STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 03/25)

Fiscal Year	Business Unit Number	Department
2026-27	3600	Fish and Wildlife

Hyperion Budget Request Name	Relevant Program or Subprogram
3600-108-BCP-2026-MR	2615

Budget Request Title
Office of Spill Prevention and Response Fleet Replacement

Budget Request Summary
The California Department of Fish and Wildlife requests a one-time increase of $3.28 million from the Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fund in fiscal year 2026-27 to replace fleet assets used for oil spill response and support. The Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) has identified an immediate need for additional resources to close an operational gap to ensure adequate and reliable fleet resources necessary for response activities.

Requires Legislation (submit required legislation with the BCP)	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed
☐ Trailer Bill Language ☐ Budget Bill Language ☒ N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.

Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? ☐ Yes ☒ No *If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.*	Department CIO	Date
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap to enter a date.

For IT requests, specify the project number, the most recent project approval document (FSR, SPR, S1BA, S2AA, S3SD, S4PRA), the approval date, and the total project cost.

Project No. Click or tap here to enter text.
Approval Date: Click or tap to enter a date.
Project Approval Document: Click or tap here to enter text.
Total Project Cost: Click or tap here to enter text.

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By	Date	Reviewed By	Date
		Nicole Nelson	
Department Director	**Date**	**Agency Secretary**	**Date**
Dan Reagan		Bryan Cash	

Department of Finance Use Only

Additional Review: ☐ Capital Outlay ☐ ITCU ☐ FSCU ☐ OSAE ☐ Dept. of Technology

Principal Program Budget Analyst	Date submitted to the Legislature
Andrew Hull	5/14/2026

A. Problem Statement

The Department's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) serves as the public's trustee and is responsible for protecting, managing, and restoring the State's fish, wildlife, and plants. It is one of the few state agencies in the nation with major pollution response authority and public trustee authority for wildlife and habitat. OSPR's mission is to provide the best achievable protection of the State's natural resources by preventing, preparing for, and responding to spills of oil and other harmful materials, and through restoring and enhancing affected resources.

In carrying out its responsibilities, OSPR must ensure that designated staff with the required training and essential equipment are prepared to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. OSPR has designated Field Response Team (FRT) staff on-call 24/7 for emergency response. These staff have vehicle home storage permits because even the time required to commute to the closest office to obtain a vehicle is considered too great of a delay. The staff on call are required to conduct an initial assessment of the response within 30 minutes of receiving a call, and it is critical that their vehicle be reliable and available if needed to respond. OSPR Staff are in various offices throughout the State from Eureka to San Diego so that staff are able to respond timely to a spill no matter the location. OSPR receives continuous notification of spills that occur in California through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES) State Warning Center. Many of those notifications can be handled remotely, but there are hundreds per year that require staff to physically respond to the spill locations. In addition, OSPR staff participate in Area Contingency Plan meetings aimed at protecting environmentally sensitive areas. These plans must be reviewed annually and involve stakeholders, including the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. EPA. Staff must also attend Local Emergency Planning and Harbor Safety committee meetings, because OSPR staff are the state representatives in the event of an emergency and must maintain relationships with local and state fire departments, police agencies and emergency personnel. OSPR must have access to reliable vehicles and the ability to store their specialized equipment within those vehicles to meet these responsibilities.

The Department is requesting one-time funding to replace the FRT's aging fleet vehicles, which have high mileage and increasing repair costs.

B. Justification

California has approximately 1,100 miles of outer coastline, including four marine sanctuaries that occupy 88,767 square miles. The weather, topography, and tidal currents in and around California's coastal ports and waterways make vessel navigation challenging. The state's major ports are among the busiest in the world. Approximately 700 million barrels of oil are consumed annually by California, with over 500 million barrels being transported by vessel. The peculiarities of California's maritime coast require special precautionary measures regarding oil pollution.

California has approximately 158,500 square miles of interior area where there are approximately 6,800 miles of pipeline used for oil distribution, 5,800 miles of class I railroad track, and 172,100 miles of maintained roads. This transportation infrastructure can impact the many inland waterways of the state.

