patriot Environmental Services responded as the OSRO. Several underflow dams were constructed to protect the waterway and help contain the oil. Under cultural and biological monitoring, heavy equipment was used to remove oil close to the source. Approximately 1.35 miles of the San Martinez Grande Creek from the spill source site to the confluence of the Santa Clara River was impacted by the release of crude oil. Wildlife teams were deployed early in the response, however, no oiled or impacted wildlife were observed and the teams were demobilized. Due to a series of storms in late-December, most response operations were placed on hold until the end of January. When operations resume, the response will work toward meeting cleanup endpoints.

Miscellaneous

NERB – LEPC R2: 11/20/2025, 02/19/2026

NERB – LEPC R4 on 11/05/2025

NERB – LEPC R3: 01/07/2026

CERB – LEPC R4: 11/04/2025, 02/04/2026

CERB – LEPC R5: 02/11/2026

SERB – LEPC R1: 11/12/2025 and 02/11/2026.

SERB – LEPC R6: 11/13/2025 and 02/12/2026.

All ERB Field Staff Virtual Meetings – 11/17/2025 and 01/21/2026.

All ERB Field In Person Staff Meeting – 03/24-26/2026 in Santa Cruz and Monterey.

OSPR All Staff virtual meeting on 12/04/2025.

On 10/26/2025 NERB staff participated in the NDEAM job fair at the State Capitol Building.

CERB and SERB staff continue to conduct monthly shoreline surveys from Santa Barbara to San Diego for the Beachcomber effort.

SERB and CERB continue to conduct tarball surveys and populate the Tarball Tracking Spreadsheets to consolidate shoreline background information.

CERB staff are coordinating with LED, OSPSs, and OSPR legal on several ongoing cases in Kern County.

Select ERB Staff participated in the SCAT Working Group meeting on 01/28/2026.

Select ERB Staff participated in the SSSEP Working Group meeting on 02/25/2026.

Select ERB staff participated in the Natural Seep Working Group. A meeting was held on 02/24/2026.

ERB staff participated in the Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Subcommittee for Area Committees. Meetings were held on 10/15/2025 and 08/13/2025.

Select ERB Staff and Supervisors participated in many ICS Position Specific Task Book activities.

SERB staff participated in the Virtual SCAT Working Group Meeting on 01/28/2026.

ERB Supervisors met with representatives from CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program to discuss finalizing an informational handout for the responsible parties for emergency notification for oil spill cleanup.

Spill Response Technology & Support Branch

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update (February 2026)

Units:

- **Safety**
- **Oiled Wildlife Response**
- **Best Achievable Technology (BAT)**
- **Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care & Research Center (MWVCRC)**
- **Applied Response Technology (ART)**
- **Fisheries Closure Coordination**
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

News and Administration

- Staffing: Evaluating reclassification of existing open GIS position to establish a Remote Sensing Coordinator for Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR).
- Disability Awareness Committee (DAC) – OSPR has a standing representative on the DAC promoting full representation and an outstanding workplace for all in the Department. Current work includes updating language for Emergency Action Plan for West Sacramento.

Safety

- Support for Field Responses – Statewide
- New Hard Hats
- Support with New Communications Van
- Training – Significant training activities including Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) refreshers, 24-hour training, and 40-hour training for OSPR as well as external partners including Native American tribes and bands, Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) member organizations, and local agency partners; Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) procurement and distribution
- Equipment calibration

Oiled Wildlife & Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care & Research Facility

- Field Responses – Multiple responses with wildlife impacts. Significant oiled bird event in Ventura with 90+ oiled birds
- Developing revised Mystery Event Guidelines for response to oiled wildlife without a known anthropogenic spill source
- Wildlife Response Plan – Update in final editing for Q1 2026 release
- OWCN Member Organization MOUs – Working with OSPR Legal and OWCN to update Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)s
- Team Coordination – Regular (bi-monthly) meetings with OWCN and regular internal OSPR staff coordination meetings

Applied Response Technology (ART) and Best Achievable Technology (BAT)

- ART Usage (surface washing agent) – CytoSol approval requested and garnered for use at spill site

- License Applications – ITS GTS-OR surface washing agent licensed by CA OSPR; Matter of Trust hair/fur sorbent under review; OSPR working in coordination with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) National Contingency Plan (NCP) listing staff
- Regional Contingency Plan Update – Dispersant Use Plan for California being updated to comply with new Subpart J requirements
- Participation on American Petroleum Institute (API) Spill Advisory Group Working Groups – Developing informational documents for use during spills targeting different audiences (e.g., Federal/State On-Scene Coordinator [FOSC/SOSC], general public, Regional Response Team (RRT)/Scientific Support Coordinator [SSC], etc.)
- Participation on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Autonomous Submersible Working Group – Supporting development of use applications for spill response
- Response Technology Evaluation (RTE)/Applied Response Technology (ART)/Best Achievable Technology (BAT) Working Group – Expanded working group to include full time representation by OSPR, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US EPA, and Oiled Spill Response Organization (OSRO); presented at state-wide Area Committee meeting
- ART Gallery – Developing fourth edition

Fisheries Closure

- Spill Response – Provided spill response support with Office of Environmental Health Hazare Assessment (OEHHA) for multiple incidents with potential fisheries closures.
- Regulatory – SB 839 approved. Includes optimization of regulatory language regarding triggers for closures (volume metrics) and formal enforceability of closures for commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishing, as well as aquaculture, during spill response. OSPR Fisheries Coordinator conducting state-wide training for Field Response Team (FRT) on new standards.
- Preparedness – Developing and conducting staff training on support tools to identify key species and associated fishery data to increase efficiency of spill response statewide. Coordinating with OEHHA. Supporting Public Health Assessment Unit development.

