



NOAA Web Update May 23, 2010

DEEPWATER HORIZON Incident

Situation: Sunday 23 May — Shoreline assessments and overflights continued today as planned. As anticipated, areas of oil moved closer to the Chandeleur Islands today. With winds forecast from the north, this will tend to push the oil away from shore. However, the threat of oil impacting the coastline remains high.

The Unified Area Command for the Deepwater Horizon/BP Response announced it will not use hair boom in its response efforts. While this suggestion was submitted to BP as an alternative method for containing and recovering the oil spill, it was not deemed feasible after a technical evaluation.

Marine Mammal and Sea Turtles Status, effective May 22, 2010:

- Three oiled turtles were captured during the dedicated sea turtle on-water surveys this past week: two small Kemp's Ridley and a larger sub-adult Loggerhead. All three turtles were returned to shore and transported to the Audubon Aquarium where they are undergoing de-oiling and care.
- The total number of sea turtle strandings documented since 30 April within the "designated spill area" is 204 (193 dead and 11 alive, of which two died in rehab). None of the stranded turtles documented to date have had visible evidence of external oil. T
- There have been 19 dead dolphins confirmed since April 30 within the designated spill area, none of which have had visible external or internal signs of oiling.