

# Gulf of Mexico Research Plan

## Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Update

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Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill  
Principal Investigator Conference  
Sponsored by NSTC JSOST  
October 5-6, 2010

  
**Sea Grant**

Texas • Louisiana • Florida  
Mississippi-Alabama

# Overview

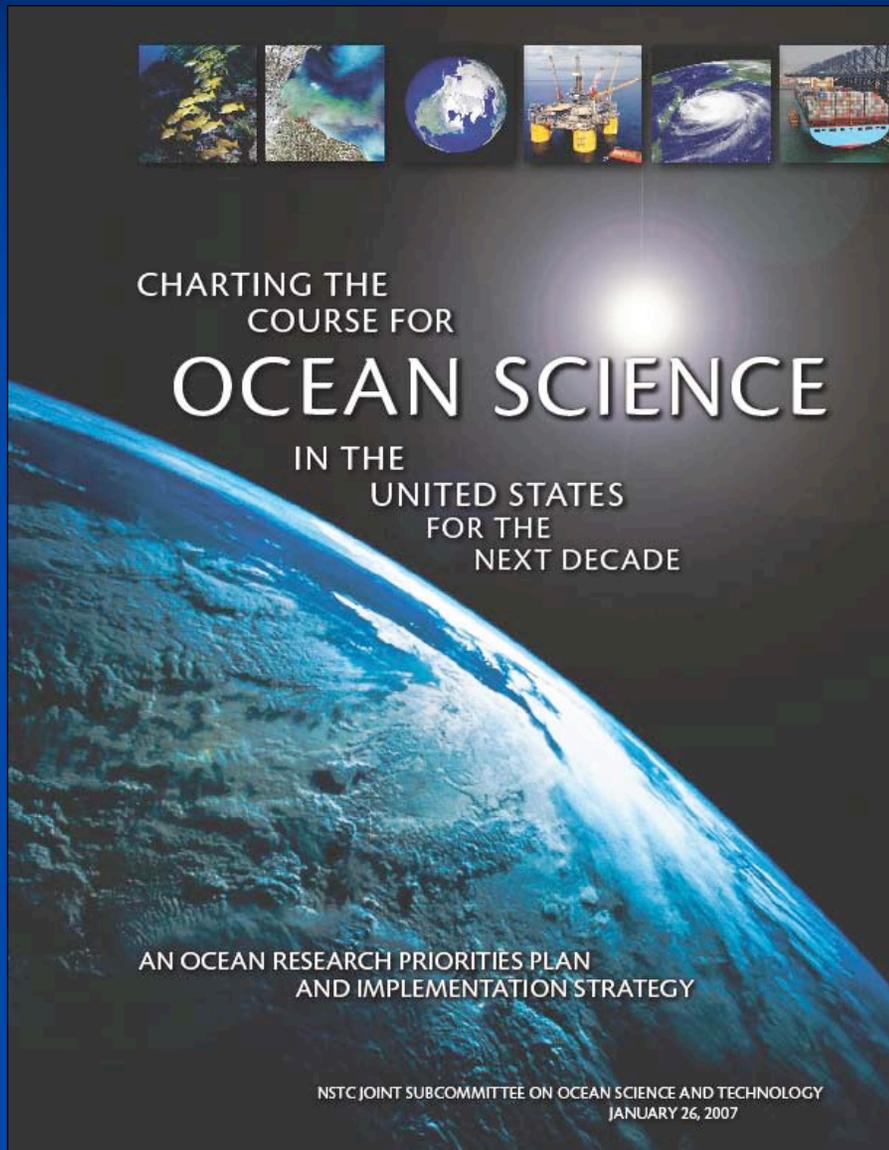
- Background
- Research Priorities
- Current Status
- The Future



# Background

- Funded by the National Sea Grant office
- Service to Gulf of Mexico research community
- Guidance
  - Four Gulf of Mexico Sea Grant Directors
  - 26 member Planning and Review Council
- Input from broad set of stakeholders