Geographic Information Systems

- Staffing – Developing new Remote Sensing Coordinator position. In addition to regular GIS work, the position would include:
 - Coordinates OSPR's statewide remote sensing program. Tracks and manages Uncrewed Aircraft System (UAS) fleet assignments; supports UAS maintenance and repair; and develops best practices for spill response and non-spill response applications. Leads coordination with the Department-wide UAS program to ensure compliance with policies, procedures, and regulatory requirements. Conducts research, development, testing, and implementation of remote sensing tools and platforms, including on-water systems, submersible systems, trail cameras, and satellite imagery. Optimizes workflows for data transfer, processing,

analysis, and presentation from remote sensing sources to support operational and research needs. Work will include travel for training, demonstrations, and deployment of remote sensing tools.

- Government Shutdown Support – Provided deliverables typically provided by NOAA (e.g., spill trajectory data), during Government shutdown.
- Spill and Drill Response – Spatial analysis and mapping during response statewide addressing Common Operating Picture, Situation Unit support, Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Team (SCAT), spatial analysis, and mapping.
- Reconnaissance App Development – Field testing completed.
- NOAA Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA) Updates – Continual data additions to ERMA for Common Operating Picture during response.
- UAS Program – Licensed pilots for UAS mapping missions.

Resource Restoration Branch February 2026 TAC Update

The Resource Restoration Branch (RRB) includes the Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF) Program, the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Unit, and the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) Unit. These functions are a critical component of OSPR's mission " ... to provide best achievable protection of California's natural resources by preventing, preparing for, and responding to spills of oil **and restoring affected resources.**" To date, OSPR, together with our other federal and state natural resource trustees, have raised more than \$220 million dollars for restoration following large spills of oil and other hazardous substances and \$11 million dollars for smaller spills assessed by OSPR alone.

Personnel Update. A job posting was made for a currently vacant Senior Environmental Scientist position within the RRB NRDA Unit on January 13, 2026. The Environmental Program Manager I (Supervisor) position was filled on November 23, 2025, with Bruce M. Joab, who had previously been a supervisor in the branch. The branch currently consists of an Environmental Scientist, a Resource Economist, and a Staff Toxicologist, and another recently vacant Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) position (vacated January 22, 2026).

Environmental Enhancement Fund.

Fund Balance: \$1,300,000 (approximate). To date, over \$11.8 million has been awarded to various grant recipients in California. We currently have 12 active projects totaling over \$7.9M and covering 11 different counties.

Currently Funded Restoration Projects:

1. Restoring Critical Habitat and Increasing Climate Resiliency in a Northern California Dune System, Humboldt County
2. Watershed Restoration and Protection Marsh Creek 7 Water Flows to the Delta, Contra Costa County
3. Restoring High Elevation Freshwater Ecosystems of Yosemite National Park, Tuolumne County
4. Elk Creek/Eden Valley Sediment Source Assessment – Eel River Watershed, Mendocino County
5. Enhancing Dune Habitat and Ecosystem Function at Northern Monterey County State Parks, Monterey County
6. Riparian Restoration at the TNC Prairie Pacific Property, Santa Paula, Ventura County

7. Pismo State Beach Foredune Restoration and Improvement Project, San Luis Obispo County
8. Shaahnaa' Lhook' Land Back for Acquisition of Fee Interest, Mendocino County (Execution not yet complete)
9. Upper Tryon Creek Habitat Restoration – Phase 1, Del Norte County
10. Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline Tidal Wetland Restoration Project, Alameda County
11. Restoration of Sausal Creek Headwaters, Alameda County
12. Restoration Ecosystem Health and Resilience at Anacapa Island, Channel Islands National Park, Ventura County

Small Spills Habitat Restoration Fund.

Fund Balance: \$1,476,352 (as of January 20, 2026).

Currently Funded Restoration Projects:

1. Hope Valley Restoration and Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Project, El Dorado County
2. Black Lake Habitat Restoration for Recovery of Federally Listed Species, San Luis Obispo County
3. Fisher Creek Riparian Habitat Restoration Project – Phase II, Santa Clara County
4. GRRCD PIT Antenna Operations and Maintenance, Sonoma County
5. Riparian Habitat Restoration at Santa Clara River, Santa Barbara County
6. Bluff Lake Reserve Wet Meadow Restoration, Revegetation and Monitoring Project, San Bernardino County
7. Basso/La Grange Reach Floodplain Restoration Project Phase 1 – Implementation, Stanislaus County
8. Basso/La Grange Reach Floodplain Restoration Project Phase 2 – Implementation
9. Cottonwood Meadow Restoration Project, Phase 2
10. Protection and Enhancement of Habitat for Rare Species at the Sand Ridge and Caliente Preserves
11. Invasive Arundo Restoration on the Santa Clara River
12. Sumner Peck Ranch Vineyard Removal and Enhancement Project

Completed project(s) since last TAC update in October 2025: Rare Species Habitat Restoration Project, Los Angeles County.

NRDA Case Report. Since October 2025, one case has been settled and one remains in progress:

Settled Case:

Tanzanite Park Pond (Sacramento County) settled in September, 2025, with \$16,000 in damages deposited at National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for allocation to a future restoration project.

Case in Progress:

San Martinez Grande (Los Angeles County) is in pre-assessment.

Large Spill NRDA Assessments.

