

EcoSystems Management Associates, Inc.

Oceanographic, Geophysics and Underwater Engineering Services

26 March 2015

Statewide Geophysical Survey Coordinator
California State Lands Commission
Mineral Resources Management Division
200 Oceangate, 12th Floor
Long Beach, CA, 90802-4331

Subject: Proposed High-Resolution Geophysical Survey Offshore of Oceanside

Dear Statewide Geophysical Survey Coordinator:

Please find attached our pre-survey requirements for a geophysical survey offshore of the San Luis Rey River in Oceanside, CA. The acoustic source will consist of a small 300-joule boomer similar to sources used by the U.S. Geological Survey. To improve the signal quality and attenuate the water bottom multiple, a 24-channel hydrophone streamer array will be used to record the reflected acoustic wave energy. The purpose of this survey is to find a suitable area for the placement of a subsurface intake system for a desalination program.

Figure 1 shows the location of the survey. The survey area will occur offshore of the mouth of the San Luis Rey River in Oceanside, CA. Survey operations will be conducted from just beyond the surf zone to about 1 mile offshore and approximately 1 mile alongshore. Twenty five (25) survey lines will be conducted (Table 1).

Survey operations will be conducted from April 28-May 1, 2015. Operations will be conducted from the survey vessel “Theory”, a 2008 Armstrong marine aluminum catamaran. Survey operations will be conducted during daylight hours only.

Equipment will include the following:

1. 300 Joule Boomer system, including the Boomer Control Box and towed sonographic delivery system;
2. 24-channel, high-resolution GeoEelTM digital streamer hydrophone array;
3. Geometrics CNT-2TM controller data-acquisition system with nominal 240-channel recording capability; and
4. Trimble GPS antenna and differential GPS receiver.

The 300 Joule Boomer provides sub-bottom seismic energy penetration of as much as 100-300 milliseconds (ms) (about 75 to 250 m) in soft sediments. The typical bandwidth achieved is 400-1200 hertz (Hz) for sub-meter resolution (vertical imaging), with a center frequency of 677 Hz. It is a typical broadband acoustical source that uses high-voltage electrical discharge in a coil to repel an aluminum plate within a rubber diaphragm, which creates repeating acoustic signals. The boomer and the streamer hydrophone array will be towed at a shallow depth, ~0.3-m (1-ft) below the sea surface. Detailed equipment specifications for the 300

Joule Boomer is in Exhibit F.

Return signals (echoes) from sub-bottom strata return to a hydro-phone streamer array being towed by the ship. The streamer has a non-toxic silicone ballast fluid in a clear polyurethane jacket to satisfy environmental regulations. ECO-M utilizes a 24-bit analog-to-digital recorder, the Geometrics CNT-2TM controller data-acquisition system, with nominal 240-channel recording capability, which provides the requisite resolution for the multichannel hydrophone arrays.

Enclosed in this application you will find: 1) Exhibit G, 2) Exhibit C, 3) Exhibit E, 4) Exhibit F, 5) Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan (which covers the MM BIO 1-9 specifications listed in Exhibit H), 6) the Oil Spill Contingency Plan (which covers the MM HAZ-1 –3 specifications listed in Exhibit H).

Sincerely,



ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

Hany Elwany, Ph.D.
President

Attachments (Electronic):

- a. Exhibit G checklist
- b. Exhibit C
- c. Exhibit E
- d. Exhibit F
- e. Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan
- f. Oil Spill Contingency Plan

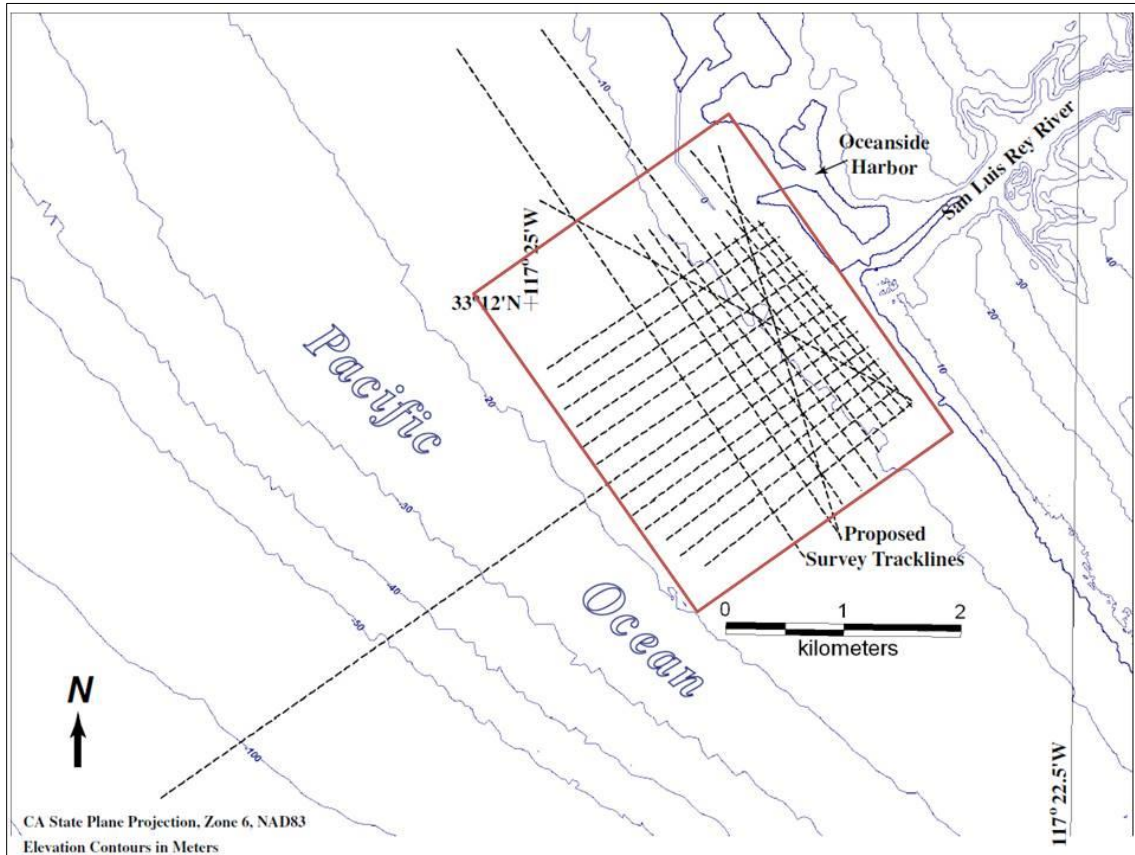


Figure 1. Map showing location of the proposed high-resolution geophysical survey offshore of Oceanside. The red rectangle outlines the survey area. The black dashed lines show the proposed tracklines. The three long lines (one perpendicular to shore and two parallel to shore) are designed to tie/correlate to other data -- two lines (shore-parallel) tie to SANDAG boomer profiles for correlation with stratigraphy from prior investigations, one line (shore-perpendicular) follows an older (1979) USGS deep penetration profile which will help to tie stratigraphy and structure from other published research. The two oblique tie-lines will provide additional confidence in tying the interpreted sediment layers for the 3D mapping of the basin.

