

# “The Refugio Incident”



# Environmental Conditions

- **Marine Protected Areas (Kashtayit & Naples)**
- **Sensitive sites**
- **Varied composition:**
  - Soil, Cobble, Rock, Sand, Cliffs, Kelp, Marinas, Parks
- **Wildlife impacts**
  - Bird nesting, Grunion Spawning
  - Impacts to birds, mammals, etc
  - Domoic Acid/ Red Tide occurrence
- **Air quality for community and responders**

# Incident Command Post



# UC Composition



**FOSC:** USCG

**SOSC:** California Fish & Wildlife – Office of Oil Spill  
Prevention and Response (OSPR)

**RP:** Plains All American Pipeline

**LOSC:** Santa Barbara County

# That's interesting....



**Local community's "spontaneous" response**

**Resource & logistics availability-** Memorial Day weekend; Large events; Coast Guard Routine transfer season

**Cultural Influences**

- Tribal
- Inhabitants of Coast for over 13,000 years

**From landside source to ocean**

# Citizens & Volunteers

**Immediate outpouring of community citizens**

**Outstanding affiliated volunteers**

- SB Co. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- California Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Local Fire Community hand crews
- Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) volunteers
- CDFW Natural Resource Volunteer Program (NRVP)

**Beach clean-up and various tasks for citizens**

- May 25 & 28<sup>th</sup> 200 volunteers trained in a modified Hazard Safety Communication Training
- May 27, 30 & 31 Beach Cleanups



# That's interesting....

## Tar Balls in Four Counties

- South Bay Incident Command Post
  - \$1.5 mil clean up by USCG, OSPR, LA County Unified command
- Oil/tarballs appeared on beaches in:
  - Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles & Orange Counties
- 96.5 Miles Assessed to determine relationship w/ Refugio pipeline
- 4-County Sampling Blitz

# Operations

- **Inland**

- Cleanup pipeline site, culverts, forested area above the beach
- Pipeline Removal and repair

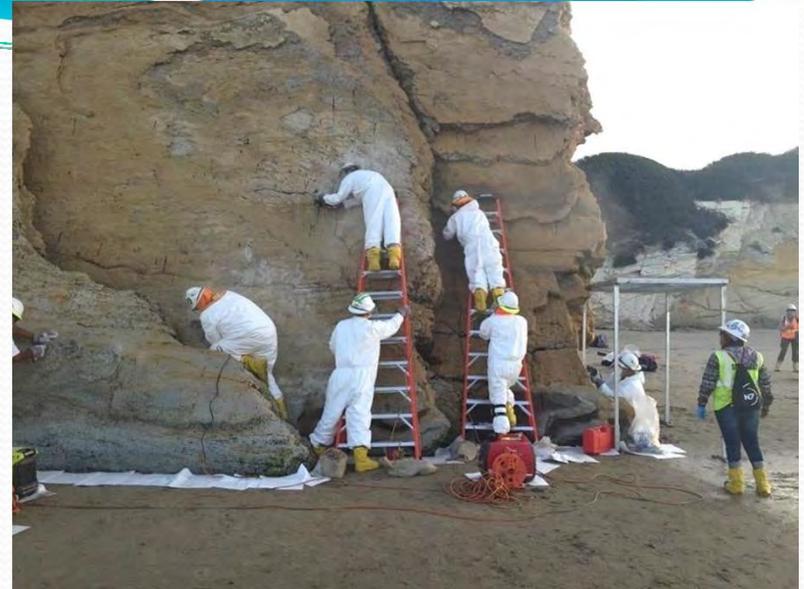
- **Offshore**

- On the water skimming
- Underwater Diving Ops

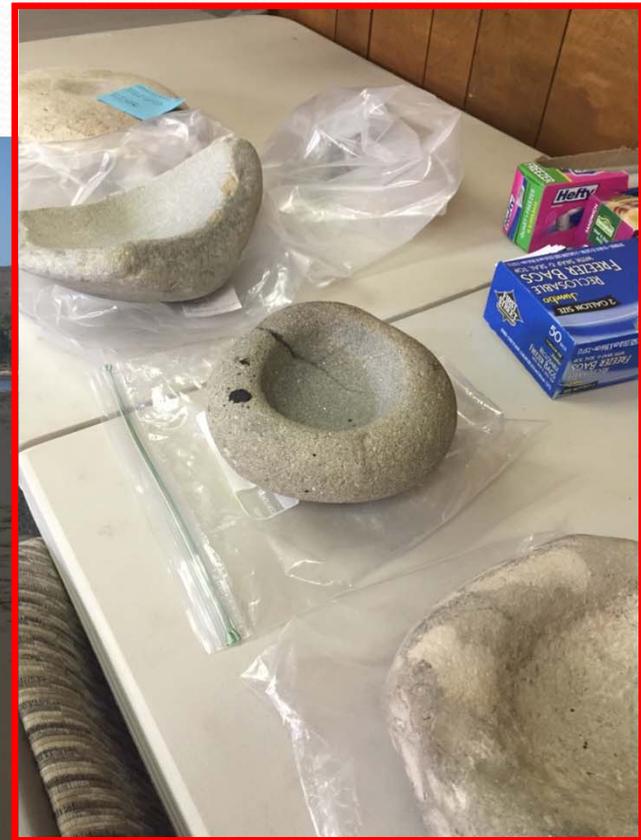
- **Onshore**

- Sandstone cliffs, boulders, rocks, shoreline
- Applied Response Technologies

# Safety Constraints



# Tribal Involvement



# **Robust JIC, Public Affairs,**

## **Community Relations**

**Stakeholder/ NGO listening event**

### **Community Relations Open House**

- important public information tactic
- community knowledge of response ops

### **Media availabilities & over-flights**

- greater transparency
- demonstrate progress
- Worksite access, wildlife release, etc

# Since then...

- Unified Command represented teams conducted scheduled oil sampling efforts – comparison between labs show no match to spilled oil.
- Periodic Unified Command meetings to discuss progress toward endpoints and sampling results.
- **Federal On-Scene Coordinators After Action Report** on May 3, 2016 – [www.uscgnews.com](http://www.uscgnews.com)
- OSPR's After Action Report
- FOSC's AAR has 22 Lessons Learned, promising practices, recommendations
- Continued monitoring until December 2016

