

State Lands Commission Oil & Gas Decommissioning Project Updates

Goleta Town Hall | June 7, 2023

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION



California State
Lands Commission



Platform Holly – Recent History

- April 2017: Venoco quitclaim.
- Nov 2019: ExxonMobil commenced operations to plug and abandon the wells.
- March 2020: COVID-19 shutdown.
- August 2021: re-activation of the abandonment rig commenced.
- December 2022: Well plugging completed, surface plugs set.



Platform Holly – Current Activity

- Process plant flushed and cleaned of residual hydrocarbons.
- Pipelines flushed, cleaned and idled.
- ‘Hardening’ work in progress.
 - Goal to eventually “decouple” platform from shore-based utilities and destaff.

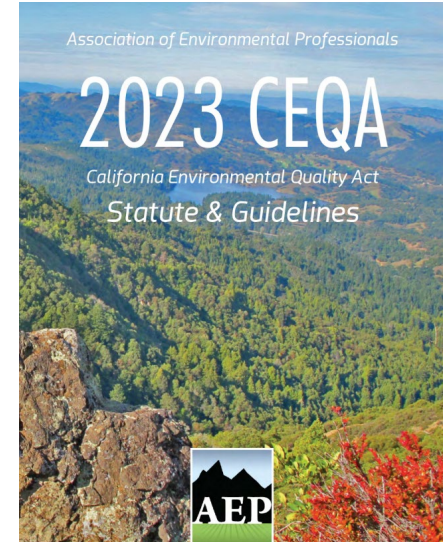


Ongoing Activity

- The Commission and its contractor continues to staff the platform in order to maintain health and safety, monitor security, monitor the wells, and maintain the facility until abandonment and decommissioning is complete.
- Initial California Environmental Quality Act work commenced in May to develop an Environmental Impact Report analyzing the platform decommissioning and removal.
 - Pending survey work to support EIR development:
 - Biological surveys via Dive work and ROV deployment – Spring 2022
 - Bathymetric surveys – Summer 2022
 - Shell Mound Coring and Assessment – Summer 2022

Platform Holly – EIR

- SLC retained a team including Padre, UCSB, and Blue Latitudes.
- Studies and data gap analysis over the next 12 months.
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - Three meetings planned through process on top of additional public engagement/town hall events.
- Notice of Preparation likely by end of 2023, early 2024, EIR certification in mid-2025.



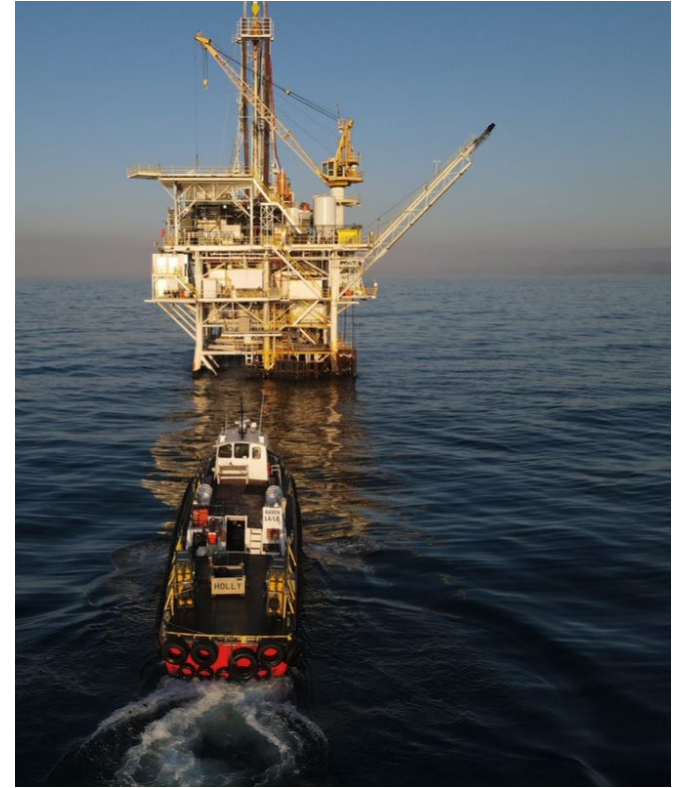
Ellwood Onshore Facility (EOF)

- Process equipment used during the SLC occupation was flushed & cleaned.
 - 24 vessels drained, flushed, or cleaned.
 - Numerous pipelines purged.
 - SLC coordinated with various agencies to ensure regulatory compliance.
- Facility handed back to the Venoco trustee in May 2023.