Table 1. GPS coordinates (NAD83) for the start and end points of each survey line.

Line	Long Start	Lat Start	Long End	Lat End
SLR-001	-117.4032	33.18339	-117.387	33.193939
SLR-002	-117.405	33.18401	-117.388	33.194978
SLR-003	-117.4061	33.18505	-117.389	33.1959
SLR-004	-117.4077	33.18571	-117.39	33.196697
SLR-005	-117.4087	33.18657	-117.391	33.197493
SLR-006	-117.4096	33.18761	-117.392	33.198463
SLR-007	-117.4445	33.16812	-117.393	33.199363
SLR-008	-117.4115	33.18976	-117.394	33.200125
SLR-009	-117.4126	33.19086	-117.395	33.201441
SLR-010	-117.4131	33.19215	-117.396	33.202272
SLR-011	-117.414	33.19329	-117.397	33.203238
SLR-012	-117.4145	33.19468	-117.398	33.204454
SLR-013	-117.4154	33.19586	-117.399	33.205365
SLR-014	-117.3928	33.18516	-117.402	33.210237
SLR-015	-117.4161	33.20659	-117.387	33.194065
SLR-020	-117.3993	33.20546	-117.387	33.193642
SLR-021	-117.4046	33.20989	-117.388	33.193372
SLR-022	-117.4018	33.20608	-117.389	33.192921
SLR-023	-117.4012	33.20433	-117.39	33.192404
SLR-024	-117.4027	33.20466	-117.39	33.190808
SLR-025	-117.4161	33.21754	-117.39	33.189041
SLR-026	-117.4062	33.20452	-117.391	33.188278
SLR-027	-117.4077	33.20482	-117.393	33.187446
SLR-028	-117.4089	33.20447	-117.393	33.185278
SLR-029	-117.4226	33.21624	-117.396	33.183946
Datum in NAD83				

EXHIBIT G

California State Lands Commission Presurvey Notice Requirements for Permittees to Conduct Geophysical Survey Activities

All parts of the Presurvey Notice must be adequately filled out and submitted to the CSLC staff a minimum of twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the proposed survey date to ensure adequate review and approval time for CSLC staff. Note that one or more of the items may require the Permittee to plan well in advance in order to obtain the necessary documentation prior to the Notice due date (e.g., permits from other State or Federal entities).

Please use the boxes below to verify that all the required documents are included in the Presurvey Notice. If "No" is checked for any item, please provide an explanation in the space provided. If additional space is needed, please attach separate pages.

Yes	No	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geophysical Survey Permit Exhibit F
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permit(s) or Authorization from other Federal or State agencies (if applicable) Explanation: _____ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21-Day Written Notice of Survey Operations to Statewide Geophysical Coordinator/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harbormaster and Dive Shop Notifications Explanation: _____ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan Explanation: _____ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil Spill Contingency Plan Explanation: _____ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Notification of Geophysical Survey Equipment Used Explanation: _____ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Verification of Equipment Service and/or Maintenance (no older than 12 months; must verify sound output) Explanation: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permit(s) or Authorization from California Department of Fish and Wildlife for surveys in or affecting Marine Protected Area(s) (if applicable) Explanation: <u>Survey area is away (~22 miles) from the nearest MPA.</u>

NOTE: CSLC staff will also require verification that current biological information was obtained and transmitted as outlined in Section 5 of this permit

EXHIBIT C

ENGINE TUNING, ENGINE CERTIFICATION, AND FUELS

Survey operations will be conducted by the Survey Vessel Theory (Figure 1). This vessel is owned by Point B Marine Services LLC. This vessel is a 2008 Armstrong marine aluminum catamaran measuring 37 feet. Its main method of propulsion is through two Cummins QSB 5.9 liter 350 HP commercial diesel engines with ZF 280 transmissions. This vessel has CARB Tier 2 certified diesel engines (Figures 2 and 3). At cruising speed (25 knots), this vessel burns approximately 30 gallons per hour. Therefore, on an 8-hour day of survey operations, fuel consumption would be 240 gallons maximum per day. It is expected fuel consumption will be much less than this, as survey operations require a vessel speed of approximately 2 knots. Since this is a Tier 2-certified engine and less than 585 gallons of fuel will be used per day, emissions do not exceed the daily NOx emissions of 100 pounds per day.



Figure 1. Survey Vessel Theory

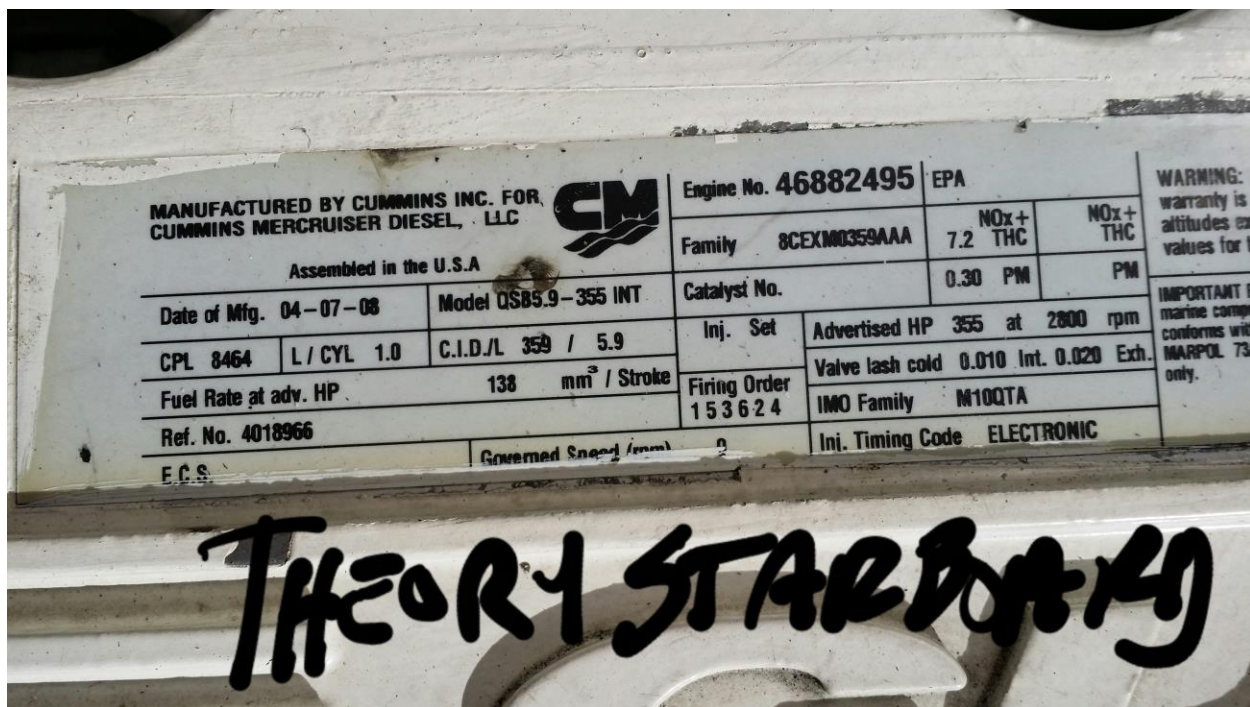


Figure 2. Theory starboard engine plate.

