

Oil Spill Response

British Petroleum – Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, Gulf Coast (updated June 2010)

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) toxicologists continue to be a resource for states affected by the Deep Water Horizon spill and have consulted with Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida on fisheries and beach closures. OEHHA staff have joined staff from other state agencies, including the Department of Fish and Game, in providing expertise gained from oil spills and seeps on the California coast.

For real time information and forecasts on the spill, including surface oil trajectories, locations of incident command, and marine mammal sightings, please visit NOAA's interactive map of the [Deepwater Horizon oil spill response](#).

For real time information about wildlife rescue efforts, please visit the [Oiled Wildlife Care Network](#).

The Dubai Star Oil Spill (October 2009)

On October 30, 2009 an estimated 422 gallons of bunker fuel was unaccounted for during the refueling operations of the tanker vessel Dubai Star three miles south of the Bay Bridge. A Unified Command consisting of The O'Brien's Group, California Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response, and the U.S. Coast Guard was established following the incident to oversee cleanup efforts.

As of November 18, approximately \$7.2 million has been spent on the response, paid for by the responsible party. At the height of the response, more than 300 people were working in the field and the command center.

OEHHA (http://www.oehha.ca.gov/public_info/emergency/oilspill.html) has provided information about fisheries closures and public health effects of the oil spill.

Cosco Busan Oil Spill (November 2007)

On Wednesday, November 7, a Chinese container ship, the Cosco Busan, struck a support tower of the Bay Bridge. The bridge was not damaged, but the ship released an estimated 58,000 gallons of fuel oil into the San Francisco Bay. The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) determined that the spill affected waters west of the Carquinez Bridge and a three-mile-wide stretch of the Pacific Coast between the Point Reyes Lighthouse in Marin County and San Pedro Point in San Mateo County.

In response, Governor Schwarzenegger suspended all fishing and directed OEHHA, in consultation with the California Department of Public Health, to make a determination about the health risk posed by eating fish and other seafood caught in the impacted area. After extensive sampling and analysis, OEHHA found no increase in contaminants in seafood caught in the oil spill area except in mussels. The fishing suspension will be lifted December 1. However, OEHHA will be releasing a fish advisory for mussels.

[Executive Order S-14-07](#)

Information about safety at area beaches, guidelines for sport fishers, an interim fish advisory, and sampling and analysis of affected fish, crabs, and mussels are available at the [OEHHA website](#).

[Report on the safety of consuming fish and shellfish](#) from areas impacted by the M/V Cosco Busan oil spill in San Francisco Bay, California.

Information about the areas impacted by the oil spill, beach closures, and efforts to rescue wildlife are available at the [Department of Fish and Game website](#).

By the numbers (11/27/07):

- Counties affected – 5

- Personnel responding – 881
- Responder injuries to date – 22
- Total oil discharged – 53,570 to 58,000 gallons
- Cubic yards of oily solids recovered – 2438
- Live oiled birds captured to date – 1059
- Deceased birds collected – 1591
- Birds released to date – 193
- Beaches closed – 18
- Personnel at the Oiled Wildlife Care Network – 100 volunteers and 19 paid staff