In 1990, the California Legislature enacted the Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act (Act). The Act, codified in Government Code sections 8670.1 to 8670.73, included all aspects of marine oil spill prevention and response in California and established an Administrator who has broad powers to implement the Act's provisions. In 1991, OSPR, headed by the Governor-appointed Administrator, was created within the Department to implement the Act through the Oil Spill Prevention, Response, and Preparedness Program (Program). In 2014, the OSPR Program expanded to cover all state surface waters at risk of oil

spills from any source, including pipelines, production facilities, and the increasing shipments of oil transported by railroads. This expansion provided critical administrative funding for industry preparedness, spill response, and continued coordination with local, state, and federal government along with industry and non-governmental organizations (NGO).

Pursuant to the below sections of the Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act, the Administrator has a mandated duty for OSPR's preparedness and to ensure the best available protection of valuable natural resources and state waters. To meet this mandate OSPR must have the full fleet available and ready at any time to respond. If the response fleet is not replaced timely, it could put the Department's preparedness at risk if vehicles are out of service due to increased maintenance needs of the aging fleet.

Section 8670.3.(b)(1). *"Best achievable protection" means the highest level of protection that can be achieved through both the use of the best achievable technology and those manpower levels, training procedures, and operational methods that provide the greatest degree of protection achievable. The administrator's determination of which measures provide the best achievable protection shall be guided by the critical need to protect valuable natural resources and state waters, while also considering all of the following:*

(A) The protection provided by the measure.

(B) The technological achievability of the measure.

(C) The cost of the measure.

Section 8670.3.(b)(2). *The administrator shall not use a cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness analysis or any particular method of analysis in determining which measures provide the best achievable protection. The administrator shall instead, when determining which measures provide best achievable protection, give reasonable consideration to the protection provided by the measures, the technological achievability of the measures, and the cost of the measures when establishing the requirements to provide the best achievable protection for the natural resources of the state.*

Section 8670.3.(e). *"Dedicated response resources" means equipment and personnel committed solely to oil spill response, containment, and cleanup that are not used for any other activity that would adversely affect the ability of that equipment and personnel to provide oil spill response services in the timeframes for which the equipment and personnel are rated.*

Section 8670.5. ***Ensuring full and adequate response to oil spills.*** *The Governor shall ensure that the state fully and adequately responds to all oil spills in waters of the state. The administrator, acting at the direction of the Governor, shall implement activities relating to oil spill response, including drills and preparedness and oil spill containment and cleanup.*

C. Departmentwide and Statewide Considerations

This proposal will directly support OSPR's mandate to provide the best available protection of California's natural resources. In procuring new hybrid vehicles the Department will better meet Executive Order B-16-12 by reducing petroleum usage and greenhouse emissions.

D. Outcomes and Accountability

The replacement of the FRT vehicles will be included in the Department's 2026-27 Fleet Acquisition Plan (FAP) submitted to DGS for approval. Within 90 days of the FAP being approved by the Department of General Services (DGS), the Department will submit the purchase documents to DGS to process the purchase of the response vehicles.

E. Implementation Plan

Implementation of this proposal would begin on July 1, 2026, or upon approval of the 2026-27 Budget.

F. Supplemental Information (If Applicable)

The Department will replace OSPR's 41 response vehicles with hybrid vehicles.

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

(Dollars in Thousands)

BCP Title: Office of Spill Prevention and Response Fleet Replacement

BR Name: 3600-108-BCP-2026-MR

Budget Request Summary

Operating Expenses and Equipment

Operating Expenses and Equipment	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
54XX - Special Items of Expense	0	3,280	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	**$0**	**$3,280**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Total Budget Request

Total Budget Request	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
Total Budget Request	**$0**	**$3,280**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Fund Summary

Fund Source

Fund Source	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
State Operations - 0320 - Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fund	0	3,280	0	0	0	0
Total State Operations Expenditures	**$0**	**$3,280**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Total All Funds	**$0**	**$3,280**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Program Summary

Program Funding

Program Funding	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
2615019 - Readiness	0	3,280	0	0	0	0
Total All Programs	**$0**	**$3,280**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**