



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lake Nacimiento Sewer Interceptor Breach, San Luis Obispo, CA, March 30, 2011 - The County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department announced yesterday that a breach in the collection system of the Oak Shores wastewater system is believed to exist at Lake Nacimiento. Health advisories were released by local and state health agencies. A breach is believed to exist because excessive inflow at the wastewater treatment plant significantly exceeds normal flows. Actions are underway to locate and repair the breach. Water quality monitoring is ongoing by both Public Works and Environmental Health agencies.

The wastewater system serving the Oak Shores community adjacent to Lake Nacimiento was originally constructed as part of the community's development in 1974 and is operated by the County as part of County Service Area No. 7.

On-going efforts to locate the breach include the following:

- Pipeline water dye tests to locate the breach from the lake's surface
- Visual Inspections of pipeline connections for apparent breach.
- Divers to assess potential breach locations below water surface
- Video camera inspection of the pipelines to detect unusual flow conditions.

Public Works staff will continue ongoing efforts to locate and seal the breach as quickly as possible. The Oak Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant is operating at full capacity and is handling the increased volume to the system. These efforts are being accomplished in coordination with the State Department of Public Health, the County Department of Environmental Health and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Public Works staff is also providing status updates to Monterey County Water Resources Agency and Monterey County Parks.

The Health Advisories have been issued by the County Health Department and the State Department of Public Health as a precautionary action and will be updated, as needed, during the week.

Questions on this issue can be directed to Dave Flynn, Deputy Director of Public Works at 805-781-5252 or dflynn@co.slo.ca.us

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