

## Update on Mississippi Coastline Oil Spill Response Activities

May 2, 2010 1:00pm

### **Mississippi Shoreline Protection**

- An extensive shoreline protection plan is being implemented with boom being deployed off the coast of Mississippi. BP is working very closely with the Mississippi Departments of Environmental Quality and Marine Resources and other state agencies as well as the US Coast Guard and the federal government to aggressively boom off sensitive areas to protect marine life. Additional efforts continue to collect as much of this oil offshore as possible.
- BP, operating with the US Coast Guard and other agencies, is attacking this spill on all fronts. An extensive shoreline protection plan is being implemented with boom being deployed off the coast of Mississippi to the prioritized sensitive shore areas. The DEQ and the DMR are continuously reviewing where boom has been deployed and we expect to receive a re-prioritized list to continuously ensure that the booming takes place in environmental sensitive areas as well as to minimize economic impact.
- BP takes responsibility for responding to the spill. We will clean it up. We are doing everything we can to minimize the environment and economic impact. We are fully committed to protecting the sensitive shoreline and cleaning up any shoreline impacts as quickly as possible. BP takes responsibility for responding to the spill. We will clean it up.
- We are in regular contact with the Governor of Mississippi and the DEQ, DMR and other agencies. On Friday the Governor met with BP's staging team leader, Kenny Spriggs, and United States Environmental Services Chief Operating Officer George Malvaney. He also participated in a call with the Incident Command Center in Houma, Louisiana, speaking to Captain Ed Stanton, Captain of Port of New Orleans and BP's Incident Commander and staff to hear firsthand about the aggressive spill response actions and plans taking place. This overview was followed by an aerial tour of the Mississippi coast with the Air National Guard.

### **Mississippi Boom Deployment**

- As of **Saturday, May 1 more than a total of 73,300 ft of boom has been deployed along the sensitive areas of the Mississippi coast.** Additionally, more than 10,000 ft. of absorbent boom has been laid in Grand Bay. Additional boom is available at the Mississippi staging and deployment areas and additional footage has been ordered.
- Although the weather hampered our booming deployment efforts on Saturday we deployed about 18,000 ft of boom. The teams went out on Sunday morning to continue deploying boom, however had to come back to shore due to weather including tornado watches across the area.
- Two on-site spill response staging areas began physically setting up in Mississippi on Sunday - one in Biloxi and on Monday in Pascagoula. We have also deployed people and materials to Bayou Catty. These staging areas are tasked with staging all spill response equipment and laying out boom along the sensitive areas of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- Priority areas for booming are identified by state agencies in contingencies plans including were identified by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and other agencies.

## **Volunteers**

- BP is preparing for volunteer efforts in preparation for shoreline clean-up, if needed. Volunteers are encouraged to call the Community Volunteer number at 866 448 5816.
- Local volunteer training sessions were held today in conjunction with local officials as volunteers prepared to do clean beaches in advance of the spill reaching shore.
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## **Health**

For any health related concerns regarding the oil spill, contact the Poison Control Center at 800 - 222-1222 or go to [www.aapcc.org/DNN/](http://www.aapcc.org/DNN/)

## **List of contact phone numbers:**

- Claims 800 440 0858
- Volunteers 866 448 5816
- Wildlife 866 557 1401
- Vessels of opportunities, services, ideas: 281 366 5511;  
[horizonsupport@OEGLLC.com](mailto:horizonsupport@OEGLLC.com)

## **Joint Information website:**

[www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com](http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com)

## **Odor**

Continuous offshore air sampling at the spill site via equipment on marine vessels has shown zero concentration of LEL, H<sub>2</sub>S, CO or Benzene.

## **Wildlife**

A toll-free number 800-557-1401 was established and announced to report oil 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.

BP has hired Tri-State Bird Rescue to coordinate the wildlife rehab efforts and they are working closely with local NGOs to stage area rehab locations and volunteers.

## **Gulf Coast Spill Response Efforts:**

BP has been aggressively fighting this oil spill offshore since the April 22 sinking of the Transocean Deepwater Horizon 130 miles south-east of New Orleans. Operating with the U.S. Coast Guard and other agencies, the spill response includes:

Some 75 response vessels are being used including skimmers, tugs, barges and recovery vessels. 15 of these are 210-foot specially built Oil Spill Response Vessels with two oil/water separators and a storage capacity and 9 other skimming vessels that are roughly 110 feet.

To date, the oil spill response team has recovered over 979,000 gallons of an oil-water mix. More than 144,000 gallons of dispersant has been applied using 4 dispersant aircrafts and 2 fixed wing. Two of the airplanes are located at Stennis Space Center. An additional 104,880 gallons are available/staged and an additional 967,012 ordered.

The operations team is testing using an underwater dispersant at the leak location. This new technology hope to help disperse the oil before it reaches the surface.

The U.S. Coast Guard also conducted a trial of an in-situ burn. This trial was considered very successful. The in-situ burn team is currently doing lessons learned and preparing to conduct insitu-burning when the weather improves (perhaps May 6).

**Shoreline Clean-up**

BP takes full responsibility for this spill. We will clean it up.

Numbers are also established for Claims and Volunteers:

Claims - 800 440-0858

Volunteers - 866 448-5816

In conjunction with state officials, we are aggressively working a strategy to use local fishermen in spill clean-up.

**Source Control**

In addition to spill response activities, BP continues to work around the clock on Transocean's subsea equipment. Remotely-operated vehicles are monitoring the well and riser. ROVs also continue to methodically work through procedures aimed at subsea activation of the blow-out preventer on the MC252 well.

In parallel, advanced engineering design and fabrication of a subsea oil collection system has started onshore. This will be the first time this proven shallow water technology has been adapted for the deepwater.

BP has also received permit to drill a relief well into the MC 252 exploration well. Drilling is expected to start in the next few days.