



NEWS FROM NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MEDIA ADVISORY

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TECHNOLOGY/ EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATION FOR SAFE SEAS EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL SET FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 7

NOAA and drill participating partners will hold a media opportunity Monday, August 7 at San Francisco's Pier 30-32 providing a first-hand advance look at equipment being deployed during the Safe Seas Emergency Response Drill. Reporters may interview drill participants, board some vessels and view demonstrations of emergency response technology displayed at the pier.

WHAT: Media opportunity to view equipment and talk to participants of Safe Seas 2006 emergency response exercise August 7-10:

- USCG 225-foot Cutter Aspen with Spilled Oil Spill Recovery System (Live drill at 1:00 p.m.)
- USCG Pacific Strike Team (rescue team from Hurricane Katrina), Satellite Communications Trailer
- NOAA R/V *Shearwater*, 62-foot research vessel
- NOAA Quick Response Estuarine Buoy
- NOAA's Office of Coast Survey AUV Team's Hydrographic Autonomous Underwater Vehicle
- NOAA Office of Coast Survey - Navigational Response Team Boat (Hurricane Katrina responder)
- NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration demonstration of new "pocket" computerized field tools
- Marine Spill Response Corporation 210-foot response boat, Pacific Responder, with demonstration of oil spill response vessel boom deployment and skimmer recovery technology.
- National Park Service Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Oiled Wildlife Care Network's 21-foot mobile field animal hospital, "Capture" truck with ATF vehicle
- California Office of Spill Prevention and Response
- U.S. Air Force Reserve 910th Airlift Wing, Aerial Spray Capability
- Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System High Frequency Radar Coastal Current Monitors

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: Media section on Drill Web site: <http://www.safeseas.noaa.gov>

WHEN: Monday, August 7, 2006, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Pier 30-32, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, Calif.

"Safe Seas 2006" emergency exercise response drill will be held August 7-10 in waters off California's central coast adjoining San Francisco Bay. More than 250 total personnel are participating, including representatives from NOAA, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the California Department of Fish and Game, Office of Spill Prevention and Response, other state trustees, and oil and marine transportation industry representatives. It will be the largest such emergency drill to date, and will include technology and personnel from the response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The Safe Seas 2006 exercise design focuses on the marine collision of a bulk freight cargo ship *M/V Blue Harp* inbound to San Francisco from Long Beach, with the outbound tug *Earnest Campbell*, towing the tank barge *Dottie*, en route to Los Angeles. The barge sinks from the collision, with oil spilling from both the barge and damaged cargo ship. The pollutants spilled during this exercise will be simulated by the release of thousands of drift cards, which are designed to model floating pollutants at the site of the hypothetical collision and sinking. Using this scenario, the Safe Seas 2006 exercise will bring together federal, state, and local responders in order to increase response readiness to a large oil spill in a National Marine Sanctuary in central California.