

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government

Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

July 30, 2010-4:00PM

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Terrebonne Parish Information

1) Coast Guard representatives in Cocodrie reported:

- Cleanup and boom maintenance are the crews' top priorities.
- Personnel: 1152

Weather

Saturday: Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 96. Heat index values as high as 109. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 78. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday: Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 78.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 94.

Vessels:

Boats working in Cocodrie: 207

Skimmers working in Cocodrie: 22

Cleanup Progress

- Continued beach reconnaissance and manual recovery of discovered oil.
- All recovery operations are to follow the general shoreline treatment recommendations established for Timbalier Bay and Terrebonne Bay.

2) Oil impact reports:

- Assessment team reports the following:

- Reported from near Cat Island Pass, that team observed scattered, coin-sized patches of low density oil, extending over approximately ¼ mile.

- Reported from the bay side of Cat Island Pass, team observed (5) shrimp boats carrying containment boom on standby at this location. The team also observed low-density, 1"-2" oil patches in the water at this location.

- Reported from the northwest corner of Timbalier Island, Observed ribbons of heavy oil at this location. Observed (1) skimmer boat with its skimmer down, and (1) boom boat at this location. Observed (4) additional skimmers approximately 1/4 mile off in the distance, and it appeared that they were on standby.

- Assessment Team surveyed West Timbalier Island, from the west to 19 Canal. The Canal 19 curtain wall was completely destroyed. There was a wide area of fresh oil impact, (estimated to have washed onshore in the past 24-48 hours), along the western side of the island. The oil was mostly ranged from light density to moderate density, but there were (2) areas with a heavy-density oil impact. The Assessment Team reported that fresh oil was also washing up onshore where they were standing.

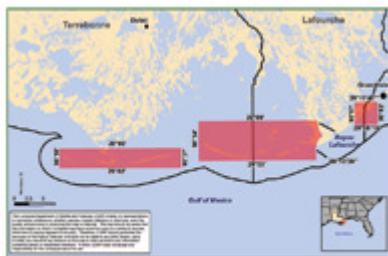
3) Vessels of Opportunity Program:

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

4) Fishing Closures:

- Yielding to a groundswell from the recreational fishing community, which pointed out that tests were not showing contamination of fish in the closed areas, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on Wednesday lifted the ban on sports fishing in most areas closed because of the oil spill. The exception is in areas that are heavily oiled and where cleanup is taking place.
- The ban on commercial fishing in oiled areas has not been changed but may be lifted next week, a state official said. The decision does not change closures in federally managed waters, the open Gulf three miles south of the Louisiana coast.
- Any reports of oil sighted by recreational fishermen need to be accompanied by latitude and longitude.

The only closures that remain are mapped below.





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.