

Eshoo Presses US Coast Guard for San Mateo County Coastside Monitoring

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congresswoman Anna Eshoo has called for an immediate and full evaluation of the impact of the Cosco Busan oil spill on San Mateo County beaches and bayside property and has urged the Coast Guard to conduct a full evaluation of the status and the risks facing the county's marine assets. Following several conferences between Eshoo and her staff and Coast Guard officials, Rear Admiral Craig Bone, commandant of the Coast Guard's Bay Area operations, has directed flyovers of San Mateo County today and has sent assessment teams as far south as Año Nuevo State Reserve, widely known as the breeding ground for the endangered elephant seal.

Initial reports are there is no damage to the San Mateo County Coast from the oil spill, but Congresswoman Eshoo has pressed the Coast Guard to maintain continuous monitoring of the beaches and bay fronts.

"The San Mateo Coastline is known the world over for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, surfing, fishing, and the home of the elephant seals at Año Nuevo. With the swift tidal action in the Bay, I think we need to have the Coast Guard operating in a proactive role."

"Additionally, many volunteers have gathered information for us to relay to the US Coast Guard."

San Mateo County residents and officials expressed concern about reports of oil balls on the Pacific coast. While most of the oil went north of San Mateo County, a deep concern remains about the threat to local marine reserves

Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, a leader in the House of Representatives on environmental protection and a former Member of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, has been monitoring the impacts of the Cosco Busan Oil Spill since it happened. Rep. Eshoo attended the tour and briefing organized by Speaker Pelosi on November 12th with the agencies responsible for the response. Multiple investigations are ongoing as to how this could have happened including congressional oversight

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