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SMVOAD Response Fact Sheet Regarding the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill

May 06, 2010, 3:00pm

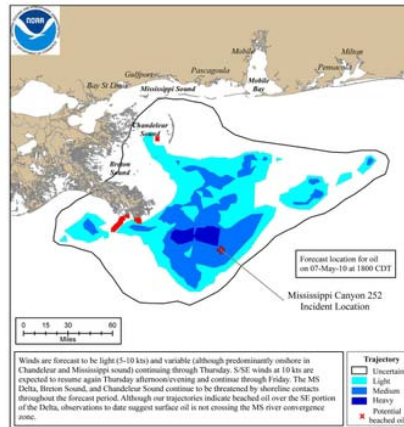


FACT SHEET: SMVOAD (South MS Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)

Trajectory Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/ER&R
Estimate for: 1800 CDT, Friday, 5/07/10
Date Prepared: 2000 CDT, Wednesday, 5/05/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Wednesday, May 5 PM. Currents were obtained from the NOAA Gulf of Mexico, Texas A&M/TGLLO, and NAVONSI models and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from early morning satellite imagery analysis provided by NOAA/NVSI/SOS and Wednesday overflight observations. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization).



Winds are forecast to be light (5-10 kts) and variable (although predominantly onshore in Chandeleur and Mississippi sound) continuing through Thursday. S-SE winds at 10 kts are expected to resume again Thursday afternoon/evening and continue through Friday. The MS Delta, Breton Sound, and Chandeleur Sound continue to be threatened by shoreline contacts throughout the forecast period. Although our trajectories indicate beached oil over the SE portion of the Delta, observations to date suggest surface oil is not crossing the MS river convergence zone.

Next Forecast: May 6th PM
this scale bar shows the meaning of the distribution terms at the current time

- www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com, unified command website

BP is continuing to work with the [U.S. Coast Guard](http://www.uscg.mil) 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



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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.

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 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.

Local/State Volunteer Information

[United Way of South Mississippi](http://www.uw.sm.org) and Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service have been approved by BP, DEQ, and MEMA to put forward the Volunteer Solutions website as the officially approved registration tool for volunteers. www.uw.sm.org SMVOAD encourages organizations both member and non member to post oil spill volunteer opportunities on Volunteer Solutions.

Other Links for Volunteers:

- 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.uw.sm.org) has been authorizing to set up a Volunteer Reception Center by the [Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service](http://www.mississippi.commissionforvolunteerservice.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.



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SMVOAD is in the process of planning a Gulf Oil Spill Recovery Summit - More information will be released in the coming days. This Summit will be designed to address potential long term effects of this technological disaster.

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.

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



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communication, coordination, cooperation and collaboration—by providing convening mechanisms and outreach for all people and organizations involved in disasters. www.SMVOAD.com 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.

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.

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.



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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....](#)

LINKS

- **[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]



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Current Trajectory Maps • [top](#)

- **[Deepwater Horizon 24Hr Trajectory Map 2010-05-02-1200](#)** The 24 hour trajectory forecast 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

Local Media Updates and Breaking News Alerts



<http://www.sunherald.com/>