

An underwater photograph showing a vibrant coral reef on the left side, with various colors of coral and sponges. On the right side, a large, dense school of small, silvery fish swims in the blue water. The overall scene is illuminated by natural light, creating a clear and detailed view of the marine life.

Bridging science to policy on offshore oil platform decommissioning

California Ocean Day 2023
Hosted by the CSU Council on Ocean Affairs,
Science & Technology (COAST)
and the California Ocean Science Trust (OST)

CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science & Technology (COAST)

- ▶ Ocean and coastal research, education and workforce development for CA
- ▶ Over 600 members across 23 CSU campuses
- ▶ Access to best available scientific information for evidence-based decision-making and policy development



Platform decommissioning is already happening

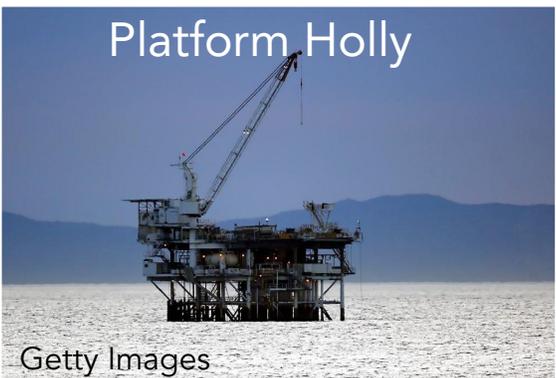
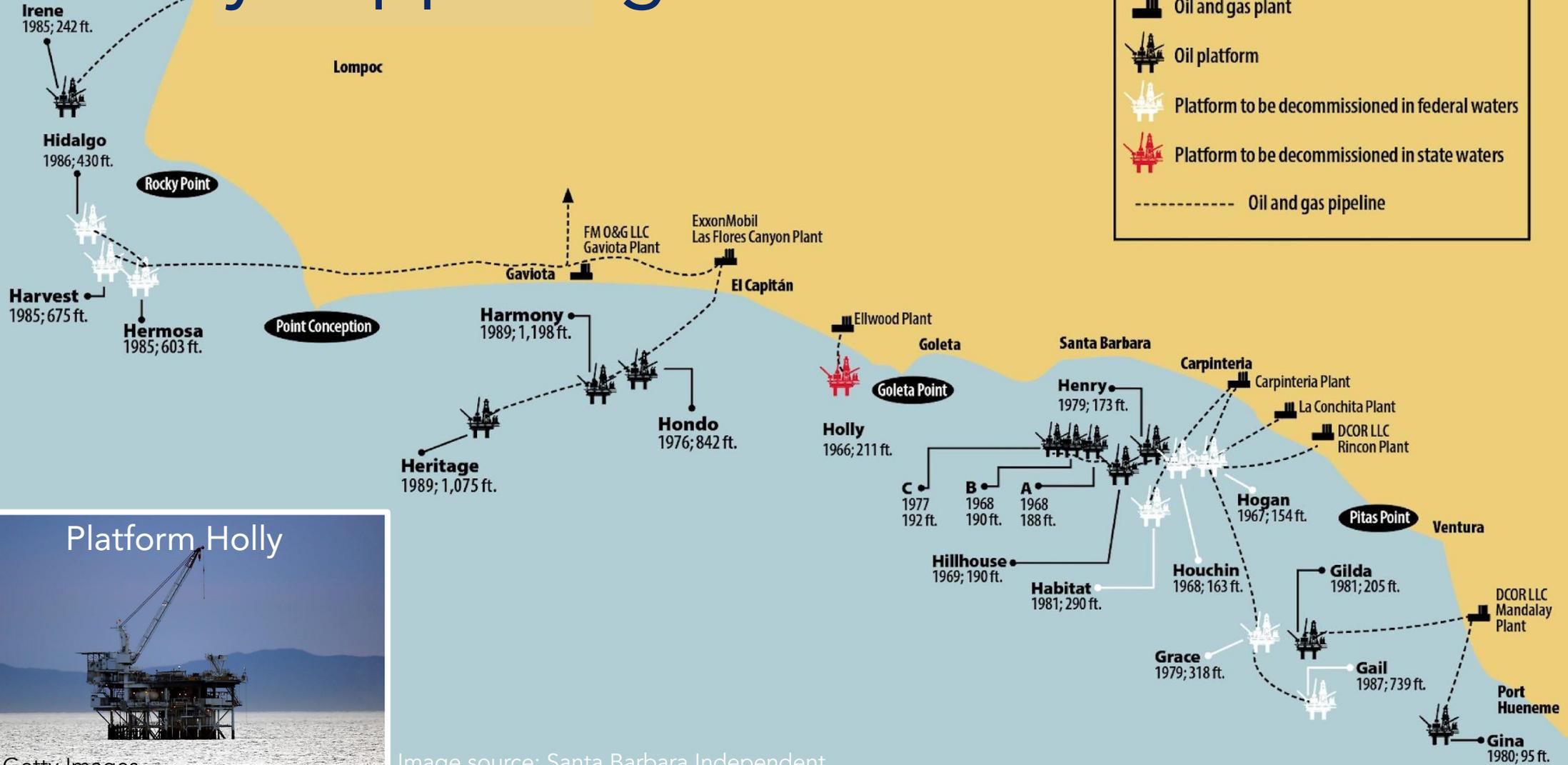


