



## Client Alert 19-2017

July 11, 2017

### California Shoreline Protection Update MSRC to Provide CASP for SB Transits of the Santa Barbara Channel

ECM's Client Alert 33-2015 issued on December 3, 2015 and then updated with Client Alert 22-2016 advised that as of January 1, 2016 **MARINE SPILL RESPONSE CORPORATION (MSRC)** would no longer provide enhanced California Shoreline Protection (CASP) coverage for vessels—tank or nontank - transiting the southbound traffic lanes of the Santa Barbara Channel and /or that operated in Port Hueneme.

On July 10, 2017 MSRC issued an announcement stating that effective July 1<sup>st</sup> they are providing CASP to vessels —tank or nontank - transiting the southbound traffic lanes of the Santa Barbara Channel. This coverage will be provided at no additional charge for owners/operators who are enrolled with MSRC for primary OSRO services with the following provisions.

1. **MSRC's** coverage is **only** for southbound transits of the Santa Barbara Channel.
2. Vessels covered by MSRC that call Port Hueneme will still require CASP coverage from the **National Response Corporation (NRC)**.
3. The coverage is provided free of charge to **MSRC** covered vessels.
4. Prior notification to MSRC is **not** required to receive the coverage.

Since **NRC** was the sole provider of CASP services from January 1, 2016 – July 1, 2017, many owners/operators contracted with **MSRC** entered into **CASP Only** coverage contracts with **NRC**. Those contracts will still be required for vessels operating in Port Hueneme.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**MSRC** clients with vessels transiting the southbound traffic lanes of the Santa Barbara Channel do not need to take any action as your vessels will be covered automatically.

**MSRC** clients who signed a short form contract with NRC for CASP should instruct their masters to only send the "NRC AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED California Shoreline Protection and/or Santa Barbara Channel Transit" form to **NRC** when calling Port Hueneme.

ECM has contacted **NRC** to see if this will now change their fees for CASP coverage in the Santa Barbara Channel. We have not yet had their reply.

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