

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government

Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

June 4, 2010-4:00PM

Contact Information: Ben Walker 985-873-6357

Terrebonne Parish Information

1) Coast Guard representatives in Cocodrie reported:

- A large percentage of the protection boom currently in place in offshore positions is currently boomed with either 18 or 20 inch harbor boom meant for protected waters. This is hampering the ability to maintain proper protection and placement of the boom. Further, it is a resource drain to reset the displaced boom on a daily basis. Regions where harbor boom will be replaced with 42 inch VOSS boom include Wine Island, Raccoon Island, Cat Island Pass between Trinity Island and Timbalier Island, and Felicity Island.
- Oil and gas are flowing from the TOP HAT to the ENTERPRISE for processing.
- At approximately 9 pm, June 3, the TOP HAT landed on the riser flange above the Lower Marine Riser Package.
- Oil first reached the surface at 11:30 pm on June 4. Since the fit between the base of the TOP HAT and the flange will not form a seal, oil may still be exiting around the base, even after steady flow to the surface is achieved. Visibility is poor around the TOP HAT; however, Remotely Operated Vehicles are able to adjust choke valves to begin the process of regulating the flow up the 5000 foot riser.
- There is 90,000 barrels of oil storage capacity remaining on the ENTERPRISE. A barge will be used to transfer product to a shore-side processing facility.
- Personnel are conducting waterside surveillance for offshore and shoreline impact of oil.
- There is ongoing surveillance of boom. Personnel are to report any required boom maintenance to situation desk.
- Total personnel in Cocodrie: 764.
- Aerial delivery of dispersants was put on hold pending Federal approval to continue due to growing inhalation concerns for response crews and offshore workers.

Boats/Vessels

- 9 skimmers (8 on cleanup in Terrebonne Bay and Belle Pass, 1 in Decontamination) remain in the field working the Cocodrie area.
- Deployment of Skimmers: 1 positioned between Wine Island and Trinity Island, 1 between Wine Island and Timbalier Island, 3 skimming designated routes in Lake Barre' and Terrebonne Bay.
- 136 boats on site assisting with cleanup in Cocodrie.

Assignments:

Surveillance:	2
Decontamination:	3
Task Forces 1-3:	105
Recovery:	<u>26</u>
	136 Total

- 1 livable barge and tug now on Trinity Island under Global Marine to assist with beach/shoreline cleanup operations.
- 3 Jackup Rig task forces planned.

Boom

- Boom crew is now focusing on Tier 3 and Tier 4. Booming plans are nearly 40% complete.
- Crews ordered to wet store boom in Terrebonne Bayou at Placid Canal.
- Ongoing boom inventory in Cocodrie staging area.

Latest boom numbers:

1) Hard Boom:

- a) Deployed 6/1/10: 2,021'*
- b) Total Deployed: 162,369'*

2) Sorbent Boom:

- a) Deployed 6/1/10: 2280'*
- b) Total Deployed: 83,900'*

*No change due to inclement weather.

- Absorbent boom broke free from stakes in the northeast section of Lake Felicity.
- 1 Jackup barge staged behind Trinity Island, 1 spud barge staged on Trinity Bayou, and 1 supply barge staged on the bay side of Trinity Island. All are deploying containment boom.
- 300-400 feet of containment boom stranded on a sand shoal along the east side of Trinity Island.
- Nearly 500 feet of containment boom broke free at Little Wine Island.

Cleanup Progress

· Continued beach reconnaissance and manual recovery of discovered oil.

2) Oil impact reports:

· Visible sheen reported approximately 300 yards off the bay side of West Timbalier Island.

3) Vessels of Opportunity Program:

Anyone interested in applying to becoming a Vessels of Opportunity (VOO) or crew member should call 281-366-5511

Helpful Information

British Petroleum Claims Center

BP has opened the following claims centers in Terrebonne to process claims for those who have lost income due to the recent spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

1. **814 Grand Caillou Rd. Suites 2 & 3- Plaza Caillou Shopping Center - (8:00 AM and 7:00 PM, seven days a week).**

2. **5703 Highway 56, Chauvin - (7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, seven days a week).**

Those wishing to seek claims should bring photo identification as well as all necessary documentation to verify income from previous years.

BP has set up a toll free hotline. For oil spill related damage claims call 1-800-440-0858.

Department of Social Services

A temporary Food Stamp distribution center has been set up at the Chauvin Senior Center to take applications for their regular program. This is **not** emergency food stamps. Applications will be taken from 8:00 am to 3:00pm Monday through Friday until further notice. For more information call the main office at 857-3620.

SBA

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has also opened an office on **the first floor of the Government Tower located at 8026 Main Street**. Their operating hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,

Monday thru Friday.

The Small Business Administration is taking applications for low-interest loans. This program is available to Louisiana Gulf Coast small businesses suffering financial losses related to the BP oil spill. Contact SBA's customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 for further details.

LIHEAP

Funds are available to assist persons with a utility disconnect notice. Call 985-873-6817 for more information.

Crisis Rent and Mortgage Assistance

Persons that have been laid off or suffered a reduction in work hours may qualify for assistance with delinquent mortgage or rental payments. Documentation of need and household income is required to determine eligibility. For more information call 985-873-6817.

Beautiful Beginnings Center

The Beautiful Beginnings Center provides temporary shelter to eligible families with children. To be considered eligible families must be considered homeless. Parents must be working or willing to gain employment. Call 985-580-8105 for more information.

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

Both Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services and START Corporation are providing homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services which includes, but is not limited to, rental assistance, utility deposits and utility payments.

Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services - 985-851-4488
START Corporation - 985-879-3966

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

Regular unemployment benefits are available to qualified individuals who have lost their job due to the oil spill. For more information call 866-783-5567 or visit their website at www.laworks.net.

Crisis Counseling

Counseling is available to those affected by the oil spill through the Terrebonne Mental Health Center. They can be contacted at 985-857-3615. Crisis counseling is also available through the Center for Child and Family Development at 985-873-7221 and Options for Independence at 985-876-8630.

Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) (aka Disaster Food Stamps)

There is a public information campaign making people aware that all low- to moderate-income Louisianians may be eligible for **Disaster Food Stamp** benefits in the event of a natural disaster and should pre-apply now for benefits online or by phone. Current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

Program (SNAP) recipients do not need to pre-apply and would receive disaster benefits automatically. Please visit online at dss.louisiana.gov or call 1-888-524-3578.