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Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill #31
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Deepwater Horizon Incident Update #31
(Highlighted sections indicate new information)

Situation Update

- ***Navarre Beach and Santa Rosa's entire coastline is open, including the waters for fishing.*** Two links to live Web cams on Navarre Beach are available at www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill.
- There were no reported tarballs on Navarre Beach this morning; however there were a few oiled bottles at the tide line.
- Sheen and tarballs mixed with seaweed in the tide line in the Pensacola Pass were reported approximately five miles west of Gulf Breeze. Booms were deployed to contain the material for skimmers to collect.
- U.S. Senator George LeMieux will meet with Santa Rosa County business leaders and county officials tomorrow, Friday, June 11 at 8:15 a.m. at the Navarre Beach Pier to discuss the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil spill to our area, including effects on the local economy.
- ***Beach goers may see June Grass, a feathery-like alga that is common in warm water during summer months. This common occurrence and not related to the oil spill.***
- ***Some sheens in Florida are oceanographic "slicks" that are often seen during very calm conditions, and not associated with Deepwater, but are naturally occurring sea-surface slicks which consist of plant and animal oil. Slicks are long, straight or curvy features, meters in width, and are glassy, oily, or scummy in appearance.***
- NOAA trajectories show direct impacts of scattered tarballs and light sheen through the weekend for coastal regions near and west of Pensacola.
- Relatively weak winds (below 10 knots) are expected today and should continue out of the south or southwest through the weekend. This wind flow may continue to push portions of the oil plume towards the Florida Panhandle in the next 72 hours; however, near-shore ocean currents are forecast to become more westward in the next few days which will help limit the eastward movement of the oil plume and windows of sheen.
- County staff and reconnaissance teams continue to monitor beach conditions daily generally from day break until 6 p.m.
- Scattered tarballs were found and cleaned up on Navarre Beach June 4-9.
- Potential impacts to Florida's shoreline will be highly weathered, in the form of tar balls, oil sheen, tar mats or mousse – a pudding-like oil/water mixture that could be brown, rust or orange in color. For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill, under the Fact Sheet and Q & A heading.
- Citizens are asked not to engage in direct contact with oil and oil contaminated products such as tar balls, tar patties, tar mats, and oil sheen. Only qualified members should handle oil products and oil contaminated materials. To report tar or oil on the beach, call the Florida State Warning Point Line at 1-877-272-8335 or # DEP from a cell phone.
- The tar balls that are found resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill pose no different health risk than tar balls that are commonly found on Florida beaches. The Department of Health and DEP are closely monitoring health and environmental impacts to Florida's beaches and will notice an advisory if conditions become unsafe.
 - For most people, an occasional brief contact with a small amount of tar balls, while not recommended, will do no harm. However, some people are especially sensitive to chemicals, including the hydrocarbons found in crude oil and petroleum products. They may have an allergic reaction or develop rashes even from brief contact with oil. If contact occurs, wash the

area with soap and water, baby oil, or a widely used, safe cleaning compound such as the cleaning paste sold at auto parts stores. Avoid using solvents, gasoline, kerosene, diesel fuel, or similar products on the skin. These products, when applied to skin, present a greater health hazard than the smeared tarball itself.