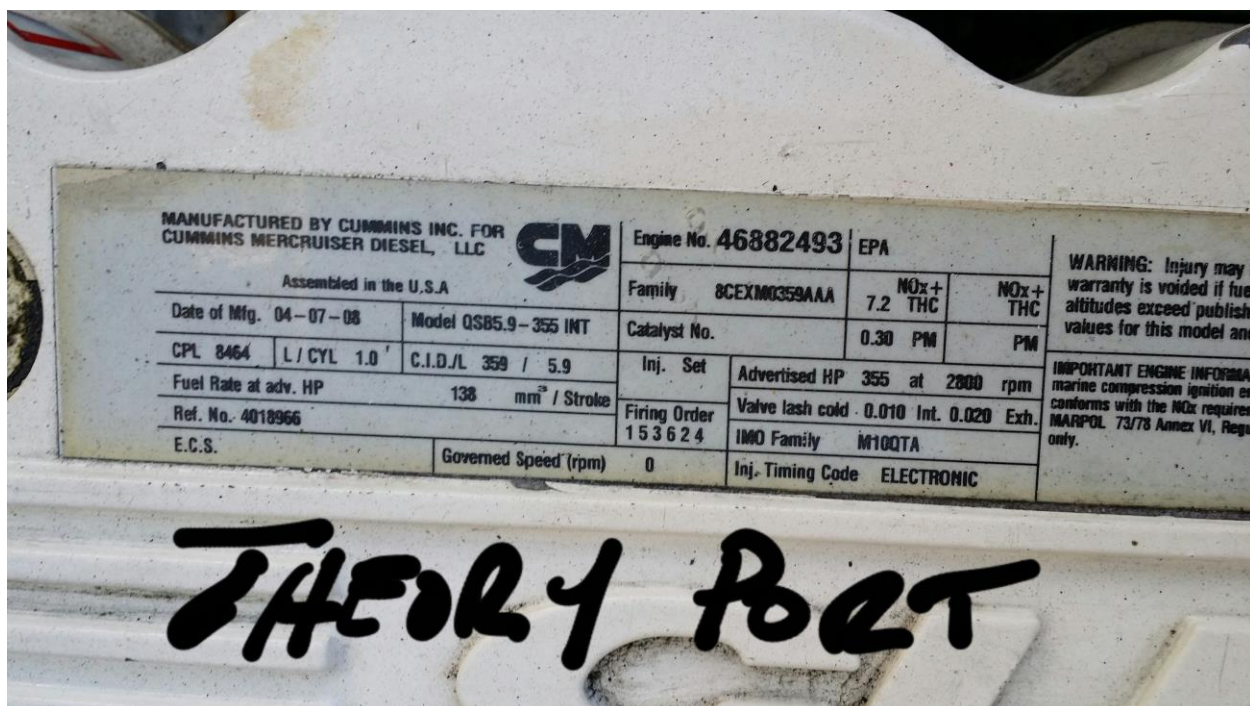
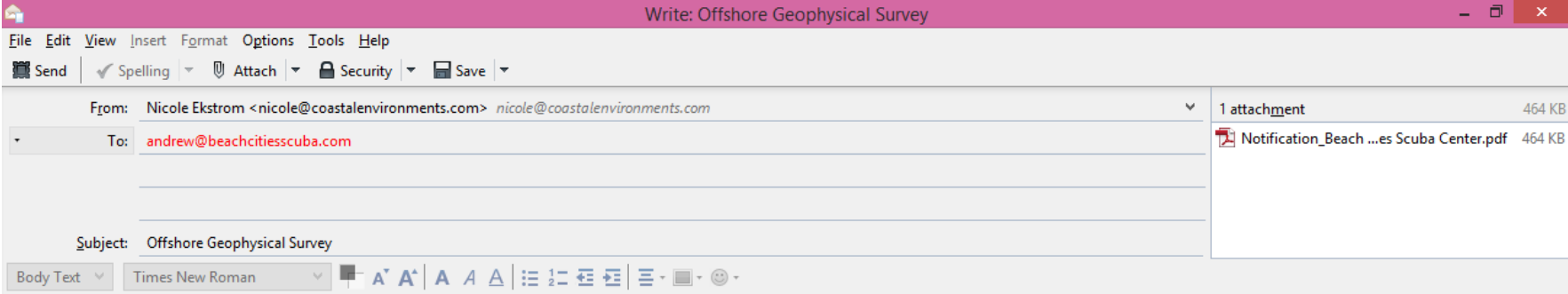


Figure 3. Theory port engine plate.

Exhibit E

Confirmation of Pre-Notification



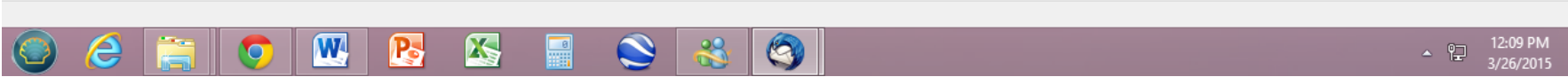
Andrew,

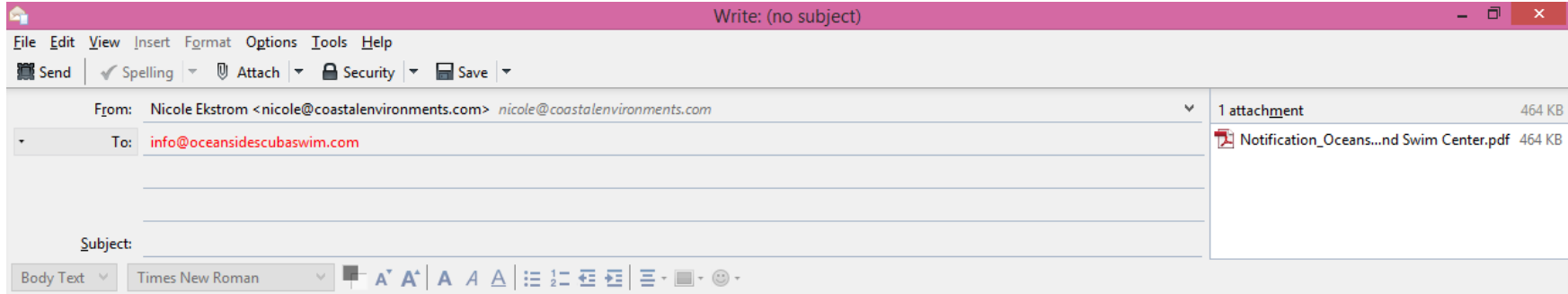
Attached is a notification for an upcoming geophysical survey offshore of Oceanside. Per our Offshore Geophysical Survey Permit Program (OGPP) requirements, we are sending this notification to inform potential recreational divers of our survey activities.