Pipeline P00547 NRDA. Immediately following the October 2, 2021 report of a spill from Pipeline P00547, members of the OSPR Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Unit began pulling together a multi-trustee agency team and deploying staff in the field to pre-assess natural resource injuries arising from the spill. The natural resource trustees (Trustee Team) for the spill include the following state trustees: OSPR, State Lands, and Parks and Recreation; and the following federal trustees: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service (representing the DOI), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Last year, the Trustee Team published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register ([Notice of Intent Link](#)) that the Trustees intend to proceed with Restoration Planning for the spill (i.e., proceed to pursue natural resource damages caused by the spill). The Trustee Team also presented to the public on the status of the assessment and solicited the public's input on potential restoration projects that compensate for resource injuries caused by the spill. Copies of those presentations can be found [on the OSPR web page](#). Beginning and since July 2023, the Trustee Team has held eight meetings with the Responsible Party (Amplify Energy Corp.) to settle resource damages caused by the spill. Updates on NRDA activities and findings will continue to be posted on OSPR's [Restoration/NRDA webpage](#).

Large Spill Trustee Councils or State-Lead Restoration. OSPR is a state-trustee lead member on eleven (11) ongoing large spill Trustee Councils overseeing restoration dollars that benefit birds, mammals, fish and their habitats injured by spills. Please see: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/NRDA/Large-Cases-Restoration> for further details.

Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR)
Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Draft Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 2, 2025, 10:00 a.m.¹ – 2:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

California Poppy Conference Room, 1010 Riverside Parkway, West Sacramento, CA 95605
Other locations: San Francisco Baykeeper, 1736 Franklin Street, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94612
Rowayton Library, 33 Highland Ave, Norwalk, CT 06853
Public comments were accepted via phone and chat function.

TAC Members:

West Sacramento Attendees: Matt Rezvani, Chair, John Berge, Edward Harmon, Lynn Korwatch

Oakland Attendees: Sejal Choksi-Chugh, Rue Furch

Norwalk Attendees: Kathleen Rogers

Recording Secretary:

Brenda Brantley

OSPR Participants:

Heather Geldart, Carlos Mejia, Amir Sharifi, Christine Kluge, Paul Ton, Joshua Nicholas

1. Introductions

Heather Geldart – TAC Members/Agency Representatives/OSPR Staff present in person and virtually.

2. OSPR Update

Heather Geldart – Completed her first year at OSPR; briefly talked about legislative updates and OSPR activities.

OSPR Program Manager updates – Written OSPR programmatic updates are located in the [TAC Binder](#).

3. Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Requirements

Carlos Mejia, Assistant Chief Counsel – OSPR

Discussed SB 470 that was signed into law on October 1, 2025; changed sunset date to January 1, 2030; discussed meeting requirements.

4. Minutes from 11/14/2024 and 4/10/2025

Matt Rezvani – TAC Chair

Time was allowed for public comments prior to the vote for both sets of minutes. The minutes from 11/14/2024 and 4/10/2025 were both approved unanimously.

¹ Meeting was delayed due to an evacuation at 1010 Riverside Parkway in West Sacramento. Other locations were on the call at the appropriate time but needed to wait for the meeting to officially start, approximately 45 minutes later.

5. Agency Briefings (90 Min.)

- a. San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission – Cody Aichele
- b. California Coastal Commission – Jonathan Bishop
- c. California State Lands Commission – Grace Kato, Matthew Dumlao
- d. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Doug Allen
- e. California Geologic Energy Management Division – Rohit Sharma
- f. California State Water Resources Control Board – Mark Bare
- g. California Energy Commission – Max Solanki, PowerPoint Presentation
- h. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Unavailable, federal government shut down
- i. US Coast Guard – Ben Perry-Thistle
- j. US Environmental Protection Agency – Unavailable, federal government shut down

Break

6. OSPR Budget Update; PowerPoint Presentation

Amir Sharifi – OSPR

7. Regulatory and Legislative Update

Christine Kluge – OSPR

Discussed many updates that recently occurred since the written report was provided.

8. OSPR Enforcement; PowerPoint Presentation

Lieutenant Paul Ton – OSPR LED TAC Liaison

Assistant Chief Joshua Nicholas – OSPR

9. Next Meeting

Matt Rezvani – TAC Chair

The next TAC meeting will be scheduled in late January or early February 2026. A different location is being considered.

Adjourn Meeting

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

Cody Aichele-Rothman

Since our last TAC meeting, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) staff has participated in a number of oil spill-related and interagency coordination meetings and events across the region:

SF Harbor Safety Committee. BCDC participated in the October and November 2025 San Francisco Bay Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meetings in person in Richmond and San Francisco, and virtually in January 2026. After the completion and promulgation of the 2025 Ports and Waterways Safety Assessment/IALA Waterways Risk Assessment Program (PAWSA/IWRAP) reports (which discussed several hazard scenarios, risk assessment tools, and potential mitigation strategies), BCDC and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) have supported an effort to create a new HSC working group to see if any suggestions in the reports could be implemented across the Bay system. BCDC proposed a motion to create the new working group, and it was successfully voted on at the November 2025 meeting. A charter was drafted for the group over the winter holidays.

BCDC has also been attending the various HSC subcommittee work group meetings, such as Ferry, Tanker-Tug Escort, and Marine Mammals, among others, with more scheduled in the near future.

Area Contingency Planning. BCDC staff has continued to coordinate with the Port of San Francisco, the Regional Waterboard, and other parties to address the spill event at Hyde Pier in San Francisco. BCDC has been attending the ongoing bi-weekly meetings. BCDC attended a site visit on December 10, 2025 to see the excavation and BCDC permit activities in action (see photos below).

While there has not been a meeting of the Regional Response Team IX (RRT9) since our last TAC meeting, BCDC staff is on the Cultural/Historic Resources and Tribal Engagement subcommittee of the RRT9 and attended the December 18, 2025 and January 22, 2026 meetings of the subcommittee.

