

Volunteering with the Oiled Wildlife Care Network

Oiled Wildlife Care Network

Wildlife Health Center

UC Davis

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Overview

- What is the Oiled Wildlife Care Network
- OWCN program
- Volunteer program
- Volunteer use in spills

Oiled Wildlife Care Network

- Created in 1994
 - “Wildlife response arm” of CDGF-OSPR
 - 1994-1997 OSPR; 1997 on WHC at UC Davis



OWCN

● Mission

- Best achievable capture and care of oiled wildlife
- Four “R’s”
 - Research
 - Reaching Out
 - Readiness
 - Response



Research: Grants

- ◆ Purpose

- ◆ Better understand effects
- ◆ How best to care for wildlife
- ◆ Post-release survival

- ◆ \$250,000

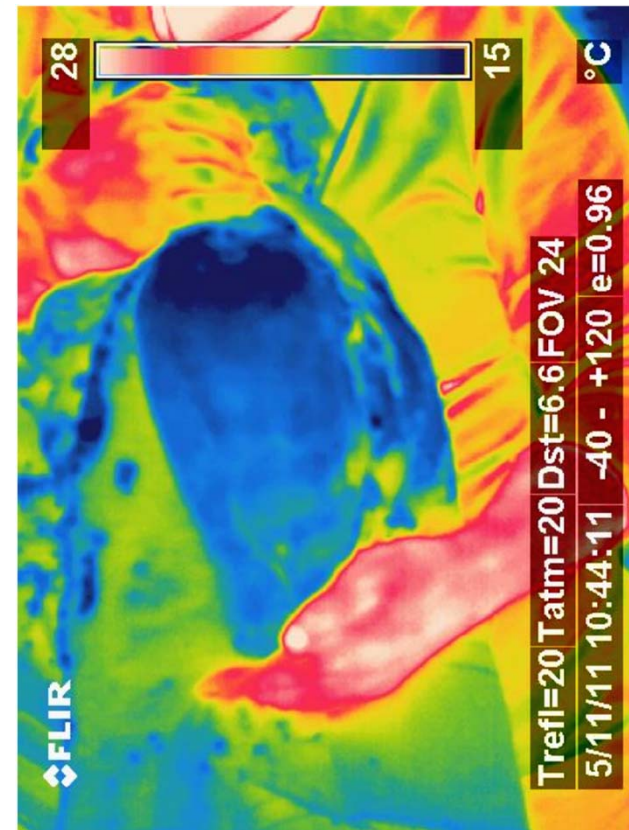
- ◆ Success

- ◆ Over 140 projects funded since 1996
- ◆ Three post-release projects since 1997



Research: In house

- Soft sided pens
- Nutrition & fluids
- Effects of being housed in fresh water
- Infrared cameras to monitor waterproofing
- Testing satellite transmitters

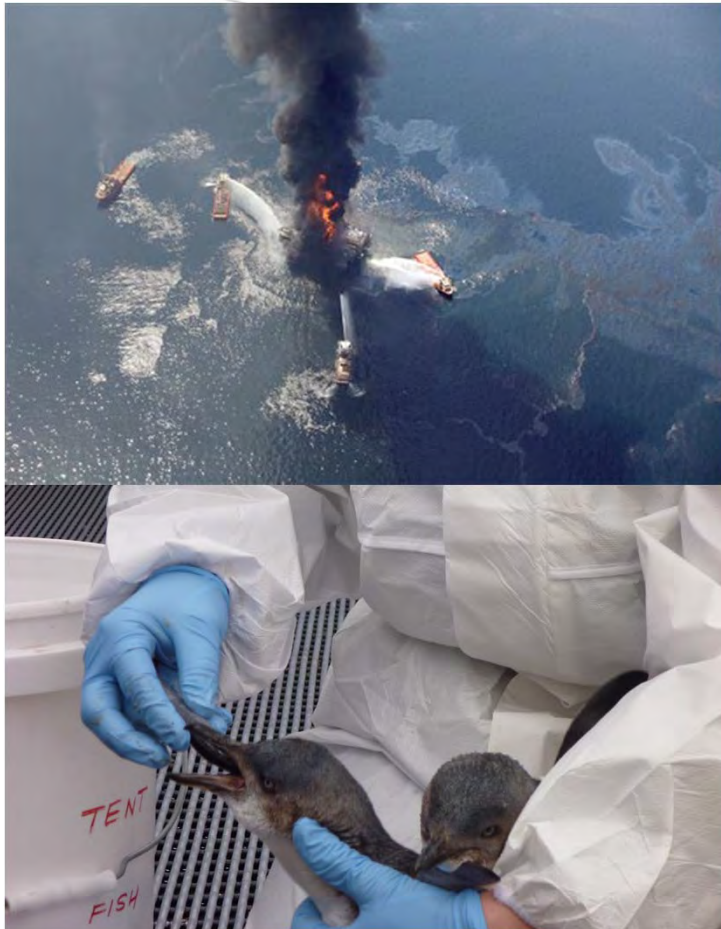


Picture by Hannah Nevins

Reaching Out



Reaching Out



- ◆ Seminars, presentation
- ◆ Public Outreach
 - ◆ Website, newsletters, blog
- ◆ National/International Assistance
 - ◆ Response planning, spill assistance, facility development

