



Pinellas County Post-Incident Situation Report FINAL SITREP

SitRep #: 4	Event: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response	Date/Time: 7/30/10, 1:30pm
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SITUATION:

SITUATION: On April 20th, BP oil rig Deepwater Horizon experienced an explosion and fire that destroyed to rig. In addition, an automatic closure device failed allowing Louisiana light crude to pump into the Gulf. This happened about 52 miles SE of Venice, La. The large oil spill which resulted was finally capped (temporarily) on July 16th, and clean-up operations will continue, as necessary, for the foreseeable future. The Florida Panhandle counties have been impacted with oil on beaches and other shoreline areas. Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) is working together with the other County Departments and local Municipalities, and with the State and the USCG, to monitor and plan for possible operations within our County. We continue to review other possible options based on northern county operations. This includes daily State Conference Calls, weekly conference calls with the USCG Sector St. Petersburg (SSP), and various other conference calls and meetings. State conference call notes are being shared daily with City EM Coordinators.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

- **This will be the final Pinellas Situation Report issued on Deepwater Horizon unless circumstances should warrant additional publications in the future.**
- **Conference calls are expected to scale back and possibly end next week due to trajectory changes and lack of visible oil/oil products. Pinellas Emergency Management will review the necessity to continue monitoring and reporting on these daily calls during the week of August 2nd.**
- **Operations all across the Gulf Coast are "Rightsizing" according to the amount of oil product being found.**
- **City Emergency Management Coordinators and City Managers/Mayors met with USCG, State Dept of Environmental Protection and County staff on 7/29/10 for a briefing on past, present and future operations based on the circumstances (large or small amounts of oil product). A press release on the Presentation to the cities will be distributed today, 7/30/10.**
- **County Communications will continue to update the County website oil spill page as necessary.** Please utilize the site for additional and current information: www.pinellascounty.org/oilspill. A FAQ document answering 33 frequently asked questions on booming, cleanup, volunteering, tar balls, beach closing, etc. is now available. This factual information is valuable for all county and municipal officials in answering questions from their constituents.
- The newly installed cap on the well site appears to be working to stop the flow of oil into the Gulf. Testing and monitoring continues in order to verify its integrity and long-term effectiveness.
- There are reports of a scam involving individuals falsely representing themselves as BP employees and offering applicants money, or training, or job placement -- for a fee. BP does not charge to process claims, or to train and hire applicants. If you or someone you know has been charged illegally, please contact law enforcement.
- There are no plans to use dispersants in Florida waters. If they are ever considered in state waters, the

determination to use the chemical would be evaluated by DEP with input from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Florida Research Institute and the EPA.

- An email address has been set up to allow local government entities (counties, cities, water management districts, etc.) to submit claims information: governmentclaims@worleyco.com

Reports And Predictions:

- "NOAA Models Long-Term Oil Threat to Gulf and East Coast Shoreline" gives descriptive and graphic oil impact probabilities for Florida's coastline. Current estimates are only 1 to 20% for DW oil impacting Pinellas County: http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100702_longterm.html. **A new forecast report is expected to be 'officially issued' in the next few days that shows the chance of oil impacting Pinellas County as 1% or less.**
- If oil is sighted on Florida's coastline report it to the State Warning Point (SWP) at 1-877-2-SAVE-FL (1-877-272-8335) or by dialing #DEP from most cell phones.

Strategy & Plans:

- **As of 7/29/10 the USCG Sector St. Pete Sector is no longer flying remote sensing missions and is preparing to return to normal operations upon completion of tactical planning work with counties in their area of responsibility. The Mobile, AL USCG Branch continues to fly remote sensing missions and will provide intelligence to USCG Sector St. Pete. If circumstances warrant the St. Pete group will restart reconnaissance.**
- **Should circumstances warrant the above Monitoring, Survey and Response Trigger guide will be re-implemented. In the mean time the USCG, State DEP and the local Oil Spill Response Organization (OSRO) will be utilized as needed to respond to any oil products that are reported. This plan for response is utilized on a day-to-day basis for fuel or oil product reports. More info can be found in the Local Response Plan published via County Emergency Management's Share Point site.**

SCAT (Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique): Should oil product(s) be reported in Pinellas a SCAT team, composed of USCG and State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff, will respond. This is part of the OSRO plan mentioned above.

