



State of California -The Natural Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 Office of Spill Prevention and Response
 1700 K. Street, Suite 250
 Sacramento, California 95811
 Telephone: (916) 445-9338
www.wildlife.ca.gov

EDMUND G. BROWN, Jr. Governor
 CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 DECLARATION OF FISHERIES CLOSURE
 DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT
 CAUSED BY AN OIL SPILL INTO MARINE WATERS**

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code § 5654, I find and declare that:

I.

On November 18, 2013 the fishing vessel *Royal Pacific* allided with the fishing vessel *Golden Eagle* puncturing the starboard stern fuel tank of the *Golden Eagle* and releasing in excess of one barrel of red dye diesel into marine waters of Ventura Harbor. The owner/operator of the vessel *Royal Pacific* is Royal Pacific LLC, who is the identified responsible party.

II.

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has been informed of this spill. OEHHA has recommended that a fisheries closure be initiated in the area of the spill. This fishing closure is recommended during an investigation to determine and establish the degree and nature of the public health threat posed.

Adequate information is not currently available for OEHHA to determine the potential threat to public health from fishing or shellfish harvesting in the affected area or from consuming fish or shellfish from the area. OEHHA recommends that a fishing and shellfish harvesting closure be initiated for the entire Ventura Harbor to the exterior breakwater boundaries, to include the residential canals to the north, pending receipt of additional information to determine the degree and nature of any potential public health threat posed by the spill. Additionally, OEHHA is advising that anglers avoid fishing in areas where there is visible sheen on the water.

III.

THEREFORE, in consultation with OEHHA, I hereby order that a fisheries closure be initiated for the entire inner Ventura Harbor out to the exterior breakwater boundaries, and including the residential canals in the northern portion of the Harbor. This closure is effective immediately. This closure prohibits the take of finfish and shellfish either from shorelines or from vessels on the water. Attached hereto is a map of the current closed area.

IV.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its departments, agencies, or other entities, its officers or employees or any other person.


 Thomas M. Cullen, Jr., Chief Deputy Director for
 Charlton H. Bonham, Director

11/19/2013, 1:30 pm
 Date/Time