Readiness: Partners

◆ Participants

- ◆ 30+ orgs represented
- ◆ Rehab orgs, universities, NGOs

◆ Agreements

- ◆ Them: Provide rapid cooperative response
- ◆ Us: Equip, supply & train

OILED WILDLIFE CARE NETWORK



Readiness: Facilities

◆ Types

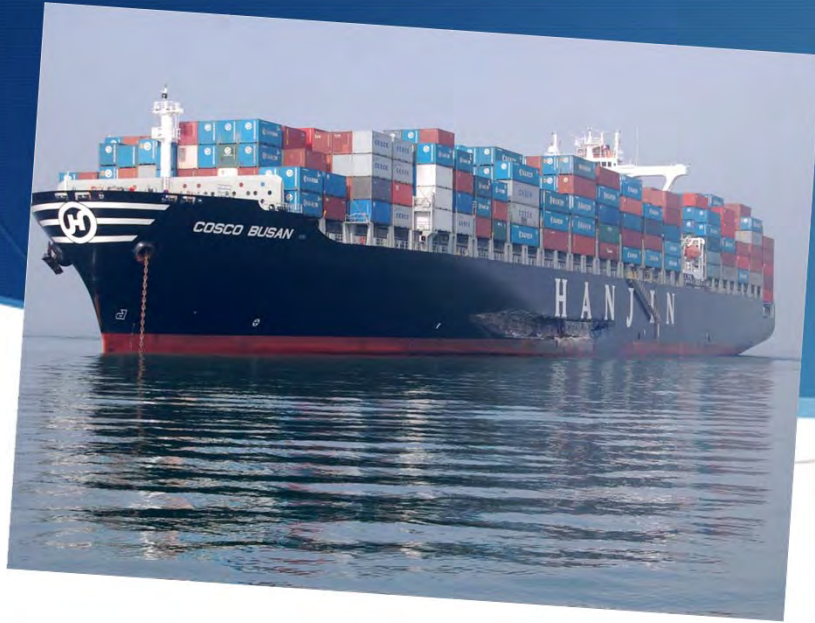
- ◆ Primary care: 12 facilities
- ◆ Stabilization: 11 facilities

◆ Multi-Use

- ◆ Reduces spill startup time
- ◆ Cost-effective maintenance
- ◆ Non-spill use
 - ◆ Rehabilitation
 - ◆ Education
 - ◆ Research



Response



>75 spills in CA, nationally, and internationally, and almost 8,000 oiled birds and mammal

Cosco Busan 2007

Dubai Star 2009

Deepwater Horizon 2010

Rena 2011



Volunteers

- 18 years old
- Sign CDFG's Oath of Allegiance and Volunteer Service Agreement
- 4-hr HAZCOM



Spontaneous Volunteers



Spontaneous Volunteers

- Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR)
 - Non-wildlife volunteer activities
 - Wildlife volunteer activities



Spontaneous Volunteers

- Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR)
- Non-wildlife volunteer activities



Spontaneous Volunteers



Spontaneous Volunteers



Pre-Trained Volunteers

- Pre-Trained Volunteers
 - Basic
 - “Webinar”, animal care overviews
 - Conference/Labs
 - More advanced techniques



Volunteers Are Important!!!



Pre-trained Volunteers



Photos by Gayle Uyehara

Pre-trained Volunteers



Volunteer Use

| Spill | Year | # Volunteers | Volunteer Hours | Type |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Kure | 1997 | 300 | 8200 | 90% spontaneous 10% pre-trained |
| Stuyvesant | 1999 | 500 | 9600 | 90% spontaneous 10% pre-trained |
| Luckenbach | 2001- 2002 | 400 | 12,000 | 65% spontaneous 35% pre-trained |
| Ventura Oiled Bird Incident | 2005 | 500 | 11,000 | 80% spontaneous 20% pre-trained |
| Cosco Busan | 2007 | 950 | 13,000 | 50% spontaneous 50% pre-trained |