- June 7 water quality testing, which is conducted once a week by the University of West Florida came back negative for aliphatic hydrocarbons. This means that no dissolved or dispersed hydrocarbons were found in the water.
- There are 196 Qualified Community Responders actively working the cleanup effort in the Florida Panhandle.
- Unified Command policy requires all on-shore and near-shore cleanup workers to follow a work/rest cycle to ensure their safety and well-being. In conjunction with OSHA approval and the collaboration of a board-certified doctor, all workers are required to follow heat stress management plan work schedules. The schedule requires specific work-rest regimen which differs depending on the heat index at the moment, the work being done and the type of protective clothing being worn.
- The State of Florida is taking additional proactive measures to ensure the quick and timely discovery of oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Reconnaissance missions are being coordinated daily from the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee using air, land, and sea assets from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Civil Air Patrol, and the Florida National Guard.
 - These reconnaissance missions that started last week are being conducted from Perdido Key in Escambia County to Cape San Blas in Gulf County. Search areas are divided into approximately five-mile increments, with all terrain vehicles (ATVs) patrolling the coastline looking for any evidence of land-falling oil products. Boats are patrolling the gulf waters in these areas looking for evidence of oil sheen or other oil byproducts, and air assets are evaluating waters out to nine miles from shore daily and further when directed. When evidence of oil is detected, the reconnaissance teams quickly report their findings back to the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee. Then teams hired by the responsible party, BP, can be dispatched to the impacted areas through Unified Command in Mobile, Alabama, to perform cleanup, skimming or other mitigation measures in a timely fashion.
- Two plans created by the United States Coast Guard, BP and the impacted states, including Florida, outline the steps for shoreline assessment and cleanup to ensure quick and efficient response to oil on our shores. Those plans include The Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Team Plan and the Mobile Sector Near Shore and Shoreline Stage I and II Response Plan.
 - The SCAT Plan outlines the role of SCAT teams and provides a process for collecting shoreline oil data used to create cleanup plans. SCAT teams consist of trained representatives from BP, the federal government and the state. The response plan addresses response in three stages: recovering oil in the water, placing boom and other protective measures along the most sensitive areas of Florida's coastline, and cleaning up any oil that does impact Florida's shores as quickly as possible, both while the oil discharge continues from Deepwater Horizon and after the leak is stopped.
 - The first stage of response involves oil removal from near shore waters using skimming devices, vacuum systems, booming and other appropriate methods. These removal methods are currently being used to prevent oil from reaching Florida's shoreline. Approximately 261,250 feet of boom has been placed in Florida along the most sensitive areas of the Panhandle, and several counties in the western tip of the Panhandle are moving forward with supplemental booming plans.
 - The second stage of the response plan outlines the cleanup methods for a variety of habitats, including beaches, marshes, and man-made structures such as docks and pilings. Boom will likely not prevent tar balls, tar mats and very sticky weathered oil from washing onshore. Therefore, the most feasible cleanup method in this stage is manual removal of oil with hand tools or mechanical equipment used by authorized and trained individuals. The third stage is intended to finalize shoreline cleanup in habitats that may be adversely affected by oil after the leak is stopped.
 - There are Unified Command assets working on the affected areas of Florida. The following locations of a few of the task forces:

- Offshore Recovery Taskforce #701: Dispatching 60 miles due south of Fort Morgan with all assets
- Offshore Recovery Taskforce # 702 : 9 miles southwest of Pensacola
- Offshore Recovery Taskforce # 704: 30 miles south of Pensacola
- Offshore Recovery Taskforce #705: 3 to 7 miles off coastal areas from Dauphin Island to Port St. Joseph
- Offshore Recovery Taskforce Task Force # 706: Operational between Mobile and Pensacola
- BP has contracted with Waste Management Services for removal of waste generated from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. This plan has been approved by the Unified Command in Mobile with input from the State of Florida. Learn more about treatment and disposal options at: www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/files/treatment_disposal_options.pdf
- BP will issue an additional \$25 million to Florida for the state's preparedness and response efforts.
- On June 2, the EOC returned to a level 2, or partial activation with essential staff, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. until further notice. The Santa Rosa County Citizen Information Line at (850) 983-INFO or 4636 is open 24 hours daily.
- Santa Rosa County and the State of Florida continue to make preparations to safeguard the state's shoreline.
- As part of the Obama Administration's ongoing commitment to transparency surrounding the response to the BP oil spill, U.S. Energy Department is providing online access to schematics, pressure tests, diagnostic results and other data about the malfunctioning blowout preventer. The site will be updated with additional data soon and will be available at www.energy.gov.
- Syndromic surveillance, or using health-related data that would warrant further public health response, has been heightened in six coastal counties from Escambia to Gulf, monitoring for potential health effects.
- There is no planned use of dispersants in Florida waters.
- Skimmers have been deployed near Pensacola with hopes of removing the oil near the shore waters and preventing and minimizing any potential impacts to Florida.
- Unified Area Command has consolidated a report of fish and wildlife collected in the Deepwater Horizon/BP incident impact area. The report is updated each day at noon and is available at <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/55963>.
- Transcripts of the fact-find joint investigation by the USCG/MMS Marine Board of Investigation for May 11-12 are available online at: http://www.deepwaterjointinvestigation.com/posted/3043/Deepwater_Horizon_Joint_Investigation_Transcript_May_11_2010.621903.pdf and http://www.deepwaterjointinvestigation.com/posted/3043/Deepwater_Horizon_Joint_Investigation_Transcript_May_12_2010.621931.pdf.

