

Background



On October 30, 2009, the oil tanker *Dubai Star* lost over 400 gallons of Intermediate Fuel Oil (IFO) during a re-fueling accident. This is the oil that powers the ship. At the time, the ship was anchored in San Francisco Bay between Alameda and San Francisco. After remaining offshore temporarily, the oil moved east and stranded along the shorelines of Alameda and Bay Farm Islands. The heaviest shoreline oiling was at Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach. The primary natural resource impacts were to birds, shoreline habitats, and human recreational activities.

Following the spill, the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) conducted a natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) and coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife

Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and East Bay Regional Park District to assess injuries from the spill. Under state law, DFG may act as a trustee for natural resources and pursue a claim for damages for impacts to wildlife, habitat, and human uses of those resources. DFG, as the lead trustee for this case, will propose restoration projects to compensate for damages in an upcoming NRDA Update later this year. Restoration projects are intended to both speed natural recovery and to compensate for spill impacts.



Oil stranded on Crown Memorial Beach, Alameda County (10/31/2009)

Injury Summary

Birds

Collected alive:	48
Cleaned and released:	28
Collected dead:	20
% of shorebirds oiled:	2.3

Estimated dead

Large grebes	17
American Coots	57
Shorebirds	86
Other	26
Total	186

Shoreline Habitat

Most of the shoreline was lightly oiled, with estimated recovery ranging from a few months to several years depending on the habitat type.

Acres oiled

Rocky Intertidal	35
Sandy Beach	37
Tidal Flats/Saltmarsh	140
Total	212

Recreation

Closures at Crown Beach lasted 25 days and warnings were posted for over six months. Parts of Alameda and Bay Farm Islands were closed to fishing for 27 days. Boating was also affected during clean-up operations.

Estimate of affected trips (lost and diminished)

Fishing	2,000
Boating	400
General Shoreline Use	20,700
Total	23,100

Contact Information

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