



River Delta Fire District

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News Release – River Delta Fire Protection District

For Immediate Release Date: November 2, 2020

Contacts: Battalion Chief Chris McPeak

Subject: New Oil Spill Response Equipment will assist the region in containing spills and preserving habitat.

The River Delta Fire District has received a grant from the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) for an Oil Spill Response Equipment Trailer and training. The grant valued at \$35,000 will help with containment of harmful pollutants thus making clean up efforts easier and minimizing potential damage to the habitat.

The Equipment Trailer which will be staged at River Delta's Station 94 will provide easy access to River Delta Fire personnel and it's Regional Agency partner's resulting in a quicker response of containing Hazardous Materials and a reduction in long term negative effects to the environment.

"Our District encompasses numerous marinas with hundreds of boats and roadways that meander along and adjacent to several miles of waterways, levee roads and tributaries that feed into two major waterways of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers. Additionally, the delta is a major vacation destination for thousands of visitors who travel the water and roadways each summer. Our district gets called to approximately 2-3 boat fires a year and approximately 8-10 vehicles accidents in the water both which pose an environmental threat, not to mention the random calls our district receives of vehicles found in the water from possible illegal dumping.

This equipment will not only help serve our district with these issues but our Regional Agency partners as well who have similar geographics and calls," said Chris McPeak, Battalion Chief of the River Delta Fire District and author of the grant request. "This is a fantastic opportunity provided by the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response we thank them for this grant."

“The new spill prevention equipment that we plan to put into service early next year will be a great addition of service River Delta Fire District can provide the community, it’s habitat and the region.”

The grant will fund the purchase of one mobile equipment trailer customized to our specifications, 1,000 feet of containment boom, absorbent materials, personal protective equipment, and a boom deployment training course. Equipment is expected to be placed in service in early 2021.

Battalion Chief McPeak added, “These kinds of partnerships between California’s agencies help maintain the levels of responses so needed in our state’s rural areas.”

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