



State of California -The Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
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EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



August 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Under the direction of Governor Brown the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's, Office of Spill Prevention and Response's (OSPR) authority for responding to petroleum spills increased to statewide. As OSPR begins implementation, we would like to meet with local government representatives to discuss the program, the roll out plans and opportunities for collaboration.

The oil boom in North Dakota and Canada triggered a significant shift in oil deliveries in California. The California Energy Commission reported that oil by rail transport increased from 1.2 million barrels in 2012 to 6.3 million barrels in 2013. Many types of crude oil travel by rail, but the increased production in Canada (tar sands) and North Dakota (Bakken crude oil) means California could see an increase of as much as 143 million barrels (or 6 billion gallons) coming through the state annually.

These trains, some longer than 100 cars, traverse much of California before reaching their destinations in the San Francisco Bay Area, Santa Barbara County, Los Angeles County, and Bakersfield. Each car in the train has a capacity of 30,000 gallons, which presents a serious threat to California's citizens, natural resources and waterways.

California has a robust marine spill response program, but no state program existed for the inland areas where oil already moved by pipeline and now increasingly by rail. The OSPR program now covers all state surface waters at risk from oil spills from any source, and this expansion provides critical administrative funding for industry preparedness, spill response, and continued coordination with local, state and federal government along with industry and non-governmental organizations. More information is on the program is available at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/About/>.

As an organization, we long ago recognized that spill response requires collaboration, and local government is one of our most important partners in planning and response.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

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If you would like to schedule a presentation or meeting with OSPR, please contact Alexia Retallack at (916) 322-1683, or alexia.retallack@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas M. Cullen, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" being the most prominent.

Thomas M. Cullen, Jr.
Administrator
Office of Spill Prevention and Response