Feel free to email me if you have any questions about this survey.

Sincerely

--
Nicole Ekstrom
Coastal Environments
2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E
La Jolla, CA, 92037
858-459-0008
nicole@coastalenvironments.com





Dear Oceanside Scuba and Swim Center,

Attached is a notification for an upcoming geophysical survey offshore of Oceanside. Per our Offshore Geophysical Survey Permit Program (OGPP) requirements, we are sending this notification to inform potential recreational divers of our survey activities.

Feel free to email me if you have any questions about this survey.

Sincerely

--
Nicole Ekstrom
Coastal Environments
2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E
La Jolla, CA, 92037
858-459-0008
nicole@coastalenvironments.com

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U.S. Postal Service™
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT
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OCEANSIDE CA 92054 92056

Postage	\$	\$0.70
Certified Fee		\$3.30
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)		\$0.00
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)		\$0.00
Total Postage & Fees	\$	\$4.00



Sent To Oceanside Harbor Patrol

Street & Apt. No.,
 or PO Box No. 4927 Oceanside Blvd

City, State, ZIP+4 Oceanside CA 92056

EXHIBIT F

PRESURVEY NOTIFICATION FORM

Applicant/Permittee's Mailing Address		Date:	25 March 2015	
Ecosystems Management Associates	Jurisdiction:	Federal	State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both
2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E	If State: Permit #PRC		8536.9	
La Jolla, CA, 92037	Region:		Statewide	
	Area:			

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY PERMIT

Check one: ☒ New survey _____ Time extension of a previous survey _____

ECO-M (Applicant/Permittee) will conduct a geophysical survey offshore California in the survey area outlined on the accompanying navigation chart segment. If you foresee potential interference with commercial fishing or other activities, please contact the person(s) listed below:

FEDERAL WATERS (outside 3 nautical miles)

- 1) Applicant's representative
- 2) Federal representative (e.g., Bureau of Ocean Energy Management [BOEM] or National Science Foundation [NSF])

NOTE: Any comments regarding potential conflicts in Federal waters must be received by the Applicant's Representative and lead Federal agency within ten (10) days of the receipt of this notice.

STATE WATERS (Inside 3 nautical miles)

- 1) Permittee's representative
- 2) CSLC representative

NOTE: Any comments regarding potential conflicts in State waters should be received as soon as possible by the Permittee's representative, no more than fifteen (15) days after the receipt of this notice.

1. Expected Date of Operation April 27- May 1, 2015
2. Hours of Operation 0700-1700 hrs
3. Vessel Name Survey Vessel Theory
4. Vessel Official Number 1217549
5. Vessel Radio Call Sign N/A – no longer required by Feds
6. Vessel Captain's Name Brayton Pointer
7. Vessel will monitor Radio Channel(s) 16

8. Vessel Navigation System GPS

9. Equipment to be used 300 Joule Boomer System

a. Frequency (Hz, kHz) 1) 400-1600 Hz

b. Source level (dB re 1 μ Pa at 1 meter (m) [root mean square (rms)]) 207

c. Number of beams, across track beamwidth, and along track beamwidth 1
beamwidth 30°, H. 30° - V 30°

d. Pulse rate and length 0.5 sec repetition rate, 250 μ sec,

e. Rise time 0.1 ms, 100 μ sec

f. Estimated distances to the 190 dB, 180 dB, and 160 dB re 1 μ Pa (rms) isopleths

The table below gives distance between the source and for various dB values:

Source	Dist. To160 dB (m)	Dist. To 180 dB (m)	Dist. To190 dB (m)
300 J Boomer	56	5.6	1.8

g. Deployment depth 0.3 m

h. Tow speed 3 knots

i. Approximate length of cable tow less than 50 m

Applicant's Representative:

Dr. Hany Elwany
President, EcoSystems Management Assoc.
2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E
La Jolla, CA, 92037
hany@coastalenvironments.com

California State Lands Representative

Richard B. Greenwood
Statewide Geophysical Coordinator
200 Oceangate, 12th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4331
(562) 590-5201

BOEM Representative

Joan Barminski
Chief, Office of Reservoir & Production
770 Paseo Camarillo
Camarillo, CA 93010
(805) 389-7707

Other Federal Representative (if not BOEM):

ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

MARINE WILDLIFE CONTINGENCY PLAN

Submitted to

California State Lands Commission
Mineral Resources Management Division
200 OceanGate, 12th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4331

by

EcoSystems Management Associates, Inc.
2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E
La Jolla, CA 92037

26 March 2014

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ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

MARINE WILDLIFE CONTINGENCY PLAN

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This plan is intended to serve as a guide to operations to avoid significant impacts to marine wildlife that may occur during a geophysical survey. This plan is prefaced by a brief description of the project and the regulatory basis for marine wildlife protection followed by:

- The species likely to be present during the survey and the special status species of concern;
- A proposed operational plan for the company performing the survey, EcoSystems Management Associates, Inc. (ECO-M), to exercise caution while marine wildlife is present; and
- The procedure to follow should a collision occur between the survey vessel and marine wildlife.

2.0 REGULATORY BASIS

Species that are either currently in danger or soon likely to be in danger of extinction throughout all or a portion of its range are protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) implement the Endangered Species Act. During the consultation with NMFS to issue a permit for the offshore geophysical survey, it was determined no incidental take permits are required to use the equipment and conduct the fieldwork. Regarding the consultation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined proposed activities may affect, but were not likely to adversely affect listed species (i.e., informal consultation). NMFS and USFWS have concurred with this statement.

NMFS also implements the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, which protects all marine mammals within U.S. waters from intentional killing or harassment. Any accidental contact with marine wildlife during the course of the survey will be promptly reported to the NMFS Stranding Coordinator, Southwest Region, Long Beach.

The California State Lands Commission (CSLC) protects the natural environment for scenic and wildlife habitat values for the public trust. State agencies require marine mammal monitoring for any survey operations. The marine mammal population in general includes whale species, porpoises, dolphins, pinnipeds, and others. Some species are migrants that pass through central California waters on their way to calving or feeding grounds elsewhere, some are seasonal visitors that remain for weeks or months; others are resident for much or all of the year.

