

BP DEEPWATER HORIZON SPILL

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)

NRDA BY THE NUMBERS — January 2011

Three federal agencies (Commerce, Interior, Defense) and *five affected states* (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas) are Co-Trustees in the BP Deepwater Horizon Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in the Gulf of Mexico.

NOAA's role in this NRDA began on **April 20, 2010**, in the hours immediately following the report of an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon mobile drilling unit.

By mid-May, NOAA and its Co-Trustees had formed *more than a dozen technical working groups* devoted to assessing damages to various types of natural resources, from our coastlines to the deep seas, and from plankton to porpoises.

The "Notice of Intent to Conduct Restoration Planning" released by the Co-Trustees on September 29, 2010 names *eight currently identified responsible parties*:

- BP Exploration and Production, Inc. ("BP")
- Transocean Holdings Inc. ("Transocean")
- Triton Asset Leasing GmbH ("Triton")
- Transocean Offshore Deepwater Drilling Inc. ("Transocean Offshore")
- Transocean Deepwater Inc. ("Transocean Deepwater")
- Anadarko Petroleum ("Anadarko")
- Anadarko E&P Company LP ("Anadarko E&P")
- MOEX Offshore 2007 LLC ("MOEX")

As of early November, response teams had documented **2,263 visibly oiled dead birds; 2,079 visibly oiled live birds; 18 visibly oiled dead sea turtles; and 456 visibly oiled live sea turtles.**

In most large oil spill cases, the total samples collected from the field number in the hundreds.

As of Dec. 16, 2010, NOAA teams had tracked **more than 40,000** (40,461) *environmental samples* for analysis.

About 27,000 (26,979) samples have been collected and analyzed specifically for the NRDA.

Our *laboratories have conducted 37,779 NRDA analyses* on these samples.

These samples include those collected by 89 *off-shore research cruises* NOAA either has conducted or under way, and include:

- **13,019 water samples**
- **4,199 sediment samples**
- **5,815 tissue samples**
- **1,917 tarball samples.**

More than 10,000 (10,016) *analyses* have been validated and made available to the public.

Teams have *surveyed about 4,215 linear miles of shoreline*. They have documented **1,053 total linear miles of oiled shoreline** and are reporting that **83 miles of shoreline currently are heavily or moderately oiled.**

Photos represent important data: NRDA teams had logged **more than 35,000 images.**

NRDA teams have deployed *several hundred research transmitters in wide-ranging species* like whale sharks, bluefin tuna and sperm whales.