BCDC staff was unable to attend the Area Committee meetings on November 18, 2025, but staff did attend the November 5 Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting.

Response and Related Activities. Staff attended one day of the State of the Estuary Conference on October 29, 2025.

BCDC staff attended the Phillips 66 drill in Richmond on October 30, 2025 (see photos below).

Staff gave a presentation to the full BCDC staff on the BCDC Oil Spill Response program and activities on October 6, 2025.

BCDC staff provided comments to OSPR on the IMTT Richmond Facility Contingency Plan in October 2025.

Environmental Justice. BCDC staff attended the CNRA Tribal Training on November 7, 2025; the State DEI meetings on November 13, 2025 and January 8, 2026; the CA Clean Boating Network Virtual Meeting on December 4, 2025; and the Community Meeting on Union Point Park and Oakland Estuary on December 17, 2025.

BCDC staff has also been finalizing the BCDC Equity Action Plan, and hopes to bring it before the Commission in the coming weeks.

Photos from the Hyde Pier site visit:



Photos from the Phillips 66 drill:



California Coastal Commission (CCC) Oil Spill Program's Activities October 2025 to February 2026

Jonathan Bishop – CCC Oil Spill Program Coordinator

A summary of the CCC Oil Spill Program's work activities since the last TAC meeting is provided below:

- **Meetings.** Commission staff attended the following meetings in-person or virtually:

Eight Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meetings: two Humboldt (HUM) HSC meetings (11/20 and 1/15); two Port Hueneme (PH) HSC meeting (11/6 and 2/5); two Los Angeles/Long Beach (LA/LB) HSC meetings (12/3 and 2/4); and two San Diego (SD) HSC meetings (11/19 and 1/28).

Six Area Committee (AC) meetings: two North Coast (NC) AC meetings (11/20 and 1/15); one LA/LB AC meeting (11/4); two Central Coast (CC) AC meetings (10/9 and 1/8); and one San Diego (SD) AC meeting (11/18).

Other meetings attended during this reporting period include:

- BC/States Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting (11/5 – virtual participant).
- Large CA Spill NRDA Trustee Meeting (1/22 – virtual participant).

- **Dispersant Use Plan Update** – Applied Response Technology and Response Technology Evaluation (ART/RTE) Workgroup meeting – (10/16, 11/13 and 12/2). CCC Oil Spill Program staff will work with the USCG, OSPR, OSRO's and other interested parties on the regulatory review process for Dispersant Use Plan updates.
- **Contingency Plan Reviews** - Per Lempert-Keene Seastrand Act Section 8670.36, CCC Oil Spill Program staff reviewed three Contingency Plans with comments provided to OSPR's Preparedness Branch for consideration. The following Contingency Plans were reviewed by CCC Oil Spill Program staff:
 - #F4-56-0116 (DCOR)
 - #L1-19-5039 (Termo)
 - #I1-30-4001 (Signal Hill Petroleum)
- **Coastal Development Projects Reviewed** – Coastal Development Projects in the planning and permitting process that have been reviewed by OS program staff during this reporting period include:

Fort Bragg Desalination Bouy Pilot Project – OS Program staff reviewed and commented on the project specific Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) for the Fort Bragg Desalination Bouy Project. The approved OSRP included construction BMPs as well as requirements for oil spill prevention and

response measures to be included before, during, and after project construction.

➤ **Oil Spills – NRDA Coordination.**

Refugio Spill and Amplify Pipeline P00547 Spill NRDA – OS program staff continues to coordinate with OSPR in the NRDA process for both the Refugio spill and the Amplify P00547 pipeline spill. OS program staff will continue to coordinate with OSPR and other Trustees on potential future restoration projects and any regulatory permitting requirements that may go along with them.

California State Lands Commission

Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee Report

January 2026

State Budget/Commission Budget/OSPAF

The 2025-26 state budget assumes savings related to departments' vacant position funding and reduced operating budgets in order to achieve a balanced budget. The legislature voted to delay reducing Special Funds' budgets and positions until further evaluation on the impacts of those reductions. While the Commission's original total budget is \$63,788,000 and includes an appropriation of \$16,831,000 from OSPA, these appropriations will decrease should the legislature move forward with these reductions. This means that staff will continue to evaluate spending and exercise prudence when it comes to committing new funds.

2017-18 OSPA Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 5,498,000	\$ 5,498,000	\$ -	100.0%
MEPD	\$ 8,674,000	\$ 7,480,000	\$ 1,194,000	86.2%
2017-18 Total	\$ 14,172,000	\$ 12,978,000	\$ 1,194,000	91.6%

2018-19 OSPA Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 5,554,000	\$ 5,451,000	\$ 103,000	98.1%
MEPD	\$ 8,592,000	\$ 8,493,000	\$ 99,000	98.8%
2018-19 Total	\$ 14,146,000	\$ 13,944,000	\$ 202,000	98.6%

2019-20 OSPA Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 5,966,000	\$ 4,891,000	\$ 1,075,000	82.0%
MEPD	\$ 9,249,000	\$ 7,731,000	\$ 1,518,000	83.6%
2019-20 Total	\$ 15,215,000	\$ 12,622,000	\$ 2,593,000	83.0%

2020-21 OSPA Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 5,442,000	\$ 3,405,000	\$ 2,037,000	62.6%
MEPD	\$ 8,600,000	\$ 8,070,000	\$ 530,000	93.8%
2020-21 Total	\$ 14,042,000	\$ 11,475,000	\$ 2,567,000	81.7%

