

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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March 19, 2002

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Jaime C. Kooser, Deputy Director
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SUBJECT: **Guadalupe Oil Field Spill Remediation First Quarterly Status Report:
January-March 2002**

This status report provides an account of abandonment and cleanup-related activities occurring at the Guadalupe site for the period January 2002-March 2002. Some of these are ongoing activities authorized under San Luis Obispo CDP/DP D870558D, and others began following Coastal Commission approval of CDP No. E-99-009 on November 3, 1999.

SITE ACTIVITIES, JANUARY 2002-MARCH 2002**Activities Occurring in the Coastal Commission Permit Jurisdiction**

- Unocal has completed this year's restoration efforts at the beach sites and other inland remediation sites. The most recent restoration activities include the planting at wetland areas near C8. Unocal employees and about 20 volunteers from Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo spent a Saturday planting over 2,000 individual plants including *Carex*, *Juncus*, *Horkelia*, and Blochman's leafy daisy. Unocal grew all the plants in its onsite growing facilities.
- During the week of February 18, 2002, Unocal monitors surveyed the beach areas for the presence of Western snowy plover nests. The monitors observed five pairs of snowy plovers and several scrapes (a small depression in the sand or gravel used as a nest and to attract female plovers). Due to the onset of the snowy plover nesting season, on March 1, 2002 Unocal closed the A Road and beaches to all foot and vehicle traffic.

- Prior to the beach closure, Unocal surveyed the beach sites for beach grass or other weeds to be removed. Unocal sprayed exotic weed species with herbicide throughout the site and especially along the A Road.
- As reported in previous status reports, Unocal completed most of the approved excavations within the Commission's original jurisdiction. Future remediation work within the Commission's and County's permit jurisdiction is postponed pending approval of a soil treatment and handling plan by the regulatory agencies, including the Coastal Commission. To this end, the County of San Luis Obispo selected consultant A.D. Little to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement to examine several options--not analyzed in the original EIR for the overall site remediation project--to treat or dispose of existing and future contaminated soil from remediation activities. Treatment alternatives under consideration include offsite transport by rail and truck, slurry injection, soil washing, soil treatment, thermal desorption, and placement of soils in an engineered containment unit.

Activities Occurring in the County's Permit Jurisdiction

- Unocal conducted a lease-wide California red-legged frog survey on February 25, 2002. No new sittings of red-legged frogs were recorded.