3.0 OPERATIONAL MEASURES FOR REDUCING IMPACTS TO MARINE MAMMALS AND TURTLES

ECO-M's project operations will utilize the following procedural techniques to limit the imposition of survey activities on any marine animals known to be within a sphere of influence. The survey vessel will have personnel on board during operations that are NOAA-approved marine wildlife monitors. The monitors will have authority to influence the operation of the vessel in regard to marine wildlife interaction but will be contravened by the captain of the vessel in matters of vessel and crew safety.

3.1 Pre-Survey Activities

Sources indicate that the north-bound gray whale migration on the West Coast of the US occurs from mid-February to May (NOAA, 2013b; NPS, 2015; Ocean Institute, 2008).

ECO-M contacted the NOAA Long Beach Office staff and local whale-watching operations to acquire information on the current composition and relative abundance of marine wildlife offshore as well as any pinniped haul out sites. We were not able to directly contact the NOAA Long Beach office representative; however, in the past they have indicated that most migrating whales are more likely to be found further offshore (1 mile or more). This is also in line with reports from local whale watching operations, who stated that they generally travel about 5-6 miles offshore to see migrating gray whales in late April

Two local whale watching operations out of Dana Point were contacted to find out the current composition and relative abundance of marine wildlife offshore. These operations were: 1) Dana Point Whale Watching, and 2) Capt. Dave's. Both operations will be conducting whale watching tours during the time frame of our survey. However, they did state that the survey time frame falls at the tail end of the grey whale migration.

In regards to pinniped haul out sites, a map provided by Justin Greenman from the NOAA Long Beach office, does not show any pinniped haul out sites at or near the project area (Figure 1).

This information will be conveyed to the vessel operator and crew, survey party chief, and onboard Marine Wildlife Monitors (MWMs). Additionally, one day prior to survey activities, the NOAA Long Beach office and local whale watching operations will be contacted to get an update on marine wildlife sightings in the area. This information will be conveyed to the captain and crew prior to the survey.

An initial or board review of environmental responsibility of project operations will be undertaken at the beginning of each segment of the project. When new personnel will be in the crew, this training will be repeated at least for those new to the crew. They will be made aware of their individual responsibility and will be shown how to be aware of possible environmental impacts and how to mitigate them within the geophysical survey vessel's operations. Information relating to seasonality, as an indication of the types of animals that might be in our survey area, at the time of survey work will also be presented to the crew(s). A copy of this document will be provided to each member of the geophysical survey team, as well as the crew of our survey vessel.

All personnel will be expected to be consistently aware that they are to be alert to any presence of marine wildlife while they are performing their duties. There are a number of signs/indications of marine wildlife presence and each crew member will be responsible to maintain vigilance for those signs within the constraints of their project duties. Some of those indications are:

- a. Sounds - such as splashing, vocalizations (by animals and birds), and blowing (breathing).
- b. Visual indications - birds aggregating, changes in water character such as areas of rippled water, white water caused by splashing, changes in color or shape of the ocean surface, spume, the disturbance of the normal sea view that can be caused by animals floating, rolling, diving, or leaping.
- c. Smell - on occasion marine organisms can be associated with smell from breath or defecation.
- d. Electronic observation - often the presence of schools of “bait fish” can be seen on some of the geophysical survey equipment. That presence, along with an increasing number of schools, can suggest that this area could possibly be associated with increased feeding activity of marine mammals and thereby suggest that increased awareness efforts should be undertaken. Under these circumstances, ECO-M’s personnel will be alerted to be more observant.

3.2 Marine Wildlife Monitors

At all times during survey activities, a marine wildlife monitor (MWM) will be present on the vessel. The qualifications of the MWM is located in Appendix A of this document. The onboard MWM shall have the authority to stop operations if a mammal or turtle is observed within the specified safety zone. The MWM will be present at the highest practical vantage point on the vessel and will use binoculars to observe the surrounding area. We are requesting to have one MWM instead of two present on our boat. Are reasons are: 1) the geophysical survey data will occur in nearshore ocean bottom areas where the likelihood of encountering marine mammals is less, 2) the small size of the vessel (37 ft.) will allow one MWM to effectively monitor the radius around our survey area, and 3) the small size of the vessel combined with our crew and survey gear will not allow for adequate room for an additional observer. After speaking to Justin Greenman, Assistant Stranding Coordinator at the NOAA Long Beach office, migrating whales are more likely to be found further offshore (1 mile or more). The offshore extent of our survey boundary will be within 1 mile from shore; therefore the likelihood of encountering a migratory marine mammal within this area is low. However, in order to minimize contact with marine mammals within our survey area, we will make contact with the local whale watching operations out of Dana Point within a few days prior to survey operations to get an update on the presence and abundance of marine wildlife in the area. We believe this method, coupled with the MWM and the specified radii will avoid any negative contact with marine mammal species.

3.3 Operational Measures

Operational measures to reduce impacts to marine mammals or turtles will include: 1) soft-start technique, 2) acoustic safety zone radii, 3) slow vessel speeds, 4) avoidance of pinniped haul out sites, and 4) limitations on equipment usage.

Soft Start Technique

The soft-start technique will involve initiating each piece of equipment at the lowest practical sound level, increasing the output in steps not exceeding approximately 6 decibels per 5-minute period. During this time, the MWM will monitor the safety zone for marine mammal or turtle sightings.

Acoustic safety zone radius

The safety zone monitoring will follow the protocols outlined in Exhibit H of the Permit (PRC 8536.9), which sets a safety zone of 100 m for the boomer system. In the event a pinniped haul out site is located within 300 m of the survey boundary, ECO-M will take the following measures:

- Not approach within 91 m of the haul-out site (consistent with NMFS guidelines);
- Expedite survey activity in this area in order to minimize the potential for disturbance of pinnipeds on land;
- Have the MWM monitor pinniped activity onshore as the vessel approaches, observing and reporting on the number of pinnipeds potentially disturbed

Initially, ECO-M will make a circuit of the survey area to ascertain if any marine wildlife is apparent in the intended survey area(s). This being done, there are three specific measures to be taken in the event that the vessel appears to be approaching marine mammals on one of the pre-established and specific survey transects. *One:* Stop vessel operations and wait until the animals have passed (this is in case animals are transiting the area). The mammal monitor shall observe and determine if migrating cetaceans are in the area. The captain will not knowingly cause complications with their intended migratory path. *Two:* Shift to another pre-established survey transect thereby avoiding close encounters (this is for animals that are occupying a given area for a period of time). *Three:* Do not begin the survey until observed animals in the survey area have departed or are at such a distance (as noted above) that they will be out of the range of ECO-M's influence. If the marine mammal monitor should sight marine wildlife within the path of the vessel, he/she will report the sighting to the vessel operator. The vessel will then slow down and continue a course that parallels that of the marine mammal. The marine mammal monitor shall have the authority to halt any operations or redirect the vessel that poses an immediate threat to marine wildlife. Onboard personnel will be watchful as the vessel crosses this path or anytime whales are observed in the area. The vessel operator shall observe the following guidelines:

- Make every effort to maintain distance from sighted marine mammals and other marine wildlife;

- Do not cross directly in front of (perpendicular to) migrating whales or any other marine mammal or turtle;
- When paralleling marine mammals or turtles, the vessel will operate at a constant speed that is not faster than that of the whales;
- Care will be taken to ensure female whales are not separated from their calves; and,
- If a whale engages in evasive or defensive action, the vessel will reduce speed or stop until the animal calms or moves out of the area.

