

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information

**Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
June 9, 2010-4:00PM
Contact Information: Ben Walker 985-873-6357**

Terrebonne Parish Information

1) Coast Guard representatives in Cocodrie reported:

- Personnel in Cocodrie are conducting boom maintenance and waterside surveillance for offshore and shoreline impact of oil.
- 42-inch VOSS sea boom is being deployed in sections where previously deployed boom has been ineffective and/or misplaced.
- Total personnel in Cocodrie: 800
- Of the four vents, only one has been closed on the TOP HAT. There are no plans to close the other 3 vents until oil stops flowing from the bottom of the TOP HAT.
- National Incident Commander reports that the daily average oil recovery is estimated at 15,700 barrels per day.
- Offloading of oil production from the ENTERPRISE to the MASSACHUSETTS continues.
- Drill Rig DDII casing is set at 8,567 feet. Its well depth is 8,650 feet. The Blowout Preventer is repaired and a complete diagnosis is underway with anticipation of drilling to resume today. Drilling is on day 12 of 104.
- Drill Rig DDIII casing is set at 12,057 feet with a well depth of 13,978 feet. Drilling is on day 37 of 104.
- US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) report that their aircraft are providing flight advisory information to the spotter and tanker aircraft conducting spraying of aerial dispersant operations. Additional CBP aircraft are providing electro optical infrared video to track oil plume movement. CBP aircraft mission hours to date total 517.

Boats/Vessels

· Deployment of Skimmers: 4 each in Terrebonne Bay and Barrataria 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

Boom

· Ongoing boom inventory in Cocodrie staging area.

Latest boom numbers:

1) Hard Boom:

- a) Deployed 6/5/10: 4,779'
- b) Total Deployed: 187,686'

2) Sorbent Boom:

- a) Deployed 6/5/10: 1,530'
- b) Total Deployed: 87,260'

· Reported from Wine Island that 9 boats were performing containment boom maintenance.

· Reported 12 boats, including USCG and anchor boats, that were deploying 48" deflection boom around the entire shoreline of Wine Island.

· Reported from the Gulf side of Trinity Island that all of the containment boom had broken free along the entire Gulf side of the island and had washed ashore.

· Reported from Whiskey Pass that containment boom from the western side of Trinity Island was floating in the Pass.

· Report of beached boom on the western tip of Raccoon Island.

Cleanup Progress

- Continued beach reconnaissance and manual recovery of discovered oil.

2) Oil impact reports:

- Reported penny to dime sized foam droplets at the water's surface on the Bay side of West Timbalier Island. Droplets extended for more than 1 mile along the Bay side of West Timbalier Island, out to the break in the Houma Navigation Canal. Droplets reflected sunlight, but did not appear to be oily. No visible sheen or oil was observed.
- Observed no oil in Terrebonne Bay or Cat Island Pass.
- Assessment Team reported from the Gulf side of Timbalier Island that they observed historical (previously oiled) oil-impacted vegetation approximately 30 feet on the shore, as well as tar balls and some mats up to approximately 5" in length. All of this oil was (previously oiled) historical oil. Some areas of the island had a high density of tar ball impact.
- Reported from approximately 1 mile along the Gulf side of Little Pass that there was a slight sheen observed on the water's surface, approximately 100 yards in length. Also, observed droplets of emulsified oil that were sparse with an occasional droplet measuring up to ¼" in diameter.
- Reported from Cat Island Pass of an emulsified oil line running through the Pass on the rip current, along with emulsified mousse, oil droplets, and Sargasso. Mousse line ran intermittently, approximately 25 yards long, with patches of nickel to penny sized droplets.

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

OIL SPILL RESPONDERS

TO HOLD TERREBONE PARISH COMMUNITY EXPO

HOUMA, La. (*June 9, 2010*) – Representatives from BP, the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Wildlife and Fisheries, the Environmental Protection Agency and other state and partner agencies responding to the Deepwater Horizon incident, will host an Open House Expo Friday, June 11, 2010 in Terrebone Parish at the Houma Civic Center, 346 Civic Center Blvd. in Houma starting at 6 pm.

The Open House Expo will offer Terrebone residents the opportunity to engage one-on-one with experts about the techniques, strategies and materials being used in the spill response.

“We want to keep the local communities informed with the most accurate and timely information we have,” said Coast Guard Capt. Roger Leferriere, commander at the Incident Command Post in Houma, La. “We want to communicate with the public and provide them with first-hand information on the topics that concern them most.”

The Expo will feature experts and representatives from responding agencies who will answer questions and provide visual information on the various tools, equipment and strategies that are being used in the response, including booms, burns, sand berms, skimming and dispersants. Agencies will be available to address concerns about environmental quality, wildlife, safety and resources available to residents. Information will also be available on the Vessels of Opportunity (VOO) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and volunteer and employment efforts. Claims representatives will be available for any questions or concerns residents might have on the claims process. For more information contact Lisa Burns at: (985) 209-8082

Training Opportunities for Deck Hands and Beach Clean-up Workers

Local training sessions have been scheduled for residents interested in becoming employed for the response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Residents interested in working on a beach clean-up crew or as a deck hand on a vessel responding to the spill can attend this free training. Training organizers on site will provide information on how to seek employment in these fields.

Each location will feature two training sessions per day with the morning training at 9:00 A.M. and the afternoon training beginning at 2:00 P.M. The training location schedule is as follows:

The Larose VFW Hall (*located at 2322 VFW Ave., just off West 23rd St. in Larose*) will host training sessions on Tuesday, June 8, and Tuesday, June 15.

The BP Annex (*located at 5703 Hwy. 56 in Chauvin*) will host training sessions on Wednesday, June 9, and Wednesday, June 16.

The Grand Isle Community Center (*located at 3811 Hwy. 1 in Grand Isle*) will host training sessions on Saturday, June 12, and Saturday June 19.

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.