Image source: Santa Barbara Independent

Opening Remarks



Assemblymember Gregg Hart, District 37

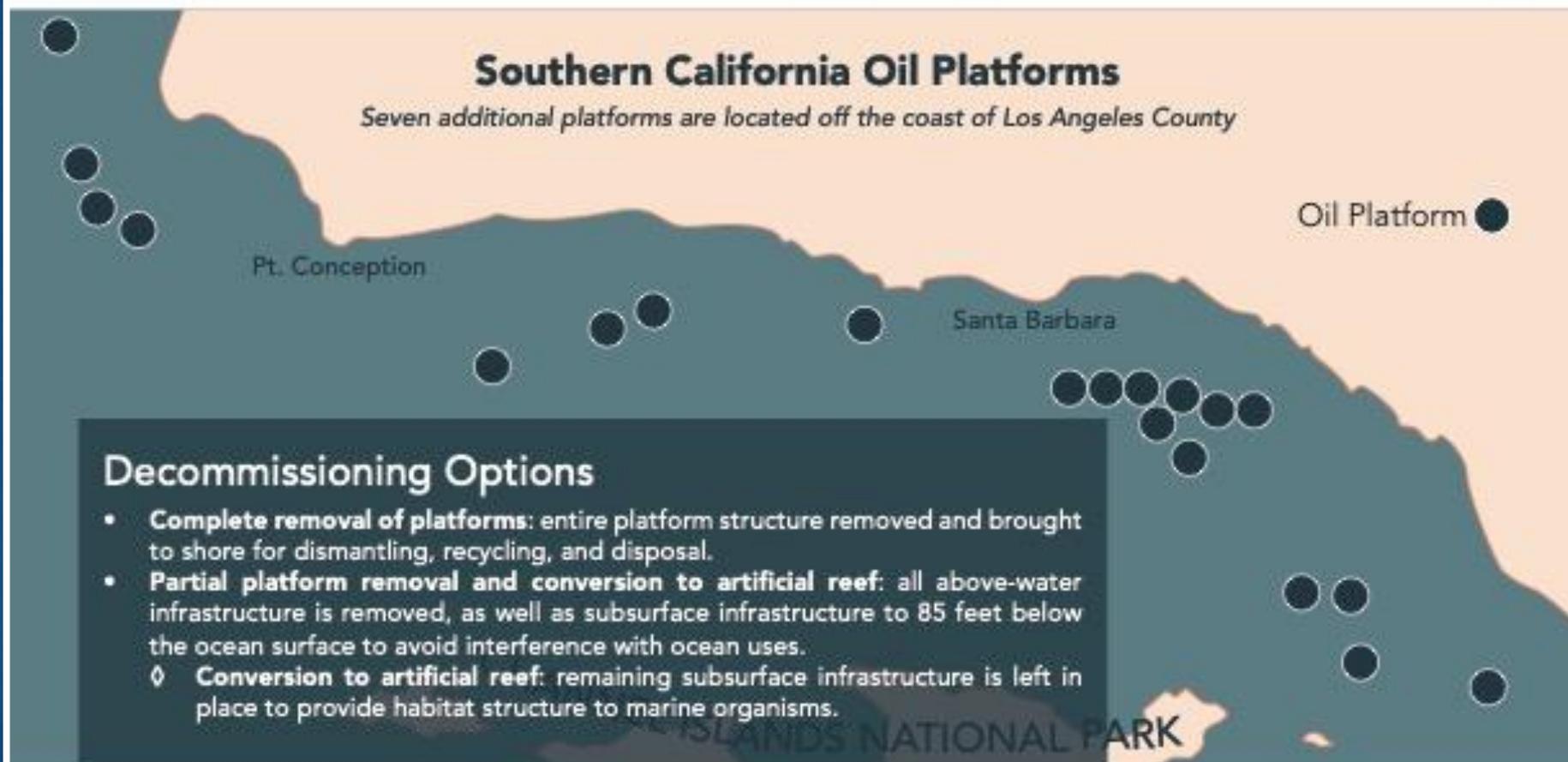
Quick Facts

- 34 oil & gas platforms installed offshore of California between 1968-1989
- 27 remaining: 4 in state waters; 23 in federal waters
- Water depth range of platforms: 30-1,198 ft
- Platform distance from coast: 0.5-10 miles

As many of these oil rigs begin to reach the end of their useful life, decision-makers will face the challenge of how to decommission rigs to minimize risks and maximize benefits.

Southern California Oil Platforms

Seven additional platforms are located off the coast of Los Angeles County



Decommissioning Options

- **Complete removal of platforms:** entire platform structure removed and brought to shore for dismantling, recycling, and disposal.
- **Partial platform removal and conversion to artificial reef:** all above-water infrastructure is removed, as well as subsurface infrastructure to 85 feet below the ocean surface to avoid interference with ocean uses.
 - ◊ **Conversion to artificial reef:** remaining subsurface infrastructure is left in place to provide habitat structure to marine organisms.

Panel

Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer California State Lands Commission

Dr. Jeremy Claisse, Associate Professor Cal Poly Pomona

Espe Vielma, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

