

OSPR News Release

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For Immediate Release

Petroleum Spill in Milpitas

The State Department of Fish and Game's Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) is responding to a diesel spill into Penitencia Creek in Milpitas. The quantity and cause of the spill are under investigation. A tractor-trailer truck punctured one of its fuel tanks, and released an unknown quantity into a storm drain at Watkins Motor Lines, Inc., in San Jose.

Milpitas Fire Department staff were among the first responders, and began efforts to stop the petroleum's movement toward the San Francisco Bay. A professional oil spill clean-up firm has been contracted to send a vacuum truck to the site. The discovery point was about three miles from the main culvert that flows into the bay.

There have been reports of oiled ducks in the area, and a young green heron has been recovered. The San Jose Fire Department took the oiled heron to the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley. OSPR has activated its Oiled Wildlife Care Network, to rescue, clean, treat and rehabilitate any wildlife that get into the spilled petroleum. The International Bird Rescue Research Center in Berkeley is responding.

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