2021-22 OSPAF Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 6,237,000	\$ 3,502,000	\$ 2,735,000	56.1%
MEPD	\$ 9,511,000	\$ 9,286,000	\$ 225,000	97.6%
2021-22 Total	\$ 15,748,000	\$ 12,788,000	\$ 2,960,000	81.2%

2022-23 OSPAF Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 6,537,000	\$ 4,005,000	\$ 2,532,000	61.3%
MEPD	\$ 9,912,000	\$ 9,550,000	\$ 362,000	96.3%
2022-23 Total	\$ 16,449,000	\$ 13,555,000	\$ 2,894,000	82.4%

2023-24 OSPAF Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 6,752,000	\$ 4,893,000	\$ 1,859,000	72.5%
MEPD	\$ 10,207,000	\$ 9,317,000	\$ 890,000	91.3%
2023-24 Total	\$ 16,959,000	\$ 14,210,000	\$ 2,749,000	83.8%

2024-25 OSPAF Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 5,782,000	\$ 5,465,000	\$ 317,000	94.5%
MEPD	\$ 9,831,000	\$ 9,674,000	\$ 157,000	98.4%
2024-25 Total*	\$ 15,613,000	\$ 15,182,000	\$ 431,000	97.2%

*Reflects budget reductions pursuant to CS 4.05 Government CS 4.12 Vacancy Savings and Position Elimination Adjustment of the 2024 Budget Act.

2025-26 OSPAF Historical Fund Data

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Expenditures	Savings	Usage
MRMD	\$ 6,663,000	\$ 2,977,000	\$ 3,686,000	44.7%
MEPD	\$ 10,168,000	\$ 3,331,000	\$ 6,836,000	32.8%
2025-26 Total**	\$ 16,831,000	\$ 6,308,000	\$ 10,523,000	37.5%

**Expenditures through fiscal month 05.

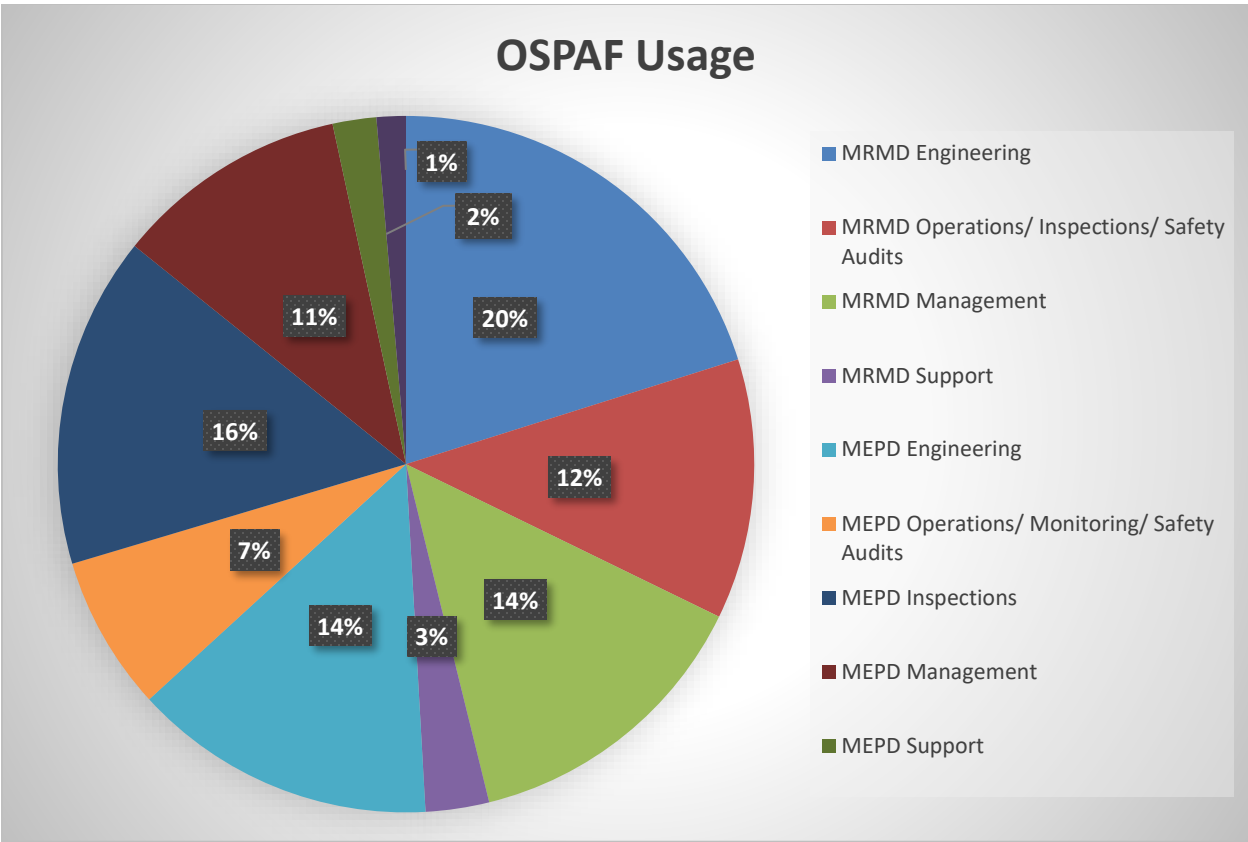
OSPAP Positions:

Fiscal Year	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26
OSPAP PYs	92.9	92.9	92.9	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0
MRMD	28.3	28.3	28.3	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0
MEPD	64.6	64.6	64.6	71.0	71.0	71.0	71.0
State Lands Commission	205.4	210.4	210.4	248.6*	248.6	252.6	252.6

*Change due to a Salary and Wages Realignment Drill done in FY 2021-22.