💧 Cosco Busan = 13,000 volunteer hours

Volunteers in Response

Recovery & Transport



Processing & Intake



Pre-wash care



Release



Conditioning



Cleaning



Volunteering: R&T



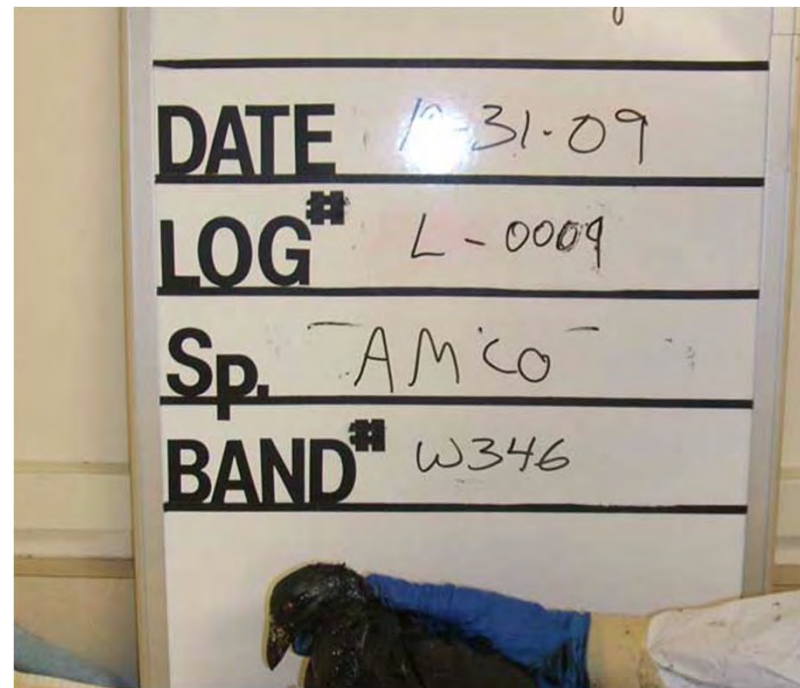
- ◆ Searching for oiled animals
- ◆ Capture/collection
- ◆ Field stabilization
- ◆ Transportation

- ◆ Additional training needed for R&T jobs
 - ◆ 24 hr HAZWOPER
 - ◆ R&T Levels 1-3



Volunteering: Processing & Intake

- Evidence collection area
- Recording information
- Initial health exam



Pre-wash Care



- ◆ Holding/restraining
- ◆ Tubing
- ◆ Examinations
 - ◆ Bleeding
 - ◆ Temps
 - ◆ Evaluations

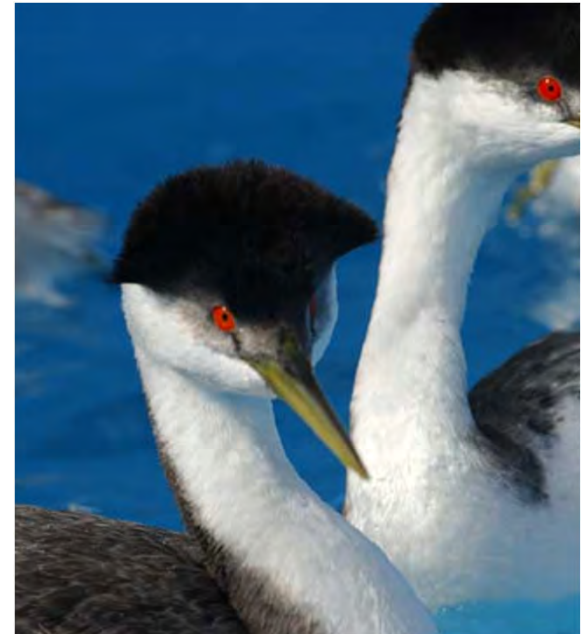
Cleaning



Pre-Release Conditioning



- Feeding
- Pool Cleaning
- Waterproof Checks
- Observations



Release



Other Volunteer Jobs



- ◆ Facilities Jobs
 - ◆ Running pumps
 - ◆ Repairs
 - ◆ Electrical
 - ◆ Plumbing
 - ◆ Construction
 - ◆ Maintenance



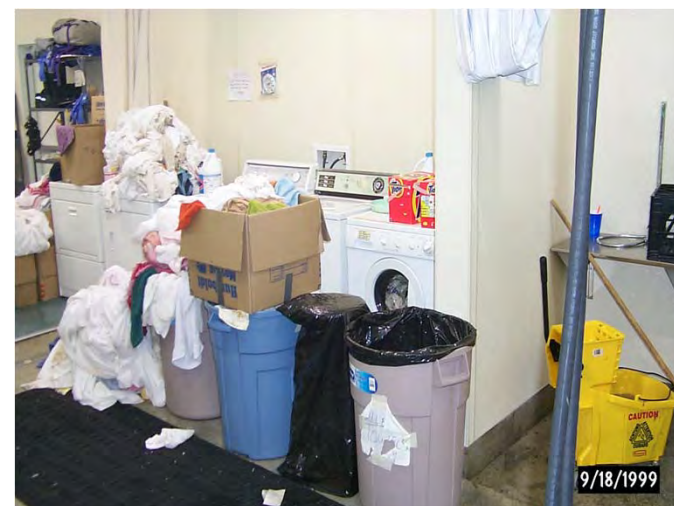
Other Volunteer Jobs

- ◆ Administrative
 - ◆ Answering phones
 - ◆ Clerical services
 - ◆ Data entry
 - ◆ Volunteer coordination



Other Volunteer Jobs

- ◆ Miscellaneous
 - ◆ Food preparation
 - ◆ Laundry
 - ◆ Cage cleaning
 - ◆ Lab duties



Summary

- ◆ Spontaneous and pre-trained volunteers
- ◆ Volunteers are important!
- ◆ Volunteers are seen in every aspect of the response
- ◆ Wide range of duties

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