- The County obtained Training FAQs for all who want to become BP employees. Training is scheduled and managed BP, and has currently only been scheduled as far south as Hernando County. With the interim cap stemming any flow, the County does not expect training will be provided to counties south of Hernando. The FAQ file was sent with the weekly Fact Sheet last week, and is available if you need another copy. Please contact PCEM with your request, and we will send it to you again.
- It should be noted that ANY protective or response operations undertaken without coordination and approval from the State and/or BP will most likely not be reimbursed. All proposed work is submitted to the State & USCG through the County Emergency Management office.
- GATOR (Geospatial Assessment Tool for Operations & Response) <http://map.floridadisaster.org/GATOR/>. This is the tool of choice for the State Department of Environmental Protection and the State EOC. It is very user friendly.

Impact on Pinellas County: Physically, none at this time. No tar products associated with Deepwater Horizon have been found in Pinellas, and reconnaissance flights have not indicated any oil near the county. NOAA trajectory forecasts indicate that main area of oil is about 300 miles from our area. Economically, there has been impact on the county as visitor perception is that all Gulf beaches are affected.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Convention and Visitors Bureau:

- At www.VISITFLORIDA.COM vacationers are able to view live Twitter feeds and read up to the minute information on the status of any city or region in Florida. See <http://www.visitflorida.comtraveladvisory>.

Economic Development:

- Outreach to business community includes disseminating information via: www.pced.org/oil, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, news release, email newsletters. Business assistance available by calling PCED at (727) 453-7200. Wide Open video also promoted via social media.
- BP has opened a local claims office at 2551 Drew St. in Clearwater. To file an oil spill-related claim, it is recommended that a business first call the BP hotline at (800) 440-0858 to request a claim number. For more information, visit www.BP.com/claims. The BP Claims number, (800) 440-0858, is open 24 hrs a day for businesses/individuals to file claims. The normal business hours have the highest rate of activity so callers are encouraged to utilize off-hour times. Claims info can be found at the website: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/default.htm#update>. Claimants other than local government entities should refer to the document entitled: "BP Claims Process Guidelines for Individuals and Businesses" for guidance on filing claims.

Volunteer Office:

- Volunteers will be used for pre-impact beach clean-up and by not-for-profit wildlife groups.
- Keep Pinellas Beautiful volunteer group has exceeded the goal of signing up 5,000 volunteers for pre-impact beach clean-up, with a current count of **5,900+!** This group will be notified by the USCG to activate such a pre-impact clean-up if oil landfall is expected within 48 hours.
- Citizens wishing to volunteer should contact the organization of their choice for Pinellas at the link: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/oilspill2010.htm>.

Health Department:

- If impact to Pinellas becomes imminent, or actually happens, the DOH, in conjunction with Emergency Mgmt and involved municipalities, will consider an advisory. Through the 'healthy beaches' program the DOH has phone numbers and email for each jurisdiction. If an advisory is to be issued DOH will advise the media for distribution to the public.
- General health information and Tips to Avoid negative health impacts from an oiled shoreline and responder safety can be found at: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/health.htm>.

Fisheries & Seafood & Wildlife:

- The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has a toll-free hotline to provide consumers with current information about the status of Florida's open and closed fishing harvest areas, the availability of seafood varieties, and general pricing information. The number is 1-800-357-4273.
- To report oiled wildlife, please call 1-866-557-1401. For the safety of the public as well as the safety of animals, rescues should only be conducted by trained responders.