OSPAP Usage:

OSPAP Divisions	Amount
MRMD Engineering	\$1,851,341
MRMD Operations/ Inspections/ Safety Audits	\$1,110,969
MRMD Management	\$1,281,976
MRMD Support	\$270,978
MEPD Engineering	\$1,295,806
MEPD Operations/ Monitoring/ Safety Audits	\$660,805
MEPD Inspections	\$1,415,176
MEPD Management	\$996,643
MEPD Support	\$186,469
MEPD Planning & Regulations	\$124,836



Operations

Platform Esther

As of August 10, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., DCOR confirmed that Platform Esther was shut down. All wells are offline, and no new oil is being brought to surface. Well abandonments are in progress and expected to be complete by the end of Q1 2026. The gas pipeline will remain in operation for the time being to handle small amounts of non-commercial gas associated with ongoing well abandonments.

MOT Pipeline Safety and Preventative Maintenance Program

The Marine Oil Terminal (MOT) Pipeline Preventative Maintenance Program ensures the continued operational reliability of all pipelines used for over-the-water transfers of oil at the State's 35 Marine Oil Terminals. The Commission enforces Chapter 31F of the California Building Code, known as the Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance Standards (MOTEMS), and Article 5.5 Marine Terminal Pipeline regulations, and all applicable requirements and guidelines prescribed in API 570 are followed to provide protection of the public health and safety and of the environment by using the best achievable technology in providing for marine oil terminal oil pipeline integrity. To help achieve our goal of zero spills in the state's waters, the staff has completed conducting an in-depth audit of the state's 35 marine oil terminal pipelines in Q4

2025. The audit focused on pipeline integrity inspections, maintenance, repair, and record keeping.

Oil Transfer Monitoring and Inspection Statistics

January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, staff monitored 37 percent of oil transfers (1,801 of 4,924 transfers) conducted at the States 35 marine oil terminals (MOTs). During this same period, 697,790,813 barrels (29,307,214,146 gallons) of regulated product were transferred at MOTs in California. Each barrel is 42 gallons. Spills directly resulting from oil transfers during this time were just .00093006 barrels or 5 ounces. This is approximately 0.0000000013 percent of all barrels transferred. In the same time frame, staff conducted 92 spot, annual, and Training and Certification inspections at the States MOTs.

Regulations Update

Staff are preparing for rulemaking on Article 5.5 and Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance Standards (MOTEMS) for the 2026 calendar year.

Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance Standards

In 2024/2025, Commission staff reviewed numerous MOTEMS subsequent audit reports, new design build submittals, evaluations, drawings, inspections, Commission leasing, and CEQA documents from the state's 35 existing MOTs. Overall, MOTs in California continue to make substantial progress toward full MOTEMS compliance. Staff have also been involved with MOT renewable fuels projects, analyzing proposals for new marine terminals and upgrades to existing terminals to support their transition to renewable fuel production. Three of the state's marine oil terminals have transitioned to 100 percent renewable fuels to date.

Platform/Island Safety Inspection Program

Commission inspectors continued the Commission's inspection program of offshore platforms and islands and onshore production and processing sites servicing the facilities. The facilities inspected comprise four offshore platforms, four artificial islands, and onshore coastal petroleum production facilities. The inspections include comprehensive testing of all facility pollution prevention equipment and safety alarm, control, and shutdown devices to ensure functionality, accuracy, and reliability. Each facility is inspected monthly and on average over 2,500 individual items or devices are inspected or tested.

Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit Activities

The Commission's Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit program is used to verify regulatory compliance and conformance with industry standards of offshore drilling and production structures and onshore sites servicing the facilities. Safety system design, maintenance practices, spill prevention measures, equipment

integrity, operating procedures, and other safety management programs that are key safety elements in preventing accidents and spills in offshore oil and gas production are included in the Safety Audits. After field work and analysis are completed, an action item matrix is constructed listing findings prioritized by accident or pollution risk and setting timelines for resolution.

The Safety and Oil Spill Prevention Audit of the California Resources Corporation (CRC) Long Beach Unit (LBU) Island White oil production facility in Los Angeles County began in October 2025. The facility is one of four manmade islands producing oil in Long Beach harbor. It is anticipated that fieldwork will conclude in January 2026 and the Audit Report and Action Item matrix will be issued in March 2026.

The Safety Audit Team staff fieldwork on the CRC LBU Broadway and Mitchell processing facility (B&M) was completed in August 2025. The facility processes and ships oil production from the four manmade drilling and production islands in Long Beach harbor. The third-party electrical contractor engaged to evaluate code compliance and condition of the power distribution system completed fieldwork in October 2025 during a scheduled maintenance shutdown, and the Action Item matrix and Audit Report for the B&M facility were transmitted to CRC that month. No priority one action items, 18 priority two action items, and 101 priority three action items were identified. All 18 priority two action items have been corrected. Seventy-eight priority three action items remain outstanding and are expected to be resolved by the end of April 2026.