Vessel speed

To obtain good, clean data, normal survey speeds are usually maintained between 2 and 3 knots. This speed is significantly slow in relation to transit speeds maintained by marine mammals and is only a little above the speed necessary to maintain steerage.

Limitations on equipment usage

Limitations on the frequency, pulse length, and pulse rate will be implemented to reduce potential harmful noises. For the sub-bottom profiler, the highest frequency band possible will be used and the shortest possible pulse length and lowest pulse rate (pings per second) will be used.

4.0 COLLISION REPORTING

In the event of a collision between the vessel and a marine mammal or reptile, the vessel operator will document the conditions under which the accident occurred. These conditions include:

- Vessel location (latitude, longitude) when the collision occurred;
- Date and time of collision;
- Speed and heading of the vessel at the time of collision;
- Observation conditions (e.g. wind speed and direction, swell height, visibility in miles or kilometers, and the presence of rain, fog) at the time of collision;
- Species of marine wildlife contacted (if known)
- Whether an observer was monitoring wildlife at the time of collision, and;
- Name of the vessel, owner/operator, and captain officer in charge of the vessel at the time of collision.

After a collision, the vessel shall stop, but will continue with operations if it is deemed that no further damage will result to the animal by doing so. The vessel is not obliged to stand by and may proceed after confirming that it will not further damage the animal by doing so. The vessel shall then communicate by radio or telephone all details to the vessel's base of operations. From the vessel's base of operations, a telephone call shall be placed to the Stranding Coordinator, NMFS, Southwest Region, Long Beach. Alternatively, the vessel captain may contact the NMFS Stranding Coordinator directly using a cell phone.

It is unlikely that the vessel will be asked to stand by until NMFS or California Department

of Fish & Game (CDFG) personnel arrive, but this shall be determined by the Stranding Coordinator. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the vessel operator is not allowed to aid injured marine wildlife or recover the carcass unless requested to do so by the NMFS Stranding Coordinator.

Collisions with marine wildlife will be reported promptly to the NOAA Fisheries Stranding Coordinator. The Stranding Coordinator will then coordinate subsequent action, including enlisting the aid of marine mammal rescue organizations, if appropriate.

Although the NOAA Fisheries has primary responsibility for marine mammals in both state and federal waters, CDFG should also be advised that an incident has occurred in state waters affecting a protected species. Reports should be communicated to the federal and state agencies listed below:

FEDERAL

Justin Viezbicke
California Stranding Network Coordinator
National Marine Fisheries Service
(562) 980 3230 office
(808) 313 2803 cell
justin.viezbicke@noaa.gov

STATE

California Department of Fish &
Game Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 590-5132

California State Lands
Commission Division of
Environmental Planning and
Management Sacramento, CA
(916) 574-0748
slc.ogpp@slc.ca.gov

5.0 MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

The proposed survey area does not fall into a designated marine protected area (MPA). The Dana Point Marine Conservation Area (Figure 2) is the closest MPA, and is located approximately 22 miles north of the survey area.

6.0 REFERENCES

- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2013. Guide to southern California marine protected areas. 120 pp.
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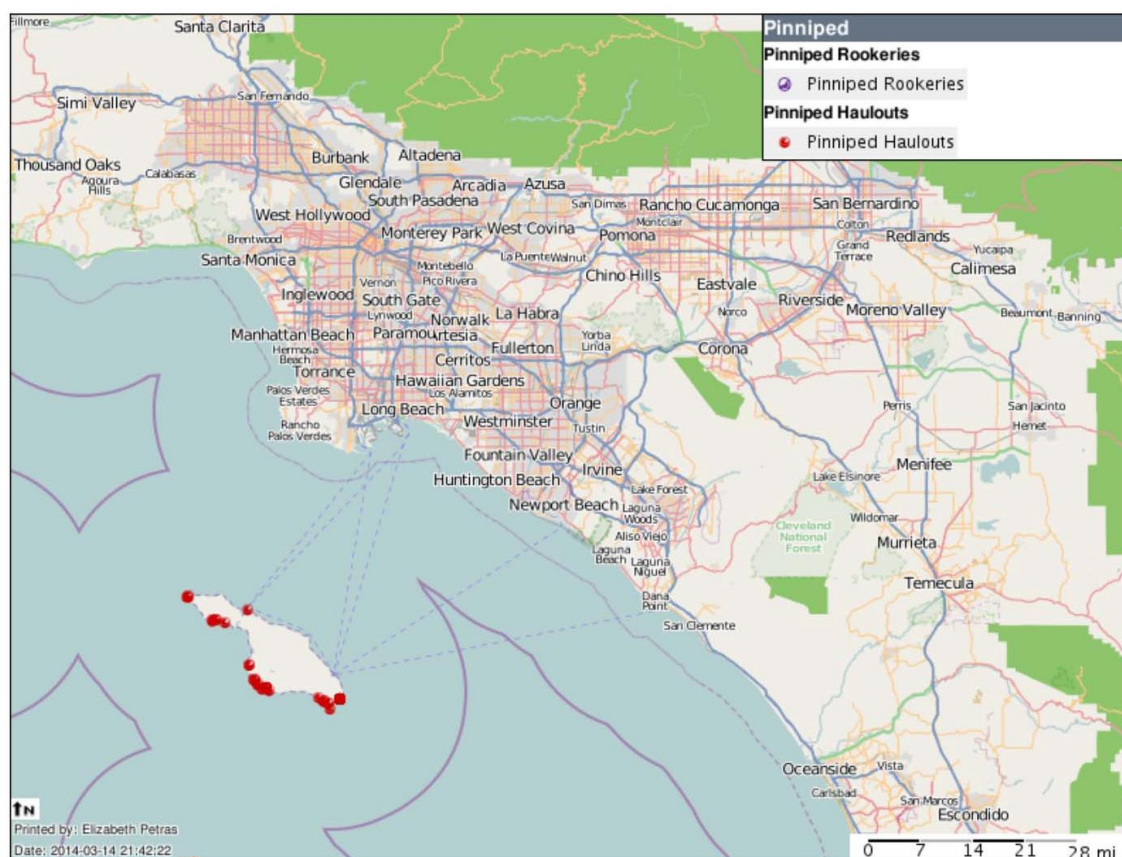


Figure 1. Location of the known pinniped haul out sites and rookeries in the project vicinity (NOAA, 2013a).



