

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Beverly Thames, (650) 363-4790
November 13, 2007 San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services

TAR BALLS WASH ASHORE AT ESPLANADE BEACH IN PACIFICA
First Detection of Cosco Busan Oil Spill in San Mateo County

PACIFICA, Calif. – On Monday, November 12, Pacifica Public Works staff located several small tar balls on Esplanade Beach. San Mateo County Environmental Health has closed the beach. Cosco Busan contractors are assessing the extent of the contamination and will be cleaning up the beach.

As a precautionary measure, Environmental Health has ordered the closure of Linda Mar, Rockaway and Sharp Park beaches.

A volunteer training has been scheduled for 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. today at the Pacifica Community Center at 540 Crespi Drive in Pacifica. Upon completion of the course, participants will be prepared to clean County beaches. Although the California Department of Fish and Game will conduct the training, it does not include wildlife rescue. Registration is not required; however, San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services is asking all interested volunteers to register at www.smcalert.info and select the Coastside and/or Bayside CERT Groups. For more information on today's class, call (650) 738-7356.

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For Oil Spill Reporting Please call these numbers:

Oiled Wildlife Reporting Hotline: 877-823-6926

Oil Sighting and claims: 866-442-9650

Public Info Hotline & Media Inquiries: 415-399-7305

San Mateo County Volunteer Registration

www.smcalert.info (select the Coastside and/or Bayside CERT Groups)