



# TEXAS CITY "Y" RESPONSE

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## Texas City "Y" Response Area Command



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Update 14: Response efforts continue on South Matagorda Island, Mustang Island and Padre Island National Seashore



Oil-spill cleanup contractors, accompanied by U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel, drive light machinery equipment across South Matagorda Island, Texas, April 5,

2014. Coordination between oil recovery crews, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Texas Parks and Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard and the Texas general land Office has been critical to balancing the expediency of clean-up efforts with the special sensitivity of protecting wildlife and the island's fragile environment. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class George Degener.



Response crews continue cleanup operations on South Matagorda Island, Texas, April 5, 2014. Coordination between oil recovery crews, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Texas Parks and Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard and the Texas general land Office has been critical to balancing the expediency of clean-up efforts with the special sensitivity of protecting wildlife and the island's fragile environment. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class George Degener.



Response personnel stage light machinery equipment along the beach on South Matagorda Island, Texas, April 5, 2014. Coordination between oil recovery crews, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Texas Parks and Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard and the Texas general land Office has been critical to balancing the expediency of clean-up efforts with the special sensitivity of protecting wildlife and the island's fragile environment. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class George Degener.

PORT O'CONNOR, Texas—While weather conditions have slowed today's early work along South Matagorda Island response crews report additional progress in collecting oiled sand and oiled debris from impacted areas on Saturday.

Conditions are expected to improve as the day develops, allowing clean-up teams to resume more normal efforts during the afternoon.

An estimated 219,025 pounds of oiled material has been bagged through Saturday, comprised of 108,670 pounds on South Matagorda, 105,830 pounds on Mustang and 4525 at Padre Island National Seashore. A total of 441 response contractors are poised to resume work along the shorelines as the weather clears.

Wildlife agency representatives continue their vigilance over impacts on bird and marine life in the area. Coordination between oil recovery crews, U. S. Fish and Wildlife, Texas Parks and Wildlife, U.S. Coast Guard and the Texas General Land Office has been critical to balancing the expediency of clean-up efforts with the special sensitivity of protecting wildlife and the islands' fragile environment.

At this time of year the Texas shoreline is one of the most important locations for migratory birds returning north to their nesting grounds. Hundreds of thousands of an estimated 330 different kinds of birds follow the Texas coast where they stop to feed and rest during their migration. Migration can be a very dangerous time for the birds and they must gain enough body weight to safely and successfully reach their destination, which for some is as far north as the Arctic. Efforts are being made to ensure the birds can safely feed and rest with the least amount of disturbance.

More information on the spill response continues to be available through the Matagorda Bay joint information center at 214-225-8007, or at [www.texascityresponse.com](http://www.texascityresponse.com).

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