

BP Oil Spill – some stories and links

Last updated: 26 May 2010, 4pm
Updates at <http://tinyurl.com/gulf2010>

Official agency and corporation sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/bpspill/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency response

<http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

NOAA's office of Response and Restoration. Deepwater Horizon Incident updated daily.

<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

BP website, Gulf of Mexico response – press releases, maps, limited data, and live webcam

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com>

Official site of the Deepwater Horizon Unified Command

Another source for live webcam:

<http://climate.the-environmentalist.org/2010/05/live-video-feed-of-gulf-oil-disaster.html>

“Live Video Feed of the Gulf Oil Disaster. Following pressure from Representative Edward J. Markey (D-MA) and other members of Congress, BP has released a live video feed of the damaged underwater well that is gushing oil into the Gulf of Mexico.” [Also available at BP's site. Thanks to Rep. Markey for getting this.]

Multimedia from the New York Times:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2010/05/01/us/20100501-oil-spill-tracker.html?ref=us>

Tracking the oil spill in the Gulf

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/us/spill_index.html?ref=us

Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Multimedia Collection

Photos from the Washington Post:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/25/AR2010052502297.html?hpid=topnews>

Washington Post article from 25 May 2010 – Useful links to extensive photo gallery (>100 images), graphics, past stories (“View all items in this story”) – worth going to <http://www.washingtonpost.com> and searching for their latest articles on the spill.

Blogs and stories:

<http://birding.typepad.com/gulf/>

American Birding Association Blog: Gulf Coast Oil Spill. “When we first saw all of the Hermit Crabs die on the beach, after first contact with the oil, I became very nervous that the invertebrates were being affected very harshly.... This information, coupled with our discovery of so many dead bottom dwelling fish yesterday, has me really scared that this nasty oil/dispersant mixture is completely laying waste to whole ecosystems that lay hidden beneath the surface.” [Firsthand accounts and photos – difficult to find firsthand on-the-ground accounts - very valuable information.]

<http://oilspill.skytruth.org/>

Gulf Oilspill Map – but not updated well, so incidents are misleadingly underreported

<http://blog.skytruth.org/>

More useful than the Skytruth map, interesting links and comments from twitterfeed list

<http://motherjones.com/environment/2010/05/oil-spill-bp-grand-isle-beach>

“The blockade to Elmer's is now four cop cars strong. As we pull up, deputies start bawling us out; all media need to go to the Grand Isle community center, where a ‘BP Information Center’ sign now hangs out front.”

<http://monkeyfister.blogspot.com/>

“Below, you see the Riser pipe end, and a whole lot of the landscape blowing out. It spun Our Favorite Disaster Bot at least 360-degrees, before it recovered. Somewhere after the third blowout of the day, BP hauled it up.” [Embedded framegrabs and video.] [Anomalies appear non-major after all, but monkeyfister was paying attention. If they continue to post selected video segments, may be useful viewing in future.]

Surprisingly detailed chronology and references:

Wikipedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deepwater_Horizon_oil_spill

Visualization:

<http://paulrademacher.com/oilspill/>

Visualization of size of oil spill in relation to selected cities (or specify your own)

Instruction: Booming 101

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vx8kMXufu3w>

Proper booming not in evidence in Gulf (be forewarned - many expletives). My favorite item on this list. The only place booming appears to have been properly done is in 3 of BP's press kit photos on their website.

News coverage from New Orleans:

<http://www.nola.com>

Having set a precedent during Katrina, The New Orleans Times-Picayune produces excellent local coverage in tracking efforts and stories, and typically great photos as well.

www.wwtv.com

www.wdsu.com

Where else besides local TV stations are you going to get coverage of events like Jefferson Parish Emergency Management commandeering all of BP's hired boats on Grand Isle?

<http://www.wdsu.com/news/23646158/detail.html>

News coverage from across the pond:

Interestingly, the BBC and The Economist show a slightly defensive edge in coverage of the British Petroleum spill. It was dismaying to hear, at the end of a BBC World broadcast/podcast (around 5/21/2010?) a description of British citizens placing bets on which animal was likely to go extinct first on the Gulf Coast. [As they say in Parliament: “Harrumph!” A stiff upper lip is an idiotic attitude when it comes to the demise of species.]

http://www.economist.com/science-technology/displaystory.cfm?story_id=16160853

“The Gulf Oil Spill – What lies beneath: New and valuable lessons are being learnt from the massive operation to stop the Deepwater Horizon oil spill” [Good detail, clear diagrams]

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8651333.stm>

Oil spill in Gulf of Mexico in maps and graphics. [Useful diagrams showing where the pieces of damaged equipment lie on the seabed in relationship to each other]

Topics to pursue:

<http://science.the-environmentalist.org/2010/05/new-video-of-oil-plumes-cousteau-jr.html#page2>

“New Video of Oil Spill Plumes: Cousteau: ‘This is a disaster.’ ABC News sent Sam Champion with Philippe Cousteau, correspondent for Planet Green and grandson of Jacques Cousteau, in special diving hazmat suits to get a look at the oil plumes building underwater as a result of the mixture of the spill and dispersants.”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/24/us/24moratorium.html?scp=1&sq=oil%20permits&st=cse>

New York Times article indicating that though Pres. Obama and Ken Salazar declared on May 14 a moratorium on drilling new wells and granting environmental waivers, by May 24th the Dept. of the Interior had granted 17 drilling permits and 19 environmental waivers for drilling projects in the gulf – including four new wells over 9,100 feet deep.

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/blogs-and-stories/2010-05-25/shocking-bp-memo-and-the-oil-spill-in-the-gulf/full/>

“A document obtained by The Daily Beast shows that BP, in a previous fatal disaster, increased worker risk to save money. Are there parallels with the Gulf explosion?”