Booms

- As a precautionary measure against oil being carried in with the evening high tides, access to and from the bayous within the City of Gulf Breeze will close June 10 after 6 p.m. Access is likely to be restored in the morning.
- Oil containment boom (in feet) total in Florida: 311,780
 - Tier 1: 152,000 / Tier 2: 123,500
 - Tier 3: 42,180 (deployed by Florida contractors)
- FDEP gave the state contractor, DRC, approval to begin staging boom for Santa Rosa County's tier three or additional booming plan on June 1.
- An additional booming plan for Santa Rosa County that was drafted by the state's contractor WRS for the county, was approved by unified command and the plan and booming map are posted at www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill, shown as a blue cross on the map (some locations have two crosses to show point to point locations).
 - The following booming sites, which are in addition to the U.S. Coast Guard's Area Contingency Plan, were deployed by Santa Rosa's selected state contractor and left open for navigation and will be closed upon imminent threat: Zamarra Canal, Gilmore Bayou, Woodland Bayou, Villa Venyce, Santa Rosa Shores, Hoffman Bayou, Polynesian Isle, East River, and two booms in Pensacola Bay
 - DRC, the contractor, is responsible for monitoring, maintaining and disposal of any oil material

- Unified commands continues to check, verify conditions, and make repairs as needed, to currently placed booms.
- Residents are asked to stay clear of boom on beaches and in open water. Boom has been placed to protect environmentally sensitive and strategic areas and damaging or removing the boom puts those areas at risk. Crossing boom can cause serious damage to vessels.
- Spill responders are asking for the public's help in monitoring boom along the Gulf Coast. Boaters are requested to report sightings of broken, disconnected, or adrift boom; and encouraged to keep their distance from boom especially at night and in conditions of restricted visibility. Report damaged, vandalized, adrift, or stolen boom to 1-866-448-5816.

Small Business Disaster & Bridge Loans

- On June 7, Governor Charlie Crist activated Florida's Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program, which will provide emergency, short-term loans to established small businesses in the designated counties.
 - Short-term loans of up to \$25,000 will be available to owners of small businesses (less than 100 employees) in counties impacted the recent oil spill. The interest-free loans come in terms of 12 month maturities. To be eligible, a business owner must have been operational for one full year prior to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on April 20, 2010, and demonstrate physical damage or economic injury as a result of the oil spill.
 - Applications for businesses will be available Monday, June 14, 2010. To receive an application or more information on the program, please contact the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development at (850) 487-2568, or the Florida First Capital Finance Corporation (<http://www.ffcfc.com>) at (850) 681-3601.
- Governor Crist announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration has approved disaster loan funds for businesses along Florida's Gulf coast that have been impacted by the Deepwater Horizon incident.
 - SBA representatives opened a disaster loan office on Tuesday, May 18 at the Navarre Visitor Information Center located at 8543 Navarre Parkway (U.S. Hwy 98) in Navarre. Hours of operations will be 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday- Saturday until further notice.
 - More information can be found at: www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance/SERV_DISASTERASSISTANCEGOV.html
- Loan Applications
 - Issued: 267
 - Accepted: 44
 - Declined: 12
 - Approved: 2
 - Loan amount approved: \$255,000.00