The Future

- Current projections estimate conductor removal work will commence in Q4 2023.
- All redundant equipment will then be removed, and the Platform will be placed in an inert shutdown condition until CEQA analysis is complete.
- Final decommissioning / removal 3-4 years in the future.



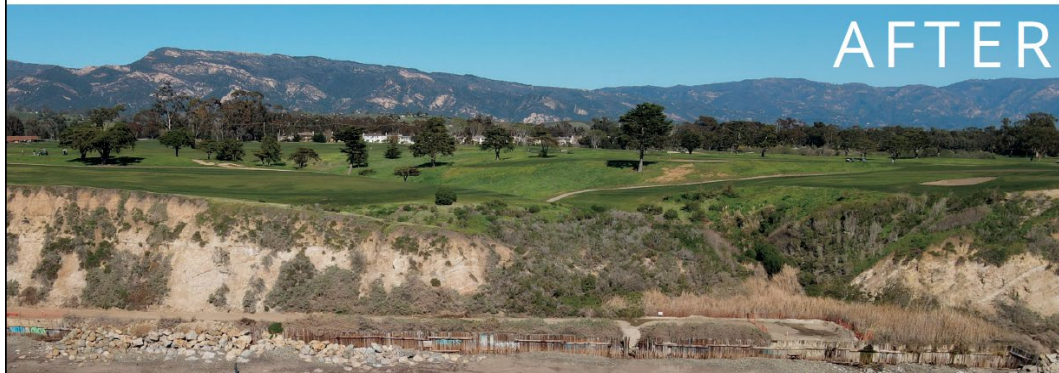
PRC 421 Decommissioning Project



Historic oblique photo (dated "1930's") showing the many oil pier structures at the time. (source: UCSB Collection)



PRC 421 Decommissioning Project



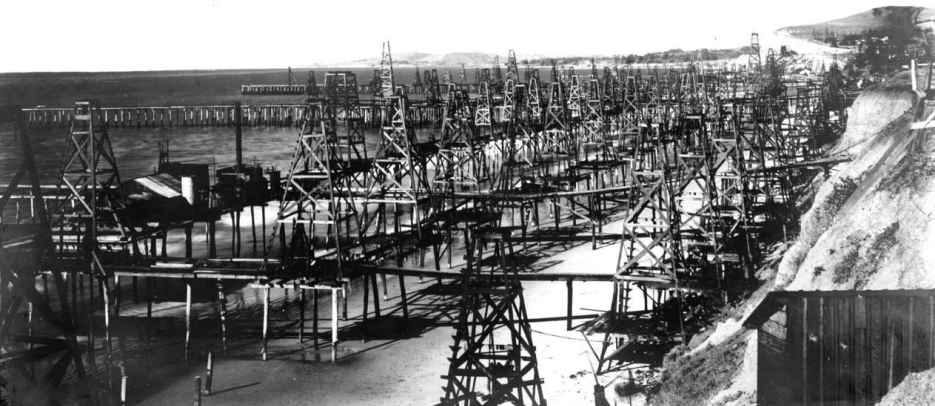
PRC 421 Decommissioning Project

- Planning since 2019 with removal work between August 2022 and February 2023
- Project team included wildlife monitors and mitigations to minimize impact to animals living on structures such as avoiding nesting seasons etc.
- Completed on time, no reportable injuries, no reportable spills.
- Thanks to project contractors Beacon West and ExxonMobil.

Ellwood Marine Terminal Decommissioning

- EMT was the primary source for Ellwood oil export to market from 1920's until 2012. Oil transported by pipeline to offshore barge.
- Was slated for decommissioning when Venoco declared bankruptcy in 2017.
- UCSB – CEQA Lead Agency released a Mitigated Negative Declaration.
 - Analyzes removal of the onshore EMT and the offshore loading line.
 - Exxon undertaking onshore removal per agreement with UCSB. SLC in negotiations with Exxon for undertaking offshore decommissioning.

