ICT4Peace Inventorisation Wiki: Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill - May 2010

Snapshot of the disaster

Excerpt from [Wikipedia](#) (taken last on 19 July 2010): The Deepwater Horizon oil spill (also referred to as the BP oil spill, the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, the BP oil disaster or the Macondo blowout) is a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that is the largest offshore spill in U.S. history. Some estimates placed it by late May or early June 2010, as among the largest oil spills in history with hundreds of millions of gallons spilled to date. The spill stems from a sea floor oil gusher that resulted from the April 20, 2010 Deepwater Horizon drilling rig explosion. The explosion killed 11 platform workers and injured 17 others. On July 15, 2010, BP said the leak had been stopped by capping the gushing oil wellhead, though there is a risk that a significant pressure shift could create a new leak on the sea floor. The drilling of relief wells to permanently close the well is ongoing.

The gusher was estimated by the quasi-official Flow Rate Technical Group to be flowing at 35,000 to 60,000 barrels of crude oil per day. For comparison, this is an amount equal to the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill every four to seven days. The exact flow rate is uncertain due to the difficulty of installing measurement devices at that depth and is a matter of ongoing debate. The resulting oil slick covers at least 2,500 square miles (6,500 km2), fluctuating from day to day depending on weather conditions. Scientists have also reported immense underwater plumes of oil not visible at the surface.

The spill continues to cause extensive damage to marine and wildlife habitats as well as the Gulf's fishing and tourism industries. There have been a variety of efforts to stem the flow at the wellhead. Crews have been working to protect hundreds of miles of beaches, wetlands and estuaries along the northern Gulf coast, using skimmer ships, floating containment booms, anchored barriers, and sand-filled barricades along shorelines. The U.S. Government has named BP as the responsible party, and officials have committed to hold the company accountable for all cleanup costs and other damage.

Background information
- [Wikipedia](#) has some good background information.

US Government (Federal)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - [2010 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill](#)
- [NOAA updates on the oil spill](#)
- President Obama's address to the nation, 15 June 2010 on the oil spill

- [Remarks by the President on the Gulf Oil Spill](#), 27 May 2010

- ▣ HTML/JavaScript: < object width="480" height=...
- [Daily Updates from the White House](#) (including photos and videos of the Obama administration's response)
- [Special section of White House website](#) dealing with Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill
- [C-SPAN videos on the oil spill](#)

US Government (State)
- [Alabama](#) - Alabama Department of Public Health recommendations
- [Florida](#) - Florida Gulf Oil Spill page
- [Louisiana](#) - Latest news from Louisiana about Gulf Oil spill
- [Mississippi](#) - State Department of Health Gulf Oil Spill information
- [Texas](#) - News updates from Texas Department of State Health Services

BP Gulf of Mexico response
- [BP page on Gulf of Mexico response](#)

Twitter feeds with vital links to information
- [Deepwater Horizon Response](#)
- [Yahoo News Twitter list on oil spill](#)
- [Mashable's list of Twitter feeds on the oil spill](#)

Citizen media (including on the ground reporting and updates)
- [HOW TO: Monitor the Gulf Oil Spill Using Social Media](#)
- [Rig fire at Deepwater Horizon](#), 21 April 2010, from CNN iReport
- [Track the oil spill](#), also from CNN iReport
- ESRI - [Social media map of oil spill](#)
- [Want To Help Report The Oil Spill? There's An App For That](#)

Wikipedia
- [Deepwater Horizon oil spill](#)

Facebook groups
- [Deepwater Horizon Response](#)
- [Oil Reporter](#)

News services and aggregation of stories
- [Timeline: Oil spill in the Gulf](#)
- [New York Times on oil spills](#)
- [Interactive graphic by New York Times](#) on the oil spill
- The New York Times blog, [*The Lede*, coverage of the oil spill](#)
- [The Guardian section](#) on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill
- [Oil spill in Gulf of Mexico in maps and graphics](#), from the BBC
- [National Geographic](#) page on oil spill

Videos on the oil spill and its aftermath
- [Deepwater Horizon Response](#) YouTube Channel
- [NOAA animation on the oil spill](#) (download HQ video file [here](#), as a MP4)

Blog updates
- [Google blog search](#) (refresh for updated blog posts, aggregated by Google)

Crisis Information Management (Key actors and deployments)
- [Google Crisis Response page on the oil spill](#)
- [Deepwater Horizon Response](#)
- [Ushahidi](#) deployment by Louisiana Bucket Brigage
- [Crisis Commons Oil Spill response](#)

- Grassroots Mapping
- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response Staging Areas (Five towns have been selected by BP and government officials for Deepwater Horizon oil spill response staging areas.)

Crisis Information Management (Blogs and deployment information by key CiM actors)
- Ushahidi Used to Create Oil Spill Crisis Map

Mapping data / Imagery (General)
- ESRI - Gulf of Mexico oil spill
  1. ArcGIS Online Gulf Spill Response Group
  2. Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Economic Impact [Silverlight 4 Required]
  3. ArcGIS Mobile Oil Spill Shoreline Assessment Application
  4. Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Situational Awareness Viewer
- A vast selection of Google Earth KML files released by Google
- Mapping the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill
- DigitalGlobe imagery
- NASA Earth Observatory satellite images

Mapping data / Imagery / GIS (very high resolution downloads)
- Grassroots map imagery of BP oil spill: raw data now online
- Centre for Satellite Based Crisis Information

Mobile device applications and services
- Oil Reporter by Crisis Commons, for iPhone and Google Android

Photos
- Louisiana Oil Spill 2010 PHOTOS: Gulf Of Mexico Leak Reaches Land, from Huffington Post
- Deepwater Horizon Response's photostream on Flickr
- HTML/JavaScript: < iframe align="center" src=...
- High resolution photographs taken during the fire
- Photos from National Geographic
- US Coast Guard photos on the oil spill
- Los Angeles Times photographs on the oil spill
- BP images

Ways to help
The ICT4Peace Foundation is, unless specifically noted, not in any way associated with or part of the initiatives mentioned below.

- Go to Google's page on the oil spill for links on how to help
- National Geographic's page on how to minimise the environmental impact
- Send Money to Effective Oil Spill Charities and Avoid Scams courtesy LifeHacker

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