BP Claims

- BP announced it will be sending a second advance payment during June to individuals and businesses along the Gulf Coast to compensate for the loss of income or net profit due to the cleanup of the Deepwater Horizon Incident in the Gulf of Mexico.
- A BP Community Outreach Center has been opened in Gulf Breeze at:
 - 1198 Gulf Breeze Pkwy., Ste. 6, Gulf Breeze FL 32561
 - Phone (850) 691-9116
- BP Claims for Deepwater Horizon can be submitted at www.bp.com/claims.
- To serve the residents of Santa Rosa County, BP opened a claims office in Midway on Friday, May 14. The office is located at 5668 Gulf Breeze Parkway Unit B-9 in Gulf Breeze. Hours of operation will be 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week, until further notice.
 - BP recommends anyone with a claim to call 1-800-440-0858 to help expedite the process. By calling the claims number, adjusters at the claims office will have the information prior to your visit.
- BP claims in Florida: 10,138 claims/ approximately \$7,270,334.51 paid
 - Bodily injury: 49 claims/ \$0 paid
 - Wage Loss: 5,436 claims/ approximately \$3,445,826.36 paid
 - Loss of income: 4,355 claims/ approximately \$3,823,655.65 paid
 - Other: 298 claims/ approximately \$3,352.50 paid

Vessels of Opportunity (boats) program

- BP is looking to contract shrimp boats, oyster boats and other vessels for hire through the Vessel of Opportunities Program to deploy boom in the Gulf of Mexico. For more information 907-301-8878.
- 395 vessels have been deployed in Florida for the Vessels of Opportunity program.
- Submit your vessel as a vessel of opportunity skimming system: (281) 366-5511

Fishing

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration opened 339 square miles of previously closed fishing area off the Florida panhandle – the northern boundary now ends at the Florida federal-state water line on the east side of Choctawhatchee Bay. The federal closed area does not apply to any state waters. Closing fishing in these areas is a precautionary measure to ensure that seafood from the Gulf will remain safe for consumers. Details can be found at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.
- **All Santa Rosa County waters are currently open to fishing.** Oil has not affected most of Florida waters and there are vast amounts open for fishing and other recreational activities and the FWC encourages everyone to fish where the waters are clear and to enjoy freshly harvested seafood products in these areas. Updated information regarding fishing advisories or harvest closures in Florida due to the BP oil spill will be posted online at <http://myfwc.com/OilSpill/index.htm>.
- The FWC is conducting airborne and waterborne surveillance to establish oil presence and extent to guide management actions. It will decide whether to close a specific area to the harvest of fish based on a visual assessment that confirms there is a significant amount of oil on the surface of the water. Fishermen are reminded that it is recommended to never harvest and eat fish with oily residue, fish that have a petroleum odor or dead fish.
- The FWC & NOAA Fisheries Service strongly advises fishermen not to fish in areas where oil or oil sheens (very thin layers of floating oil) are present, even if those areas are not currently closed to fishing. Details can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

Boats

- Vessels are advised to avoid spill areas.
- Vessels that must transit through the affected zone should maintain a safe speed through the oil that appears light, bright and on the surface. Vessels should avoid pockets of heavy black oil to ensure safe navigation.
- If traveling through an oil affected area by boat, take precautions when hoisting the boat anchor. If oil makes contact with skin, wash it off immediately with soap and water. Recommendations can be found on cleaning at www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon under Resources.

Important Phone Numbers

- **Florida Oil Spill Information Line** - 1-888- 337-3569
- **Fraud Hotline**- 1-866-966-7226.
- **Submit Alternative Response Technology Services & Products**- email horizonsupport@oegllc.com or call 1-281-366-5511
- **Report Oiled Wildlife**- 1-866-557-1401
- **Report Oiled Shoreline to State Warning Point**- 1-877-2-SAVE-FL (1-877-272-8335) or #DEP from a cell phone
- **BP Toll-Free Claims line**- 1800-440-0858
- **BP's Community Information line**- 1-866-448-5816
- **Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner gas price-gauging hotline**: 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352).

General Safety Information

- www.santarosa.fl.gov
- Citizens can sign up to automatically receive breaking news alerts from Santa Rosa County Emergency Management via e-mail or as a text message on their cell phone at: www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/publicwarning.html.
- The Santa Rosa County Citizen Information Line at (850) 983-INFO or 4636 is open 24 hours daily.

- The Florida Poison Control Center – 1-888-337-3569

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