Pipeline Inspection and Spill Drill Program

Commission engineers enforce strict pipeline safety regulations that include annual inspections of the eleven oil and gas pipelines from the State's four offshore platforms, as well as inspections of the twenty-four pipelines from Federal OCS Platforms that traverse through state waters to shore. Staff also attend tabletop procedural drills and actual spill equipment and boom deployment drills during the year. In Q4 2025, staff reviewed and attended the following:

- Reviewed and documented the abandonment plan for DCOR 10-inch / 6-inch gas pipeline (Nov-2025)
- Attended DCOR tabletop spill drill (Nov-18-2025)
- Attended Freeport McMoRan (FMOG) tabletop spill drill (Nov-19-2025)
- Reviewed and documented the finalized Hondo and Harmony to shore pipelines external (ROV) inspection report (Nov-17-2025)
- Reviewed and documented the ILLI plan for Sable 20-inch oil pipeline from Harmony to shore (Dec-4-2025)
- Reviewed and documented the ILLI plan for CRC 12-inch oil pipeline from Emmy to shore (Dec-9-2025)

Structural/Facility Engineering Projects

Commission engineers continue to review and evaluate the structural adequacy of all platforms, causeways, and piers associated with the State offshore oil operations. Commission engineers also continue to review the annual offshore platform structural inspection reports for Platforms Holly, Emmy, Eva, and Esther. Level I reports are conducted annually, and the reports are usually distributed to staff in the fourth quarter (Q4) of the year with more in-depth Level II, III, and IV inspections performed every 5 years. Staff reviewed the corresponding above water and below water API survey reports for compliance/conformance with maintenance and safety requirements per API RP 2A and ASCE standards and provided engineering recommendations and on-site verification of any required repair and maintenance work.

Methane Emissions Reduction Program – CSLC Awarded nearly \$22 Million to Plug and Abandon Marginalized Wells

Since December 2023, Commission staff have been working on a \$22 million Department of Energy (DOE) grant awarded under the Inflation Reduction Act to mitigate methane emissions from marginal oil and gas wells as part of the [Methane Emissions Reduction Program \(Program\)](#).

Staff have been working with California Resources Corporation (CRC) to identify marginal oil and gas wells within CRC's operation that meet the grant Criteria. After multiple attempts, CRC identified five wells within West Wilmington that can be abandoned using MERP funds. Staff have obtained DOE's approval for the use of MERP funds for plugging these wells.

In the last quarter of 2025, all required permits to plug and abandon the five wells were received from California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM). CRC has scheduled the plug and abandonment of the five wells during the first and second quarters of 2026. The first scheduled abandonment will start on January 20, 2026, and the last of the five will be plugged and abandoned in April 2026. On January 6, 2026, pre-abandonment methane measurements were collected on the five wells according to the Grant requirements. Staff will continue to work with CRC and CalGEM to explore other opportunities where MERP funds can be used for P&A of other wells with Methane leakage throughout California.

Analysis of Impacts to Public Trust Resources from Offshore Oil/Gas Pipeline Leases

On August 15, 2024, the Commission released a solicitation for consultant services to prepare an Analysis of Impacts to Public Trust Resources and Values (APTR) for 11 offshore oil and gas pipeline leases. The 9 leases include all leases for offshore oil and gas pipelines under the Commission's jurisdiction that

transport oil and gas from the offshore platforms in state and federal waters. Because of the age of the pipelines, spill risks, the climate crisis, and the public's evolving needs, the Commission believes it is in the State's best interest to conduct an up-to-date evaluation of the pipelines' spill risks and impacts to Public Trust resources, based on the best available science and current understanding of California's environmental, economic, and social settings. The APTR will inform the Commission in its review of the 9 pipeline leases and future lease applications for oil and gas pipelines and will include the following information and analyses:

- 1) Pipeline integrity and spill risks
- 2) Potential impacts to coastal and marine ecosystems, economies, tribal cultural resources and sacred landscapes, and underserved and disadvantaged communities
- 3) Consistency with the State's efforts to address the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning towards clean energy resources, while continuing to serve the State's energy needs
- 4) Consistency with the public's current needs, uses, and values of the coastal and marine environments
- 5) Alignment with existing planning processes for phased decommissioning of the oil and gas platforms and pipelines in federal waters
- 6) Alternatives to pipelines and the associated risks, impacts, emissions, and effects on the State's energy supplies
- 7) Recommendations to guide future decision-making for the offshore oil and gas pipeline leases in consideration of all the above information

In December 2024, staff selected Industrial Economics, Inc. to conduct the study and prepare the APTR. While contracting was initially delayed pending funding availability, the process has resumed after staff confirmed a funding source. Staff and the consultant are now finalizing the project scope and contract, with work expected to begin in Fall 2025.

The Commission issued a 3-year moratorium on accepting and considering new lease applications for new or existing offshore oil and gas pipelines until the APTR is complete.

Rincon Decommissioning Project

Staff released the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Rincon Phase 2 Decommission Project on July 16, 2024. The Commission subsequently certified the EIR at its August 29, 2024 meeting and approved the Rincon Phase 3 Decommissioning Project to undertake the work ([Staff Report 71](#)). After the EIR was certified and the project approved, the Commission obtained control of the Coast Ranch parcel adjacent to the existing state-owned onshore facility, requiring preparation of an addendum to the EIR, which was adopted by the

Commission on November 7, 2025 ([Staff Report 55](#)). Project activities will be completed during Phase 3, which will likely commence in late 2026 after all necessary permits are obtained and a contractor is hired to perform the work. For more detailed information, please see the Commission's dedicated website for the [Rincon Decommissioning Project](#).

Platform Holly Decommissioning Project

All 30 wells have been abandoned, all well conductors have been removed, and the platform has transitioned into a cold-stacked caretaker phase while the CEQA process is completed. Platform Holly has been powered off and in caretaker status since November 2024 with the remaining navigation and safety systems solar powered. Staff visit the platform regularly to maintain navigation and safety precautions and monitor the Platform's condition. Technical studies supporting the coming Environmental Impact Report are underway and staff has issued a [Notice of Preparation in 2026](#) which will initiate the CEQA process. That will be followed by a draft Environmental Impact Report for public review and comment.

