

Incident Command Post Matagorda
Texas City Y Spill
"Success Is Our Only Option"

Status as of:
9 APRIL 2014 / 1500
POC: Incident Commander: 361-533-3618

Executive Summary

Incident Command Post (ICP) Matagorda continues to productively manage response operations within the Sector Corpus Christi AOR. The Unified Command is comprised of representatives of the United States Coast Guard, the Texas General Land Office, Calhoun County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Kirby Inland Marine. The ICP, located in Port O'Connor, Texas, currently oversees operations from South Matagorda Island to the Southwestern Border, Rio Grande River located in Brownsville, TX, which is over 185 miles of response activity. A staging area is located in Port O'Connor, TX.

Current Impacts:

- The majority of heavy oiling on South Matagorda Island is buried under 2 inches of sand by wave activity. NOAA SSC estimates 70% of the oil on South Matagorda Island spanning 4.3 miles of shoreline is targeted for light mechanical and manual removal.
- Oil consisting of small to large tarballs, patties, and mats to a viscous black, tacky mass is intermittently spread out among surface oil debris with the greatest impact to South Matagorda Island shoreline. Approximately 95% of the oil is buried on the beach, versus 25% on the surface (impacts validated by SCAT).
- Response to oiled areas on Matagorda Island Wildlife Refuge threatens sensitive and endangered species habitat areas.

Potential Impacts:

- ***No oil has been observed offshore from South Matagorda Island to the Southwestern Border by NOAA overflights since 30MAR14. Oil that moved southwest along the coastline was observed spreading into sheens and scattered stringers, patches and tarballs. The southernmost extent of observed oil offshore was 21 miles south of the Padre Island National Seashore, 95 miles north of the U.S. Mexican border. NOAA oil trajectories, overflights, and shoreline oiling patterns indicate all the oil has stranded on the Texas shoreline and no additional offshore oil has been observed or reported. There is no expectation of any significant concentration of oil that could be measured above background levels to be transported further south into Mexican Waters.***

Response Efforts:

- **South Matagorda Island:** Task Forces conducted manual and light mechanical removal of oily waste:
 - Workers manually shoveled oily waste into piles.
 - Front-end loaders retrieved the piles and dumped them directly into dump trucks.
 - Today 20 dump trucks were loaded with oiled sand.
 - Today 10 dump trucks with oiled sand en route to waste disposal facility in Alvin, TX.
 - As of 8APR14, a confirmed 161,200 lbs. of oiled sand has been deposited at the waste disposal facility in Alvin, TX.
- Continue removal of oil from South Matagorda Island as described.
- Total amount of oily waste recovered to date throughout the area of responsibility is 800,850 lbs.

Future Efforts/Plans:

- Plans in progress: Emergency Biological Evaluation & Documentation Plan, and Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures
- Developing a plan to transition from Incident Command/Response to a Project Phase.

Impact Measurements:

- **Wildlife Impacts:** The Wildlife Group continues to conduct wildlife recovery efforts in the AOR. To date, 174 individual animals have been collected; 73 were visibly oiled.
- **Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuge, Sensitive Resources:** Sensitive areas include the tidal flats, shell ridges and marshes that are home to Mottled Ducks, and the endangered Piping Plover, Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle, Aplomado Falcon and Whooping Crane.
- Approximately 88.6 miles of total shoreline was impacted by oil from South Matagorda Island to the southern end of North Padre Island National Seashore (Mansfield Cut). Mustang Island and North Padre Island National Seashore have entered a 2-week monitoring period on 6APR14 – 20APR14.
 - 25.06 miles of South Matagorda Shoreline impacted by oil
 - 14.1 miles of Mustang Island impacted by tarballs
 - 49.5 miles of North Padre National Island Seashore impacted by tarballs
 - No oil debris collected on San Jose Island due to it being a private island, landowner did not want oil cleanup/recovery.

Weather:

- Today's weather conditions were favorable for operations without any related impacts.
- Increasing SE winds Thursday-Saturday at 10-15 kts. and dry conditions through Saturday. A cold front and chance of showers/thunderstorms is forecasted for late Sunday into Monday.

External Affairs:

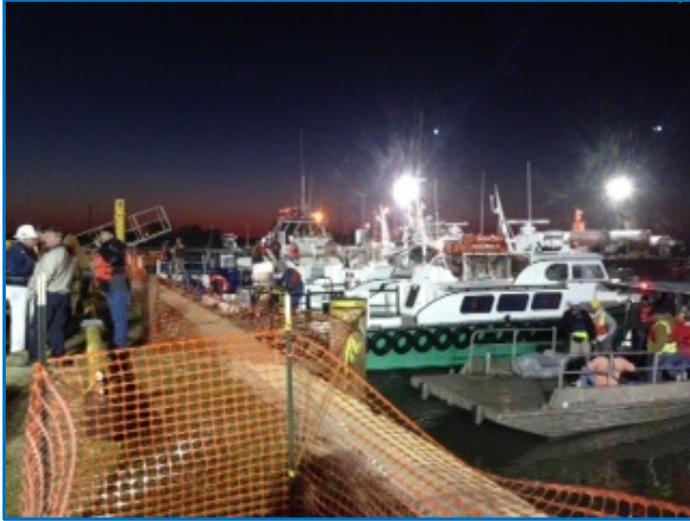
- Interaction with media consisted of an interview with National Public Radio concerning the impact of the oil spill on the endangered Whooping Crane.
- Unified Command was present to address Stakeholders via Web X teleconference, along with scientific support from NOAA, Texas Parks and Wildlife and the National Weather Service. Elected local, county, and state officials, Emergency Management Coordinators (EMC), and Port Authorities from counties south of Matagorda Island participated. No concerns were brought up by Stakeholders.
- Meeting with Port O' Connor Chamber of Commerce 14APR14
- VIP Visits:
 - Captain Brian Penoyer, Area Command Galveston

Personnel / Agencies Involved: 596 total (ICP: 118 Field: 478)

- U.S. Coast Sector Corpus Christi (34 persons)
- U.S. Coast Guard Strike Team (10 Persons)
- U.S. Coast Guard IMAT (6 Person)
- Other U.S. Coast Guard Units (2)
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Refuge
- Texas General Land Office (TGLO)
- Texas Parks and Wildlife (TP&W)
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Calhoun County

Enclosures:

- (1) 3 Photos



Responders departing from Martin Midstream Staging Area to South Matagorda Island



Dump trucks transferring oiled sand from South Matagorda Beach for disposal in Alvin, TX



Bobcat loaded with oiled sand to be transferred into a dump truck