Figure 2. Location of MPA's from Point Dume to the U.S. Mexico Border (CDFG, 2013.).

APPENDIX A

MARINE WILDLIFE OBSERVER CERTIFICATION



Figure A-1. Marine wildlife monitor certification

Certificate of Completion

This certifies that

Kristen Sanchez

has completed the

PSO training course – BOEM/BSEE NTL 2012-G02

Given by Geo-Marine, Inc.

Plano, Texas

11 September 2012



Erica Dazey, Approved PSO Trainer



GMI

A Subsidiary of Applied Research Associates, Inc.



ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

Submitted to

California State Lands Commission
Mineral Resources Management Division
200 OceanGate, 12th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4331

by

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2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite E
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25 March 2015

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ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC.

**MANAGEMENT OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE AND VESSEL PROBLEMS
DURING OFFSHORE/ONSHORE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At the initiation of each project or project phase, a spill management review will be conducted by the vessels captain who is in all cases the responsible authority. It should be pointed out that any oil spill in United States (U.S.) marine waters shall be reported immediately (on the same day). Reporting information is stated in Section 8.0.

2.0 OPERATIONAL SPILLS

Operational spills might involve one or more of the following substances carried on board the vessel: (i) fuel; (ii) lube oil; (iii) hydraulic oil; or (iv) waste oil. The vessel is equipped with a Buffalo Quick-Response Oil Spill Kit, which includes socks for fast spill containment (three 4'' socks), woven polypropylene sheets (15 sheets) for rapid absorption of surface oil and protective gear, protective gloves (1 pair), disposal bag (1), and a set of instructions. This oil spill kit is located in the forward cabin of the vessel. This spill kit is rated to clean up 5 gallons of liquid. All of the liquids (listed below) that could cause a hazardous spill are either in the fuel tank or are located in the engine room of the vessel. Thus, if a spill occurred, these would be contained in the engine room, or if a grounding or instance occurred that punctured the gas tank, this would leak into the water, which is beyond the scope of our cleanup efforts. In the event a spill occurred in the engine room, the oil spill kit would be used to contain the hazardous liquids and the bilge would not be emptied until it could be pumped out at a hazardous waste facility. We do not anticipate a spill of greater than 5 gallons.

(i) Fuel:

A spill kit shall be available for use in the event of a spill. If the fuel is spilled on the deck, it shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vessel foreman shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

(ii) Lube oil:

A spill kit shall be available for use in the event of a spill. If the oil is spilled on deck or in the machinery space, it shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vessel foreman shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

(iii) Hydraulic oil:

A spill kit shall be available for use in the event of a spill. If the oil is spilled on deck or in the machinery space, it shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vessel foreman shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

(iv) Pipe leakage:

The vessel foreman shall check the piping and rubber hose daily for leakage. Where leakage is found, it shall be repaired immediately. In the event of leakage, the vessel deck engineer shall secure valve(s) at the appropriate tank before repairing the leak. Spilled fuel on the vessel shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vessel foreman shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

3.0 EMPLOYEE TRAINING ON OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

Prior to the launching of the vessel for any activities, all captain and crew members on the vessel will have read the Oil Spill Contingency Plan, understand procedures to be implemented in the event of an oil spill, and know where the oil spill kit is located on the vessel.

4.0 SPILLS RESULTING FROM CASUALTIES AND VESSEL PROBLEMS

In the event of a casualty, the vessel foreman's first priority is to ensure the safety of the vessel's personnel and to initiate actions that may prevent escalation of the incident and marine pollution.

(i) Grounding:

The likelihood of grounding, although remote, could occur when the vessel is working near shore. Should an unforeseeable grounding event occur that causes a spill, the vessel foreman shall immediately report the accident to the Coast Guard and port facility. It is mandatory that the survey company immediately report the incident to the California Office of Emergency Services ("OES").

(ii) Fire or explosion:

If a fire or explosion occurs, the Coast Guard and port facility will be notified immediately by the vessel foreman. While awaiting a response from the USCG or local fireboat agencies, all crewmen shall report to the foreman for a head count. In the event that one or more crewmen are missing, the vessel foreman shall so notify the site safety officer and direct a search for the missing crew where practical. If one or more crewmen are injured, the foreman shall render first aid with the assistance of available crewmen. The foreman shall also notify the site safety officer of any injuries sustained as a result of the fire or explosion.

The crew will fight the fire with portable fire extinguishers if this can be done safely. The foreman shall determine if the fire or explosion warrants abandoning the vessel. If it is determined that the vessel is to be abandoned, the crew shall don life vests and safely enter the water or available life raft.

If there is a spill as a result of the fire or explosion, the vessel foreman shall immediately report the incident to the Coast Guard and port facility. It is mandatory that the survey company immediately report the incident to the OES.

(iii) Collision:

A collision is unlikely to cause a spill unless the vessel sinks or the fuel tank is “holed.” If it is determined that the vessel is to be abandoned, the crew shall don life vests and safely enter the water or available life raft.

If the collision causes a spill from the fuel tank, the foreman shall immediately report the incident to the site safety officer, Coast Guard, and port facility. It is mandatory that the survey company immediately report the incident to the OES.

(iv) Vessel submerged/foundered:

If the vessel is submerged or foundered to the extent that it, or parts of it, is submerged, all measures shall be taken to evacuate all persons on board. Avoid contact with any spilled oil. Alert other vessels/vessels and/or the nearest coastal state for assistance in rescuing lives and the vessel as far as possible.

5.0 SPILLS RESULTING FROM VESSEL FUELING

All vessel fueling will be conducted on land at a gas station or at an approved docking facility. No cross vessel fueling will be performed.

6.0 PRIORITY ACTIONS TO ENSURE PERSONNEL AND VESSEL SAFETY

Safety of vessel personnel and the vessel are paramount. In the event that a crewman's injuries require outside emergency assistance, the site safety officer shall be contacted immediately and emergency personnel contacted. While awaiting emergency assistance, the survey company's vessel personnel will render first aid and/or CPR.

7.0 MITIGATING ACTIVITIES

If safety of both the vessel and the personnel has been addressed, the vessel foreman shall care for the following issues:

- Assessment of the situation and monitoring of all activities as documented evidence.
- Care for further protection of the personnel, use of protective gear, assessment of further risk to health and safety.
- Containment of the spilled material by absorption and safe disposal within leakproof containers of all used material onboard until proper delivery ashore, with due consideration to possible fire risk.
- Decontamination of personnel after finishing the cleanup process.

All personnel shall refer to the MSDS's on board for additional information.

