

EX CONSTANCE BANK SPILL RESPONSE

Update on Constance Bank Incident

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FEBRUARY 4, 2025, 3 p.m. PST

Victoria, B.C. – A spill response is underway following an incident on February 3, 2025, involving a tanker which has caused a significant oil spill in the Juan de Fuca Strait.

Western Canada Marine Response and Canadian Coast Guard are on site leading clean-up operations with 12 vessels responding on the water with protection booming, skimming vessels and current buster operations to manage and contain the spill.

COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE

A Unified Command has been established to coordinate all aspects of the response. The Unified Command includes the Canadian Coast Guard, Teekay Tankers Ltd., Capital Regional District, City of Victoria, Sc'ianew First Nation, Tseycum First Nation, Xwsepsum Nation and BC Ministry of Environment. The unified command is committed to a collaborative response effort until all aspects of the response are complete.

Teekay Tankers is responsible for paying the cost of the cleanup, including third-party damages under Transport Canada's Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response Regime.

For information on how to make a claim for damage to private property, visit spillresponsebc.ca.

PRIORITIZING SAFETY

Safety is the primary concern for both first responders and the public. Comprehensive security and safety plans are in place and will be adjusted as needed as the situation changes.

To maintain safety for first responders and the public:

- Avoid contact with the water, intertidal areas and the coastline around Greater Victoria. Exposure to contaminated water, plants, rocks and sand can cause harm to people and pets.
- Avoid all exclusion zones (closed marine areas) or any water along the coast in Greater Victoria.
- Do not attempt to rescue oiled wildlife.
- Do not attempt to clean up contaminated areas.
- To report oiled wildlife sightings or contaminated beaches, call the 24-hour reporting line: 1-888-801-5860.

- Drones are not permitted in the airspace surrounding the spill.
- Only call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

AIR QUALITY

Air quality monitoring is ongoing. If you smell fumes, avoid the area and report the odor to the 24-hour reporting hotline at 1-888-801-5860.

MARINE TRAFFIC EXCLUSION ZONE

An exclusion zone has been set up surrounding the response area which is closed to marine travel. The Coast Guard is working with all commercial and recreational users to ensure boats are diverted from the closed areas. Avoid any recreational boating activities in Greater Victoria until further notice. More information on the exclusion zone is available on the Coast Guard website at cgg.gcc.gc.ca.

TEMPORARY RESTRICTED AIR SPACE

Navigation Canada has issued a temporary restricted air space for the impacted area.

FOOD FISHERIES

We are working with local First Nations to identify significant fishing areas and take measures to reduce impacts to those areas. There are no fishery closures at this time.

LATEST UPDATES

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CONTACT

Public Liaison Officer, Unified Command
555-555-5555

Canadian Coast Guard Marine Pollution Reporting

1-800-889-8852

A **24-hour public reporting line** has been set-up at **1-888-801-5860** to report oiled wildlife and shorelines.