

THIS IS A DRILL

Talking Points from 2pm May 21, 2014 News Conference

Federal - Captain Sean Mahoney, Sector San Diego Commander, United States Coast Guard

Federal and State officials are working closely with Chevron to ensure the safety of all personnel involved, the safety of the environment, as well as containing the spill, cleaning up and protecting any possible affected areas.

The Coast Guard is currently on scene with the Coast Guard cutters Halibut, Edisto, as well as two 45 foot response boats and auxiliary patrol boats to enforce the safety zone around the oil tanker.

Sector San Diego also dispatched a coastguard helicopter to medically evacuate the three crew members who were injured.

Those people are now being treated in a Carlsbad hospital.

A full investigation will be launched to determine the cause of the incident, however the focus right now is on making sure the area is safe and on protection of the environment.

State - Captain Mark Crossland, California Department of Fisheries and Wildlife

As the State On-scene Coordinator my role is to work with the Coast Guard, Chevron and local government representatives to ensure that everything possible is done to clean up this spill.

Response Goals and Objectives

Every effort will be made to minimize damage to the environment including taking care of oiled wildlife.

Resources at risk include environmentally sensitive shorelines, sea birds, marine mammals, and kelp beds.

The good news is that we have an effective tool called the Area Contingency Plan to guide the early states of the response.

This plan lists priorities for carrying out initial spill response activities during the first 24 hours, in an effort to protect the most environmentally sensitive areas.

Some of the environmental sensitive sites at this location are: San Mateo Creek, San Onofre Creek, Batiqitos Lagoon.

Feeding, breeding and nesting are just a few reasons that make these areas sensitive.

Regarding wildlife, the state of California works with the Oiled Wildlife Care Network to rescue and care for oiled wildlife during oil spills. At this time the public is asked not to try to rescue injured wildlife. Instead they should report any sightings to OWCN at 877-823-6929.

The third element of this response is to determine why the spill occurred in the first place so we can prevent similar events in the future.

### Spill Response Assessment

Although the response is going as well as can be expected, the fact is spilled oil is difficult to contain and collect once it's in the water.

Therefore, there likely will be environmental impacts including oiled birds and oiled shoreline.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of Spill Prevention and Response will be here as long as it takes to clean up this spill and return this area to its pre-spill conditions.

Oil is a toxic substance and only those with appropriate training are authorized to clean up oil. Volunteers and the public should avoid any oil encountered as this may hamper clean-up efforts. For the safety of both the public and the animals, only trained wildlife specialists will handle oiled wildlife.

For more information you can go to [CalSpillWatch.DFG.CA.GOV](http://CalSpillWatch.DFG.CA.GOV)

Chevron - Mike Sitts, Chevron

Thank you for joining us today. I am Mike Sitts, Chevron's representative on the Unified Command.

Chevron deeply regrets that this incident occurred and is working with the U.S. Coast Guard and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to respond to it.

Safety is always our first priority. Unfortunately we had some of our employees injured today and our thoughts are with them and their families.

We take these incidents very seriously and we are deploying significant resources to safely respond to the incident and protect people and the environment.

We are fully cooperating with the investigation of the incident to determine the cause.

We understand that this has the potential to impact on the local economy. Any economic claims can be filed on 1 (800) 249 2812.

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Related Drill Links:

U.S. Coast Guard

California Office of Spill Prevention and Response

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