

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS thousands of barrels of crude oil were released from a pipeline into the Pacific Ocean approximately five miles off of the coast of Huntington Beach in Orange County in federal waters; and

WHEREAS the United States Coast Guard initiated an emergency response effort to locate, confine, and attempt to remove the oil from the water and mitigate further damage; and

WHEREAS the oil release has impacted and continues to threaten the environment and marine life in the area, including marine mammals, birds, and fish; and

WHEREAS the oil has reached the Huntington Beach shoreline and threatens numerous jurisdictions along the coast, resulting in beach closures; and

WHEREAS I have directed state agencies to undertake immediate and aggressive action to clean up and mitigate the effects of this oil spill; and

WHEREAS the Office of Emergency Services' State Operations Center is activated and the Office is coordinating the activities of state agencies and departments in response to this event; and

WHEREAS the Department of Fish and Wildlife – Office of Spill Prevention and Response is coordinating vessels, aircraft, and personnel on scene, is performing on-water recovery, booming operations, and other response functions, and has deployed numerous cleanup teams to the impacted areas; and

WHEREAS state, local, and federal governmental entities remain closely coordinated in response to this event; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the oil spill, by reason of its magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the damage caused by the oil spill; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the oil spill.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Orange County due to the oil spill.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services, the State Emergency Plan, and the California State Oil Spill Contingency Plan. Also, all residents are to heed the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety and to minimize further impacts to the environment.
2. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public health and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of this oil spill. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of the oil spill.
3. The Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response shall continue to take appropriate actions to assist in the cleanup and mitigate the impacts of the oil spill, and to hold the responsible parties accountable for the cleanup and mitigation of the environmental and fiscal impacts of the oil spill.
4. The Department of Parks and Recreation, California Volunteers, California State Lands commission, the Department for Forestry and Fire Prevention, and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment shall, in coordination with the Office of Emergency Services and the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, utilize all available resources to support the response, cleanup, and mitigation of the oil spill.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 4th day of October 2021.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State