

# Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment



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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** John McCamman  
Acting Director  
Department of Fish and Game  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Joan E. Denton, Ph.D.  
Director

**DATE:** December 7, 2009

**SUBJECT:** SAN FRANCISCO OIL SPILL: OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CROWN MEMORIAL STATE BEACH RECOMMENDATIONS

*John E. Denton, Ph.D.*

*John McCamman*

As a result of the Dubai Star oil spill, Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda County, has been closed to shellfish harvesting since October 30, 2009.

Based on expedited testing of mussels collected at Crown Beach between October 30 and November 20, 2009, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) finds that consumption of mussels collected from Crown Beach poses no ongoing significant oil-related health risks.

As a result, OEHHA recommends that Crown Beach be reopened for mussel and other shellfish harvesting. OEHHA advises the public to continue to avoid harvesting and consuming mussels from the shoreline on the west and south sides of Ballena Boulevard. There are elevated levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in mussels from that area that require continued monitoring. The test results suggest that mussels from the Ballena Bay area have been exposed to an additional contamination source unrelated to the spill.

OEHHA reminds the public to continue to follow the existing San Francisco Bay and Delta region fish consumption advisory that has been in place for many years (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/fish/general/sfbaydelta.html>).

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 322-6325.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption.

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**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
REOPENING OF FISHERIES CLOSURE  
DUE TO MARINE OIL SPILL**

I.

Pursuant to Fish & Game Code section 5654, in consultation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), on October 30, 2009, I issued an order prohibiting the take of all fish and shellfish in the vicinity of the Alameda County shoreline between the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and the San Mateo Bridge, during an investigation to determine and establish the degree and nature of the public health threat posed by a marine oil spill.

II.

Thereafter, on November 4, 2009, in consultation with OEHHA, I issued an order limiting the extent of the closure to the Alameda County shoreline of San Francisco Bay between Alameda Point (at the northwest corner of Alameda Naval Air Station) and the southern boundary of the Oakland Airport. On November 25, 2009, again in consultation with OEHHA, I issued an order that re-opened all closed areas except Crown Memorial State Beach, which remained closed to shellfish harvesting.

III.

After further consultation with OEHHA and based on expedited testing of shellfish in the closure area, a determination has been made that no likely significant health threat is posed by the take of shellfish from Crown Memorial State Beach.

IV.

THEREFORE, I hereby order that the aforementioned area is now open to the taking of shellfish. Though not a part of this order, OEHHA advises the public to avoid harvesting and consuming mussels from the shoreline adjacent to Ballena Boulevard due to an additional source of contamination unrelated to the Dubai Star oil spill.

Attached hereto is a map indicating the re-opened area, Crown Memorial State Beach.

V.

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.

  
John McCamman, Acting Director  
California Department of Fish & Game

*Far* 12.7.09 1300  
Date / Time



**Shellfish Reopening**  
 Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach


 Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game  
 Office of Spill Prevention and Response  


Data Source: OSPR Scientific Branch  
 Requestor: J. Yamamoto  
 Author: J. Sanders  
 Date Created: 12-07-2009

California (Teale)  
 Albers Projection  
 NAD 83

**T/V Dubai Star Incident  
 Shellfish Reopening  
 12-07-2009**