# Link to National Plan



- JSOST Ocean Research Priorities Plan
- Released January 2007
- Rooted in regional input

# Original Strategies to Identify Gulf Priorities

- Review of Strategic Plans
  - 117 plans examined
- Web-based Survey
  - 1,582 total responses
  - 571 comments
- Workshops
  - 5 workshops
  - 299 participants
  - Over 68 organizations
  - 267 research and 251 non-research needs
- More than 230 organizations involved

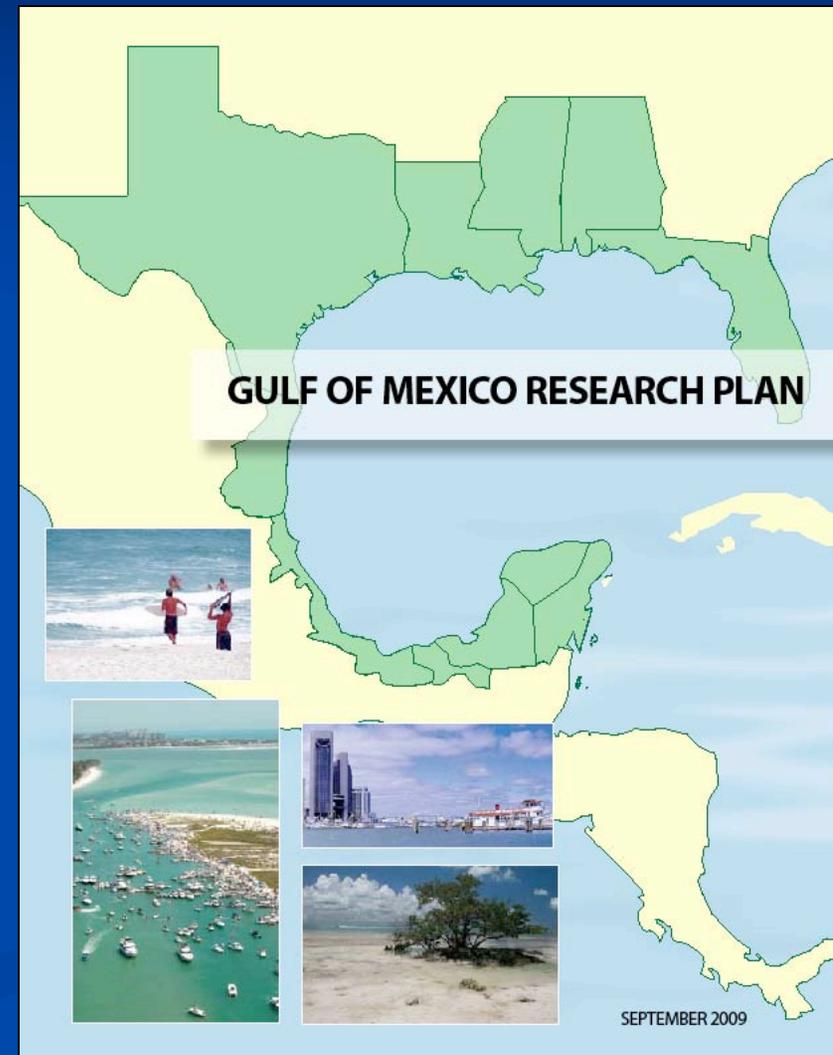


Image: EPA

# Gulf of Mexico Research Plan

Released September 2009

- Ecosystem Health Indicators
- Freshwater Input and Hydrology
- Habitats and Living Resources
- Sea Level Change, Subsidence, and Storm Surge
- Water Quality and Nutrients



# Implementation of the GMRP

- Used in RFP's and Strategic Plans
- At least 14 organizations are using it
- Millions of dollars of research
- Regional research initiatives
  - EPA
  - Gulf Sea Grant College Programs
  - NGI
  - Others
- MS and AL Commission Plans

# Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

- Eight months after GMRP release
- Develop an addendum to the GMRP with specific oil-spill priorities
- Questions
  - What are new regional research priorities?
  - Have previously identified priorities shifted?



