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SMVOAD Response Fact Sheet Regarding the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill

May 03, 2010, 12:00pm



SUMMARY OF SITUATION AS OF MAY 3, 2010

FACT SHEET: COMMUNITY RESPONSE

- www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com, unified command website

[BP](#) is continuing to work with the [U.S. Coast Guard](#) and other federal agencies and contractors to safely and effectively stop the oil flow from the Mississippi Canyon 252 well and to minimize its environmental impact. We are doing absolutely everything in our power to eliminate the source of the leak and contain the environmental impact of the spill. We are determined to fight this spill on all fronts, in the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico, in the shallow waters, and, if necessary, on the shore.

Current Operations

May 4, 2010 Operations:

Total Vessels (including tugs and skimmers): 196
Boom deployed: 486,940 feet
Boom available: 668,081 feet
Oil and Water Mix - Recovered: 23,968 gallons
Dispersant Used : 156,012 gallons



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Dispersant available: 230,000 gallons

Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV): 10
Overall Personnel Responding: 7,484

In addition to the overall personnel responding, more than 2,000 volunteers have been trained to assist in the response effort. 9 staging areas are in place and ready to protect sensitive shorelines. These areas include:

Biloxi, Miss.
Pensacola, Fla.
Venice, La.
Pascagoula, Miss.
Port Sulphur, La.
Port Fourchon, La.
Gulfport, Miss.
Dauphin Island, Ala.
Shell Beach, La.

Weather conditions for May 4: Winds from the south at 8 - 9 knots, 2 -3 foot seas. To report oiled or injured wildlife, please call 1-800-557-1401. To report spill related damage claims, please call 1-800-440-0858. To report oil on land, or for general Community and Volunteer Information, please call 1-866-448-5816.

For the latest information visit www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com or follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/Oil_Spill_2010 or on Facebook at Deepwater Horizon Response.

Project-specific coastal protection and spill response plans are being implemented consistent with the national, region and state oil spill response plans that are already in place and with input on priority locations from state and local experts.

Onshore preparation is being significantly expanded in case released oil reaches the coast. We have ramped up preparations for a major protection and clean-up effort on the shorelines of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

Boom is being deployed with staging taking place from East of Bolivar in Texas to Tampa, Fla. In addition to the incident command post in Robert, La., we are establishing an incident command post in Mobile, Ala., to oversee the onshore response in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

A significant community outreach plan also has been launched in these areas. Outreach to potentially impacted communities includes ongoing communications and engagement with state and local government officials and staff; other community leaders including fishing associations, local businesses, parks, wildlife and



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environmental organizations, educational institutions, medical/emergency establishments and news media, neighbors of potentially impacted areas and the broader general public.

Working with volunteers

The company is coordinating and deploying thousands of volunteers who are offering their help. These volunteers are considered a critical part of a proactive response to the oil spill. Volunteer activities are focused on clearing the beaches of existing debris. Clearing the beaches prior to a potential oil spill reaching the shoreline and sand advances the efficiency of oil clean-up if necessary.

There are five BP community outreach sites training, preparing and engaging volunteers:

- Pensacola, Florida
- Venice, Louisiana
- Mobile, Alabama
- Pascagoula, Mississippi
- Biloxi, Mississippi

A robust process is in place to assure that:

- The skills of volunteers are put to the most effective use using an assessment process;
- The volunteers are trained in personal safety;
- The volunteers have proper training and certification from the authoritative organizations and companies required by OSHA for shoreline cleaning of oil should it reach the beaches of the four Gulf States at risk: Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.



VENICE, La. - U.S. Environmental Services' workers move oil containment boom onto a supply boat in Venice, La., April 29, 2010. Staging areas are being set up along the Gulf Coast to actively identify, target and protect environmentally and economically sensitive areas. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Patrick Kelley.



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We realize that many people want to help with the response effort. We already have requests from thousands of people willing to volunteer to clean up the beaches now and if and when the oil comes to shore. To help organize volunteers we established a phone line for them to call: 866-448-5816.

The U.S. Coast Guard leads the volunteer effort if shoreline cleanup is needed. **Shoreline cleanup volunteers must have training including hazardous materials training required by OSHA and EPA.** Only volunteers who have been trained and provide appropriate certification are allowed to assist.

Wildlife

To address potential wildlife impacts, BP has contracted with [Tri-State Bird and Rescue](#). Tri-State works with trained and certified volunteers to help recover and clean impacted wildlife. A toll-free number 800-557-1401 has been established to report oiled or injured wildlife. People are urged not to attempt to help injured or oiled animals, but to report any sightings via the toll-free number.

Claims

- www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com, unified command website

A claims number also has been established: **1-800-440-0858.**

- [BP](#) is seeking ways to plug the leaks 5,000 feet under the water's surface. The company plans to drill a second well to take pressure off of the current gusher. The [U.S. Coast Guard](#) said it has been unable to get an accurate estimate of how much oil is leaking and is preparing for a worst-case scenario.
- More than 2,000 people have been deployed to protect the shoreline and coastal wildlife, according to a statement from the Joint Information Center.
- Surface estimates of the size of the slick and skimming efforts were hindered as the Coast Guard ordered boats and aircraft back to port because of stormy weather. [The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) previously estimated the well is spewing 5,000 barrels of oil a day. At that rate, the volume of the spill would exceed [Alaska's 1989 Exxon Valdez accident](#) by the third week of June.
- The [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) is closing commercial and recreational fishing from Louisiana to parts of the Florida Panhandle because of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. In a news release sent Sunday afternoon, NOAA said the closure begins immediately and will last for at least 10 days.



