



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Contact: Mayor's Office of Communications,
415-554-6131

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

CITY AGENCIES ISSUE GUIDANCE TO PUBLIC REGARDING OIL SPILL

Special advisories issued to swimmers, surfers and boat owners

San Francisco, CA - Departments and agencies throughout the City and County of San Francisco have responded to yesterday's incident when a container ship accidentally hit the D Span of the Bay Bridge, causing approximately 58,000 gallons of heavy duty bunker fuel to spill into the San Francisco Bay.

The Department of Public Health is advising people to avoid going to the beaches. Beach closures have been instituted at Baker Beach, Crissy Field, China Beach, Fort Point and Kirby Cove and Rodeo Beaches in Marin County. Muir Beach and the Angel Island shoreline are also closed to the public. Officials are advising beach visitors to avoid water activities including swimming, surfing or windsurfing at these locations. People should also avoid bringing unleashed dogs to any of the City's beaches until they have been reopened. Additionally, signs have been posted along the beaches and water access areas of the Port warning people to not fish or enter the water. Ferry service remains unaffected.

In an effort to curtail the spread of oil along the City's shoreline and to save boat owners clean-up costs, City officials are advising all recreational boaters berthing at the following marinas to remain on dock until at least Tuesday, November 13, 2007:

- San Francisco Marina 415/ 831-6322
- Hyde Street Harbor 415/ 274-0533
- PIER 39 Marina 415/ 705-5557
- South Beach Marina 415/ 495-4911 ext. 1048
- Mission Creek Harbor Assoc. 415/ 273-1767
- Clipper Cove Marina, Treasure Isl. 415/ 981-2416

The San Francisco Animal Care and Control Department, in conjunction with Oiled Wildlife Care Network, has set up a system to rescue and clean any bird or mammal affected by the oil spill. Do not attempt to capture or assist a wild bird or mammal in distress. Anyone who sees wildlife in distress is advised to telephone 3-1-1 and identify the location of the wildlife.

Members of the public who want to volunteer with clean-up efforts should listen for further announcements regarding how to become involved. City departments are working with a number of state and federal agencies to determine the most efficient way to utilize volunteers. Animal rescue volunteers should visit the website www.owcn.org. Questions for the US Coast Guard should be directed to their public information office at 415-399-7305.

Anyone with questions or concerns regarding the oil spill should call 3-1-1.

###