News Release *News Release*

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Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill #64
July 15, 2010
4:25 p.m.

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Deepwater Horizon Incident Update #64

(Highlighted sections indicate new information)

Situation Update

- ***Navarre Beach and Santa Rosa's entire coastline is open for swimming and fishing.*** Two links to live Web cams on Navarre Beach are available at www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Links for Visitors" tab.
- There are currently no swimming or fishing restrictions on Navarre Beach or anywhere in Santa Rosa County.
- Today, July 15, soft tar patties were collected on Navarre Beach near beach crossover number 10. Clean up crews were present and cleaned the beach. Current weather conditions may hamper further cleanup efforts.
- Heavy June grass was also reported in the surf zone.
- Continued impacts will be possible in Northwest Florida over the next 72 hours.
- According to the NOAA oil plume model, the oil plume is 128 miles from Pensacola, and 130 miles from Panama City. Trajectory forecasts are showing a slow northward movement of both offshore oil and the near shore uncertainty line through Saturday.
- A cleanup crew of 60 was on Navarre Beach today and a team of 40 is scheduled to work on Navarre Beach Park tonight, July 15.
- BP, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel will host a Technical Open House on Saturday, July 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hilton Pensacola Beach located at 12 Via de Luna Drive. Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with experts and personnel involved in response activities and learn about beach cleaning, the Vessels of Opportunity, dispersants, wildlife handling, Unified Command structure and operations. For more information visit www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com.
- On July 14, the U.S. Coast Guard announced plans to form a working group to improve the Vessel of Opportunity Program in Florida, which employs boat owners and their crews to help in the response across the Gulf.
- Pensacola Pass as well as Perdido Pass will continue to be closed with the tide to reduce the amount of oil from entering inland waters. These waterways are manned to allow access to necessary vessel traffic during low tide.
- ***In order to expedite responses to oiled wildlife, please contact the oiled wildlife hotline at 1-866-557-1401 if oiled wildlife is spotted. Qualified personnel will respond to the report. Please do not touch or try and clean oiled wildlife.***
- ***Citizens are asked not to have 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.***

Health

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Health" tab.

- July 13 water sampling by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection showed no petroleum-related contaminants at Navarre Beach. There were two water quality samples collected today, July 15, but field conditions have not yet been reported. Results will be available at http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/water.htm#counties.

- July 12 water testing by the University of West Florida showed no dissolved petroleum hydrocarbons above what is normal at Navarre Beach Pier and Santa Rosa Island.
- Air quality reports for July 11 revealed that air quality was considered good for ozone and fine particulate concentrations in the panhandle. "Good" means the air quality is satisfactory and air pollution poses little or no risk.

Santa Rosa County Actions

For more information view the Situation Report and Incident Action Plan at www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under "What's Hot" on the "Main" tab.

- The Santa Rosa County water reconnaissance teams continue to survey water and boom conditions daily, weather permitting, providing real time information on oil products including photos and GPS coordinates.
- County staff and reconnaissance teams continue to monitor beach conditions daily generally from day break until 6 p.m., weather permitting.
- The Division 1 Branch office is operational and located in Pensacola. It serves both Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, bringing together federal, state and local agencies to streamline response efforts. Santa Rosa County has had staff representation in the office since its implementation.

Booms

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Local Action Plan" tab.

- Santa Rosa County and the City of Gulf Breeze boom will remain open until further notice unless there is an imminent threat of oil product verified by state or local surveillance. In this case, the boom could be closed without prior notice and boaters can call (850) 602-0242 for emergency boom openings.
- Oil containment boom (in feet) total: 781,661 deployed in Florida
    - Tier 1 & Tier 2: 466,100
    - Tier 3: 315,461 (deployed by Florida contractors)

BP Claims

For more information, including how to file a claim, visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Claims" tab.

- BP claims in Florida total 29,707 with approximately $34,596,633.12 paid.
- BP claims in Santa Rosa County total 3,289 with approximately $3,675,824 paid.

Small Business Disaster & Bridge Loans

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Business" tab.

Fishing

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Boating, Fishing and Wildlife" tab.

- All Santa Rosa County waters are currently open to fishing.

Vessels of Opportunity (Boats) Program

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Boating, Fishing and Wildlife" tab.

- 413 vessels have been deployed in Florida for the Vessels of Opportunity program.

Volunteer Information

For more information visit www.santarosa.fl.gov/oilspill under the "Volunteer" tab.

Important Phone Numbers

- ***Florida Oil Spill Information Line***- is available from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. EDT daily for citizen's questions- 888- 337-3569
- ***Fraud Hotline***- 1-866-966-7226
- ***Submit Alternative Response Technology, or to Register as a Consultant, Contractor, or Vender of 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

- ***To Report Oiled Shoreline to BP***- 877-389-8932
- ***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)
- ***The Florida Poison Control Centers-*** available for general health information regarding the oil spill and exposure to oil spill products- 1-800-222-1222
- ***Florida Gulf Recovery Jobs:*** 1-877-362-5034 or www.floridagulfrecoveryjobs.com

General Safety Information

- www.santarosa.fl.gov
- Citizens can signup 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.

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