



PLEASE POST!

COSEE-West

invites educators on
an educational cruise aboard the *Condor Express*
to learn about and observe

“Offshore Natural Oil and Gas Seeps”

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Meet at Condor Cruises @ Sea Landing

301 W. Cabrillo Blvd., Santa Barbara, CA 93109

BOAT DEPARTS: 8:30 A.M. AND RETURNS: 10:30 A.M.

Join fellow educators, scientists and ocean-lovers on this unique 2-hour field trip out of Santa Barbara Channel aboard the fast catamaran, *Condor Express*. This is an informational field excursion into the Santa Barbara Channel to learn about the natural seepage of oil, gas and tar/asphalt that has characterized the southern California bight for tens of thousands of years. You will see asphalt seeps along the beach, natural gas “bubble holes” offshore, and visit a working offshore oil platform. The *Condor Express* has successfully operated similar educational field trips for Veneco Corporation for several years.

Many people are unaware of the source of natural tar/asphalt on the beach and natural oil slicks. These materials have played a role in human society dating back as far as 13,000 years. Local Native Americans used these substances to waterproof their ocean-going plank boats (tomols), and to waterproof their baskets and containers. Within the last 100 years, natural asphalt seeps were mined to provide paving material for California roadways.

This is an opportunity to see these natural wonders from an ocean vantage point! It is not unusual to encounter wildlife such as sea otters, sea lions, harbor seals, bottlenose dolphins, and dozens of species of seabirds on these excursions. Bring your binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, jacket, and a snack! The experience is sure to greatly inform your teaching practice.-Capt Bob Perry

Nearby places of interest to visit after the boat trip include:

- ▶ Ty Warner Sea Center, www.sbnature.org/seacenter (We are trying to arrange a tour here after the boat trip!)
- ▶ Santa Barbara Natural History Museum, www.sbnature.org/index.php
- ▶ Santa Barbara Zoo, www.santabarbarazoo.org (Your boat ticket will have a discount coupon for the zoo!)



The boat trip is \$10 per person. Parking stubs are validated onboard for a discount.

Professional Development hours may be documented.

For directions to Condor Express at Santa Barbara Harbor, visit

http://condorcruises.com/contact-us.cfm/whale_watching/address-directions.cfm

Space is limited! COSEE-West has reserved a few spots for you! To register for one of them, contact the UCLA COSEE-West office:

email: cosee.west@gmail.com

tel: 310-206-8247

fax: 310-206-3987

There are **TWO** departure times that day with the same program: 8:30 A.M. (this is when we have reserved spots) & 10:30 A.M. If you do not get one of our spots, you can try to make your own reservation with Condor Express: 805-963-3564.

For more information about our programs for teachers and informal educators please visit the COSEE-West web site, <http://www.usc.edu/org/cosee-west>