

An aerial photograph of a coastal area. In the foreground, the water is a deep blue-green color with visible ripples and some darker patches. In the middle ground, a sandy beach runs horizontally across the frame. Behind the beach is a low, vegetated dune or cliffside. In the background, there is a flat, open landscape with some sparse vegetation and a small blue structure on the right side. The text "Refugio Oil Spill Response & Recovery" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Refugio Oil Spill Response & Recovery

Incident Summary

- **On 19 May 2015 at 1243, report to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services**
- **The report indicated a pipeline rupture had occurred near Refugio State Beach in Santa Barbara County, CA**
- **The responsible party (Plains All American Pipeline) estimated the total release at 500 barrels (21,000 gallons) of crude oil on the shoreside of Hwy 101 which then flowed into the Pacific Ocean**
- **23x7 mile (138 square mile) fishery closure**

Incident Summary (con't)

- **Initial reports estimated a sheen to be 3.5 NM along the beach and 50-100 yards into the water**
- **Revised worst-case release: 101,000 gal (2,400 bbl)**
- **On May 19, Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency for Santa Barbara County**
- **On June 5, Governor Brown issued a subsequent Executive Order to Further Expedite Oil Spill Recovery Efforts in Santa Barbara County**

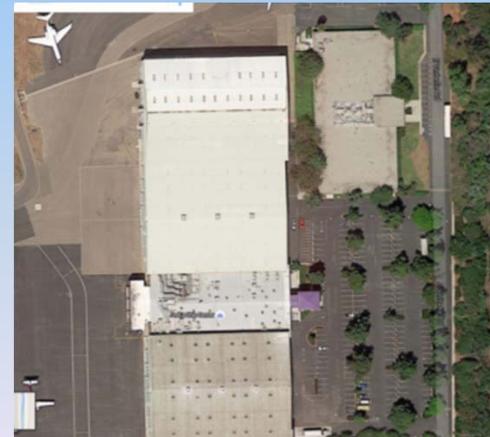
Location of Incident

(Approximately 25 miles west of Santa Barbara)



Google

Incident Command Post



Oil Release ~ 1300hrs on May 19, 2015



Location of release

Highway 101

Union Pacific RR

Culvert leading to Refugio State Park Beach

5/25/2015



Shoreline below the cliff



Photo Courtesy of CDFW-OSPR



05/19/2015 15:33

Refugio State Beach
Photo-Courtesy of NOAA

Significant Environmental, Cultural, Historical & Social Concerns

- 2 Marine Protected Areas (Kashtayit & Naples)
- 23-mile by 7-mile fishery closure
- Wildlife impacts
 - birds, mammals, Grunion Spawning
- **Chumash Indian Tribe**
 - 2,000 - 5,000 members coastal members
 - Inhabitants of SB Coast for **over 13,000 years**
- Varied Beach composition & environments:
 - Cobble, Rock, Sand, Cliffs, Kelp, Marinas, Parks



Areas of Special Interest/Concerns



Volunteers

Extensive Fisheries Closure Zone

Cultural and Tribal Integration

Wildlife Operation - marine mammals

NGO and community involvement



At Maximum Effort

- **Personnel**
 - 1287 in field
 - 129 in ICP
- **Vessels on water**
 - 21 skimmers
 - 2 support barges
- **6,000 ft boom deployed**
- **5 SCAT teams deployed**
- **23 x 7 mile fishery closure**
- **1000-ft temporary flight restriction within a 5-mile radius of Refugio Beach**
 - Daily responder overflights



Unified Command Established

USCG Sector LA-LB Sector Commander, EPA Region 9, CA DFW, Santa Barbara Co OEM, Plains All American

