**California Department of Fish and Wildlife News Release**

**January 3, 2014**

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**Fishery closure lifted in Ventura Harbor**

State officials have lifted a fishing and shellfish harvesting closure in the Ventura Harbor that stemmed from a November marine oil spill incident.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), in consultation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), rescinded the closure after testing determined there is no ongoing significant oil-related health risk associated with fishing activities or consumption of finfish or shellfish from the harbor.

The closure was initially enacted following the Nov. 18 incident involving commercial fishing vessel *Royal Pacific*. The vessel spilled red dye diesel into the harbor after it allided with another fishing vessel and sustained a puncture to its fuel tank. The source of the spill was stopped shortly after the incident, but as much as 300 gallons entered the water.

OEHHA is the science arm of the California Environmental Protection Agency and works with CDFW and other agencies to conduct seafood safety evaluations.

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