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- [Adm. Allen](#) is in charge of the entire operation to try and shut off the leak and contain the spill. Adm. Allen said there are three different areas where oil is leaking from the ocean floor. The holes are trying to be plugged with remote submarines, but it is a very difficult process. Adm.
- Allen also stated that the leaks exist because of a "failure of the blowout preventer" which is suppose to shut the valve of the pipeline in situations such as these.
- Some experts are saying the oil will eventually travel around the peninsula of Florida and find its way onto the East Coast of Florida or even New England.

Contact Information and Links to Services and Information



- [BP](#) issued phone numbers for the following response inquiries: To report oiled wildlife, please call 1-866-557-1401 and leave a message. Messages will be checked hourly. To discuss spill related damage, please call 1-800-440-0858. Or click on image below and go to incident site.

Additional CONTACT INFORMATION To report oiled shoreline: (866)-448-5816 To submit alternative response technology, services or products: (281) 366-5511 To submit your vessel as a vessel of opportunity skimming system: (281) 366-5511 To submit a claim for damages: (800) 440-0858 To report oiled wildlife: (866) 557-1401 To contact the Deepwater Horizon Joint Information Center: (985) 902-5231;

MEMA OPENS CALL CENTER TO ANSWER OIL SPILL QUESTIONS

PEARL – The [Mississippi Emergency Management Agency](#) will open a call center today at noon to answer questions from concerned residents regarding the oil spill in Gulf of Mexico. The number is **866-920-MEMA (6362)**. The call center will be opened today from noon to 6 p.m. and starting tomorrow, the call center lines will be activated everyday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. until further notice. Call center staff will be able to answer some general questions regarding the April 20 explosion that sank the BP' Transocean Deepwater Horizon drilling rig April 22. We will also have a list of important phone numbers to give to concerned residents. **Media should call Joint Information Center in Mobile at 985-902-5231/5240.** For more information, visit us online at www.msema.org.

Volunteer Information



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- www.Pascagoulariver.audubon.org, training to assist wildlife signup
- www.oceansprings-ms.gov, cleanup training signup
- www.oilspillvolunteers.com, a volunteer group in Ocean Springs

[United Way of South Mississippi](http://www.unitedway.org) has been authorizing to set up a Volunteer Reception Center by the [Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service](http://www.mississippicommissionforvolunteerservice.com) and are coordinating with the Corporation for National and Community Service. They have a site in Hancock County and SMVOAD will ask them to open if necessary. That decision will come as the situation unfolds. The MCVS web site is updated with info for volunteers concerned about the oil spill response on the MS Gulf Coast.

Volunteers can register through www.MCVS.org for either tornado or oil spill relief assistance.

Jon A Biggs (SMVOAD President)

Due to HazMat and Environmental concerns all volunteers participating in any cleanup activities must receive specialized training. The first step is the basic personal safety trainings that are being held along the coast . The trainings are being conducted by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College as following:

- 2PM, 4PM, and 6PM Monday –Saturday
- Jackson County Campus-Gymnasium
- Jefferson Davis Campus-Room U202
- Pearl River CC Hancock County Center (Monday-Friday)

These volunteer training sessions will qualify volunteers to participate in pre-landfall beach cleaning. Organized volunteer pre-landfall beach cleaning will be conducted today following the training sessions. HazMat and Wildlife trainings will be open to volunteers and held once the training is approved by OSHA. Please encourage your volunteers to attend one of the above personal safety, those training may be a prerequisite to addition training.

All SMVOAD and MSVOAD Partners and Members

Special Called Meeting for Gulf Oil Spill Response for development of a Planning Committee for a potential Recovery Summit to deal with Long Term effects of Oil Spill

Knight Non-Profit Building, 11975 Seaway Rd, Gulfport, MS

Banquet Room



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Wednesday, May 5th

2:00-4:00 pm

Meeting to discuss possible Summit to deal with immediate and long term needs of MS Gulf Coast

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ONLINE

Coping with Technological Disasters

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council

Citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers.

Technological disasters, such as the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, disrupt communities in many ways. The most obvious and tangible disruptions occur to the ordinary flow of goods, services, and jobs. For example, the 1989 spill created thousands of high-paid jobs in cleanup work. As a result, ordinary employers in communities—village stores, Native corporations, and city governments—lost workers and found it even harder to function normally during the crisis

[More....](#)

- **IncidentNews: Deepwater Horizon** View the most up-to-date information on OR&R's IncidentNews site. [leaves OR&R site]
- **EPA: Federal Response to BP Spill in the Gulf of Mexico** This site tracks EPA's ongoing work in the area and help answer questions about the incident. [leaves OR&R site]
- **Deepwater Horizon Joint Information Center** This site is providing information regarding the April 20 incident in the US Gulf of Mexico involving a Transocean drilling Rig Deep Water Horizon. The Horizon was engaged in drilling activity on behalf of BP at Mississippi Canyon Block 252, about 52 miles southeast of Venice, La. [leaves OR&R site]
- **Deepwater Horizon Response on Twitter** This site is providing information regarding the April 20 incident in the US Gulf of Mexico involving a Transocean drilling Rig Deep Water Horizon. [leaves OR&R site]
- **Deepwater Horizon Response on Facebook** This site is providing information regarding the April 20 incident in the US Gulf of Mexico involving a Transocean drilling Rig Deepwater Horizon. [leaves OR&R site]

Current Trajectory Maps • [top](#)

- **Deepwater Horizon 24Hr Trajectory Map 2010-05-02-1200** The 24 hour trajectory forecast



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prepared on May 2 at 12:00pm.

(Document format: **PDF**, size: **1.7 M**)

- **Deepwater Horizon Cumulative Trajectory Map 2010-05-02** Approximate oil locations from