Legacy Well Remediation and Coastal Hazards Program

The Commission, through its [Coastal Hazard and Legacy Well Remediation Program](#), continues to investigate old legacy wells along Summerland Beach for hydrocarbon discharge. The Commission's SB 44 Legacy Wells and Coastal Hazards Program provides up to \$2 million per year to remediate legacy oil wells and coastal hazards to protect coastal resources, maximize public access to the beach and coastline, and reduce the presence of oil at Summerland Beach and other similarly situated locations.

Staff also participates in a quarterly seep working group meeting convened by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and UC Davis. The working group shares information about the oil seep research work they have been doing, including preparing an oil seep map and oil fingerprinting to determine a source when a sheen is reported. This work dovetails with the Commission's Coastal Hazards and Legacy Oil and Gas Well Removal and Remediation Program.

The current contract for SB 44 well re-abandonments was set to expire on June 29, 2025, but after an internal review, staff concluded the best option was to extend the contract and it is now set to expire on June 28, 2028. The Commission is still in the process of preparing a separate solicitation to retain a consultant to conduct seep studies consistent with SB 44.

During the abandonment of two legacy wells in the first quarter of 2025, frequent trips from the beach to the staging area caused damage to the ramp leading to the beach. The Commission planned and completed a ramp repair project in September 2025. Due to heavy rain in November and December

2025, severe erosion along the sides of the ramp occurred, and repairs (filling with sand and compacting) were completed in January 2026.

Prevention First Symposium

Current budgetary and resource restrictions have paused planning for the next proposed Prevention First Symposium.

OSPR Regulations & Legislative Update

(as of February 2, 2026)

To be added to the distribution list to receive notification of regulation workshop information, proposed regulations and hearing notices, visit OSPR's [Laws and Regulations web page](#).

Regulations

Harmonization of Facility Contingency Plan Regulations

An effort to update and consolidate the marine and inland facility contingency plan regulations.

- To consist of updating and focusing facility requirements. Vessel contingency plan harmonization will follow at a later time.
- Status: Second round of informal scoping sessions to be conducted this month.

Vessel Inspections

A cleanup of regulations related to the Administrator's ability to inspect vessels engaged in transfer operations [Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 845.2].

- Status: Commencement of rulemaking anticipated in February.

Articulated Tug Barge (ATB)/Integrated Tug Barge (ITB) Requirements in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbors

Revisions to the Tank Vessel Escort requirements for the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor are necessary to include specificity for the combinations of tug and tank barge based on a mechanical connection system [Title 14 CCR sections 851.20 - 851.32].

- The change would allow ATBs/ITBs to operate under the same requirements as tankers for the purposes of tug escort assistance while transiting in the LA/LB harbor.
- This change request has been initiated by the LA/LB Harbor Safety Committee (HSC).
- The HSC says this will improve vessel traffic safety conditions in the harbor.
- Status: Commencement of rulemaking anticipated by summer/fall 2026.

Legislation

Unless otherwise indicated, the following provides an update of these bills since shared at the last TAC meeting on October 2, 2025.

AB 274 – Abandoned and Derelict Vessels: Inventory

Introduced by Assembly Member Ransom, and last amended on 3/26/25, this bill would:

- Require California State Lands Commission, by January 1, 2027, to create an inventory of all abandoned and derelict commercial and recreational vessels on or in waters within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, including commercially navigable waters.
 - Inventory may be conducted by means of aerial survey from available data collected from federal, state, and local agencies or other data.
- Adds the following definitions: Commercial vessel, commercially navigable waters, and recreational vessel.

Status: Did not move out of the Assembly in 2025.

SB 237 – Oil Spill Prevention: Gasoline Specifications; Suspension; California Environmental Quality Act: Exemptions: County of Kern: Transportation Fuels Assessment: Coastal Resources

Authored by Senators Grayson, Hurtado, McNerney, Richardson, and Assembly Member Wilson, as amended 9/10/25 and signed into law 9/19/25, this bill:

- Requires OSPR, after soliciting public input, to review and revise, if appropriate, the criteria and formulas for calculating reasonable-worst case spill volumes and financial responsibility amounts for facilities.
 - To occur at least once every 10 years commencing 1/15/27
 - Revisions to be implemented through the rulemaking process pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.
- Requires OSPR to post on its website, within seven business days, specified information of all applications for certificates of financial responsibility submitted by facility owners or operators.
- Prohibits certain oil pipelines that have been idle, inactive, or out of service for five or more years from restarting without passing a spike hydrostatic testing program established and conducted by the State Fire Marshal.
 - Requires the State Fire Marshal to develop regulations to implement this program.
- In addition to mandates for OSPR and the State Fire Marshal, also includes mandates for California Energy Commission, CalGEM, California Air Resources Board, and the County of Kern not related to oil spill prevention.

Status: Signed into law 9/19/25. Note: SB 237 replaced and duplicated the oil spill prevention provisions of SB 542.

***NEW* [SB 575](#) California Sea Otter Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund**

Introduced by Senator Laird and as amended on 1/15/26, this bill:

- Extends the California Sea Otter Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund through 2034.
- Allows California taxpayers to voluntarily designate/check-off continuous contributions to the fund on their tax returns.
- Funds to be allocated to the Franchise Tax Board and State Controller for reimbursement of costs. The remaining amounts are to be split 50/50 to the Coastal Conservancy (CSCC) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife for purposes of researching, investigating, enforcing, and preventing sea otter mortality.
 - OSPR's Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center is the primary care and research facility of sea otters.
- Status: In committee process.

End