# Rapid Response

- Open-ended survey to 100 leaders in the region
- Examine results from other meetings
  - Consortium for Ocean Leadership Gulf Oil Spill Symposium
  - White House Science Summit
  - Northern Gulf Institute
  - Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy
  - NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center Workshop on Deepwater Horizon oil spill efforts, Miami



## GULF OF MEXICO RESEARCH PLAN

### Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Research Needs Survey

- Large-scale Survey
  - 20 oil spill research priorities
  - Open-ended questions
  - ORPP-based questions from original survey
  - Customizable by discipline, state, other
- More than 950 responses
- 159 organizations identified as source of reliable oil-spill information
- Closes Friday, October 8
- [www.gulfseagrant.org](http://www.gulfseagrant.org)

# Next Steps

- Incorporate results from additional workshops
- Analyze survey results
- Examine existing
  - Plans
  - Research projects
- Identify gaps
- Develop the addendum to the GMRP
- Implement the plan and provide priorities to interested organizations

# Oil Spill Research Database

- Respond to need
- Identify research, monitoring, and restoration that is underway, regardless of funding source
- Gulf Sea Grant and NCDDC partnership
- Endorsed and supported regionally



# DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL Research and Monitoring Activities

[report a problem](#) - [submit a suggestion?](#)

**Keyword query control**

condition  and  or  
environmental theme (0)

Air quality  
Coastal and nearshore habitats  
Coral biology and reproduction  
Dispersants  
Ecosystem and community structure  
Ecosystem health and indicators

economic theme (0)

Cleanup needs  
Economic damage assessments  
Ecosystem valuation  
Fate of oil  
Freight flow analysis  
Labor and workforce changes

social theme (0)

Community resilience  
Cultural heritage  
Demographic changes  
Environment  
K-12 education  
Legal and policy analysis

type of sample (0)

Air quality  
Biological  
Chemical  
Clinical  
Fauna  
Flora

type of work (0)

How-to  
Activity index report

customize activity result page size: 10

[create activity report](#) [subscribe](#)

define activity search criteria:

keywords selected: none  
report filters: none

classification of activity (0) location of work (0) funding agency (0)

Monitoring  
Research  
Restoration

Alabama  
Alabama state waters  
Caribbean  
Florida

ADCNR  
Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station  
Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries  
BP

**Full-text search** - Enter your activity search criteria into the text field and press the **return/enter** key to submit.

**Custom report** - Select the 'create activity report' link (upper right) to view and print a report of the current results. Also - don't forget to bookmark for later use.

**Custom subscription** - Select the 'subscribe' link (upper right) to create an RSS subscription of the current results. IE 7/8 provide the best viewing experience.

**Keyword search** - Provides access to categories of keywords used in the survey form. The terms displayed represent terms that have been selected and indexed. Term selections complement the search criteria. A query can be submitted by selecting one or more terms - no search criteria required. See the 'How-to' tab on managing term selections.

**Activity index report** - Provides a detailed listing of activity details related to the current activity search. Anytime results are displayed, select this tab (left column) to see an alphabetic list of activity terms. The number to the right of each term represents the number of results displayed that are related to that term. You may select one or more terms within the index report. Selections made in this manner reduce the results to those activities related to the term(s) - selected. See the How-to tab for more on this feature.

- 2,587 unique visitors
- 3,223 hits from Gulf of Mexico area
- 2,750 hits from DC area

# Acknowledgements

- People who completed the surveys or participated in workshops
- Planning and Review Council
- Workshop hosts, facilitators, support staff
- External reviewers
- NOAA NCDDC
- Regional partners supporting these efforts
- Those using the database