Summerland Beach Legacy Wells



Summerland Beach Legacy Wells

- In the late 1800s, the area offshore of Summerland Beach was rapidly developed with oil wells and associated drilling infrastructure. This offshore oil development was unregulated.
- Most legacy oil and gas wells were abandoned in the early 1900s with little or no oversight, and virtually no records exist regarding the drilling and abandonment of these wells.

Summerland Beach Legacy Wells

- Legacy wells program addressed five problem wells between 2018 and 2022.
- Two wells planned for Q3 2023



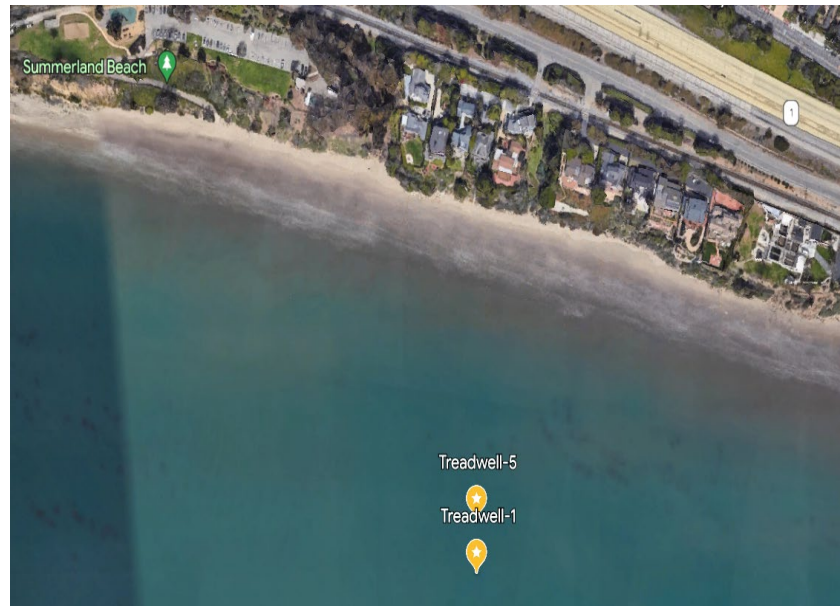
Summerland Beach Legacy Wells

Treadwell-5 well:

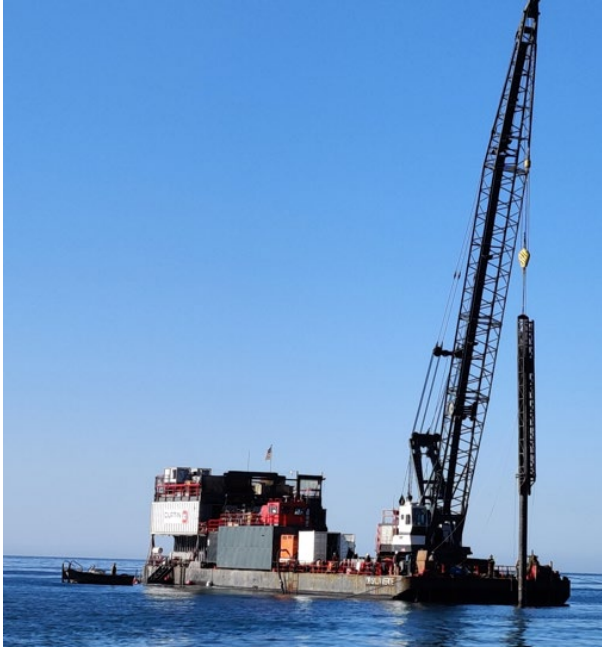
- Subtidal zone, ~460 feet offshore
- Water depth: ~20 feet

Treadwell-1 well:

- Subtidal zone, ~570 feet offshore
- Water depth: ~20 feet



Summerland Beach Legacy Wells





QUESTIONS?

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