8.0 MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN THE EVENT OF CASUALTY

(i) Response to collision

The vessel foreman and crew shall ensure that the following actions are taken.

- When there is no immediate danger to their own vessel and crew, rescue crew of the other vessel.
- Investigate the damaged area of the vessel and the ingress of water and take emergency measures to prevent the damage from becoming worse.
- When ingress of water is found as a result of damage investigation, take necessary measures to prevent water from coming in, or pump out the water already taken in, according to the position and amount of water taken in. Such measures include the closing of water-tight doors, inserting wooden plugs, use of collision mats, cement box, strengthening of bulkhead, and use of water discharge pumps.
- When water penetration is severe even after countermeasures are taken and there is a danger of the vessel sinking, consider intended grounding on an appropriate shore.

(ii) Response to grounding

If the vessel runs aground, the vessel foreman and crew shall muster and the following steps should be taken immediately.

- (1) Eliminate all avoidable sources of ignition and ban all smoking on board.

Further actions:

- (1) Carry out a visual inspection of the vessel to determine the severity of the situation.
- (2) Take soundings around the vessel to determine the nature and gradient of the seabed.
- (3) Check difference in the tidal ranges at the grounding site.
- (4) Evaluate tidal current in the grounding area.

Having assessed the damage that the vessel has sustained, and taking into account the effects

of hull stress and stability, the foreman should decide whether any action can be taken to avoid further spillage, such as:

- (1) Transfer of cargo and bunkers internally. If the damage is limited—for example, to one or two tanks—consideration should be given to transfer of liquid from damaged to intact tanks.
- (2) Review existing and forecasted weather conditions to see if they will adversely affect the vessel.
- (3) Evaluate the possibility of transferring cargo to barges or other vessels, and request such assistance accordingly.
- (4) Trim or lighten the vessel sufficiently to avoid damage to intact tanks, thereby avoiding additional pollution from spillage of oil or noxious liquid substance.

The foreman should obtain information about the situation, including the following.

- (1) Tides and currents
- (2) Weather, including wind, state of sea and swell.
- (3) Any weather forecast changes.
- (4) Nature of the bottom.
- (5) Depth of water around the vessel, the calculated buoyancy needed to refloat, draught, and trim after refloating.
- (6) Condition of the vessel, including stresses on the hull.

Strict safety precautions should be taken before entering any empty space, in order to avoid any risks from toxic fumes or oxygen deficiency.

Soundings should be taken around the vessel to determine the extent of the grounding/stranding as accurately as possible. If the sea is too rough for accurate sounding, it may be possible to measure the distance from the seabed to the main deck. By marking this on a longitudinal section from the general arrangement drawings, the extent of grounding can be determined.

If the vessel is structurally intact, an immediate attempt may be made to refloat her with or without assistance. In deciding whether to make an immediate attempt to refloat, the foreman should consider the use of the tugs and ground tackle as well as the possible damage that might be caused to the vessel.

Immediate refloating may be the best course to adopt even if the vessel has sustained bottom damage. However, if there are signs of excessive hogging, sagging or of undulations in the sides of the hull, more careful consideration is required before attempting to refloat the vessel. In these circumstances, lightening of the vessel may reduce the risk of further damage and pollution.

- (iii) Response to submerged/foundered

The vessel foreman and crew shall muster and ensure that the following actions are taken immediately.

- If the vessel is wrecked to the extent that it or parts of it are submerged, take all measures to evacuate all persons on board.
- Avoid contact with any spilled oil.
- Alert other vessels and/or the nearest coastal state for assistance in rescuing lives.
- All openings in hull and superstructures are to be checked for watertight integrity. Ensure that all water doors, sewage and other relevant damage control valves are closed.
- Fill bottom tanks with ballast low side first.
- Should the situation appear to be deteriorating, urgency or distress messages should be dispatched as appropriate.

The nearest hospital to our survey area is the San Pedro Urgent Care Facility, located at 1499 W. 1st St. San Pedro, California 90732. The number is: 310-241-2590.

9.0 REPORTING AN OIL SPILL TO STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Any oil spill in U.S. marine waters shall be reported immediately (on the same day) to the state and federal phone numbers below:

West Coast Oil Spill hot-line	800-OILS-911, <i>or</i>
Department of Fish and Game CalTIP	888-CFG-CALTip
(Californians Turn In Poachers & Polluters)	(888-334-2258). <i>and</i>
U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center	800-424-8802
California Office of Emergency Services (OES)	800-OILS-911 or 800-852-7550.

During the phone call, the following information will be given over the phone.

- a. Name and telephone number of caller.
- b. Where did you see the spill?
- c. What do you think was spilled (oil, gas, diesel, etc.)?
- d. Can you estimate the size of the spill?
- e. The date & time you saw this spill? (PLEASE report on the same day).
- f. Did you see any oiled or threatened wildlife?
- g. Do you have any information or thoughts about who spilled the material?
- h. What, if any, activity did you observe at the spill site?

After taking the necessary actions, the spill will be reported in writing to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services on their forms.

Additionally, California Department of Fish and Game certified wildlife rescue/response organizations will be contacted about the spill. In the Palos Verdes area, these include the following contacts:

Oiled Wildlife Care Network
1-877-UCD-OWCN

Animal Advocates
323-651-1336

California Wildlife Center
818-222-2658
All Wildlife Rescue & Education
562-434-0141

South Bay Wildlife Rehab
310-378-9921

10.0 DIVER CHECKLIST

Prerequisites:

1. Copy of dive manual shall be at work site.
2. Site safety has reviewed work plan.
3. A written pre-job brief has been approved by the manager or designee.
4. All prerequisites required in the dive manual have been met.
5. Verify that a rescue plan is in place.
6. All procedures, drawings, and work documents are available.
7. All video and communication equipment is operable.
8. All diver qualifications are active.
9. Any known hazards have been identified.
10. Verify that all hazard barriers are in place.
11. Verify that waves and tidal conditions will not impact diving operations.
12. A diving supervisor shall be present at all times while the diver is in the water.

Diver Equipment Checkout:

1. Ensure that there are two sources of breathing air available.
2. Ensure that air compressor fuel tank and oil levels are full prior to diving.
3. Ensure that breathing air compressors are not located in an area where the induction of harmful gases is possible.
4. Ensure that the Dive Supervisor inspects the diver's equipment per their daily equipment checklist.
5. Ensure that diver communication equipment checkout is performed.

Placing a Diver in the Water:

1. Notify the control room prior to commencing dive activities. Also:
 - a. Verify method of communication to be used with the control room.
 - b. Notify control room at conclusion of daily dive activities.
2. Verify that standby divers are in the immediate area and in a state of preparedness to enter the water within two minutes.
3. If SCUBA equipment is used, two divers shall be in the water.
4. Remove the diver from the water if any operational changes are encountered.