



NOAA'S RESPONSE

BP DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL



Gunnar Lauenstein

NOAA Responds

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Lead science advisor to oil spill responders

Stewards for Oceans and Wildlife

Concerned for people who live,
work and
play in the Gulf



Why does NOAA care?

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People – who live and work in and love the Gulf

- ☛ Quality of life and livelihoods at stake

NOAA also lives and works in the Gulf –

- ☛ Weather and river forecast offices
- ☛ Ocean and fisheries services
- ☛ Research labs and data centers
- ☛ Cooperative Institutes



Questions

NOAA Has Heard Related To Mission

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Where is the oil going?

Where can I fish?

When will fisheries be reopened?

Is my seafood safe?

What are the impacts on sea turtles and marine mammals?

How will clean-up efforts proceed?

How would a hurricane impact the oil spill?



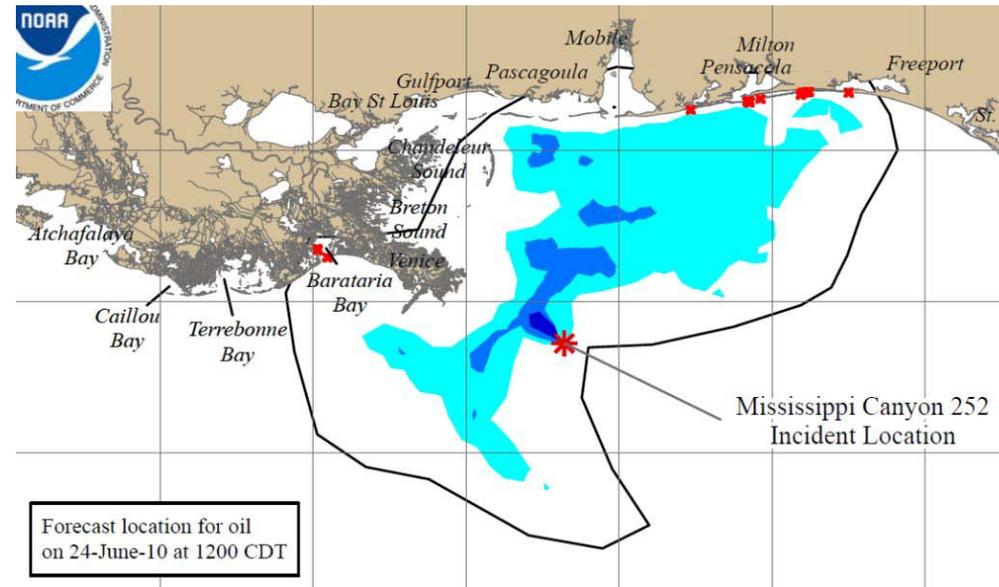
Where Is The Oil Going?

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Important for:

- ✔ Unified Command Response efforts
- ✔ Commercial, recreational and charter fishermen
- ✔ Small businesses
- ✔ Tourism
- ✔ Homeowners

NOAA is providing daily oil spill trajectory maps and twice-daily weather forecasts





Where & When Can I Fish?

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Register for Southeast Fishery Bulletins:

SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov

1-800-627-NOAA (6622) for current coordinates

NOAA Weather Radio for closure updates

Text **fishing@gulf** to **84469**

www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/558107

Twitter: **usnoaagov**



Seafood Safety

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**NOAA, FDA, and EPA:
Comprehensive, coordinated,
multiagency program ensuring
seafood safety**

**Coast Guard and NOAA are
monitoring and enforcing
closed Federal areas**

**Collaborated and strict
reopening protocols by state
and federal agencies**

Central to economy of Gulf



Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Stranding Networks

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Responsibilities defined by Endangered Species Act & Marine Mammal Protection Act

Protocols/procedures responding to oil-exposed live animals

Veterinary care provided to remove oil and treat any related health effects



Sea Turtles

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NOAA implemented region-wide protocols for caring for turtles in distress

**4 rehabilitation/de-oiling centers opened so far:
Louisiana (1), Mississippi (1),
and Florida (2).**

Partnering with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to address sea turtle nesting beaches issues



How Will Clean-up Efforts Proceed?

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Leader of 11 technical Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) working groups

- ☛ Process to determine the nature and extent of injuries to natural resources from the spill and the restoration actions needed to reduce these losses

Lead Federal agency in deploying Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) teams to monitor and assess impact



Weather Services

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- ✔ 1000+ spot forecasts in support of response to spill
- ✔ National Hurricane Center issues watches, warnings forecasts and analyses of tropical weather
 - ✔ Negligible impact on a hurricane's intensity, track or storm surge
 - ✔ No oil in hurricane-produced rainfall
 - ✔ Movement of oil depends on hurricane track

Have a Plan – Be Prepared!



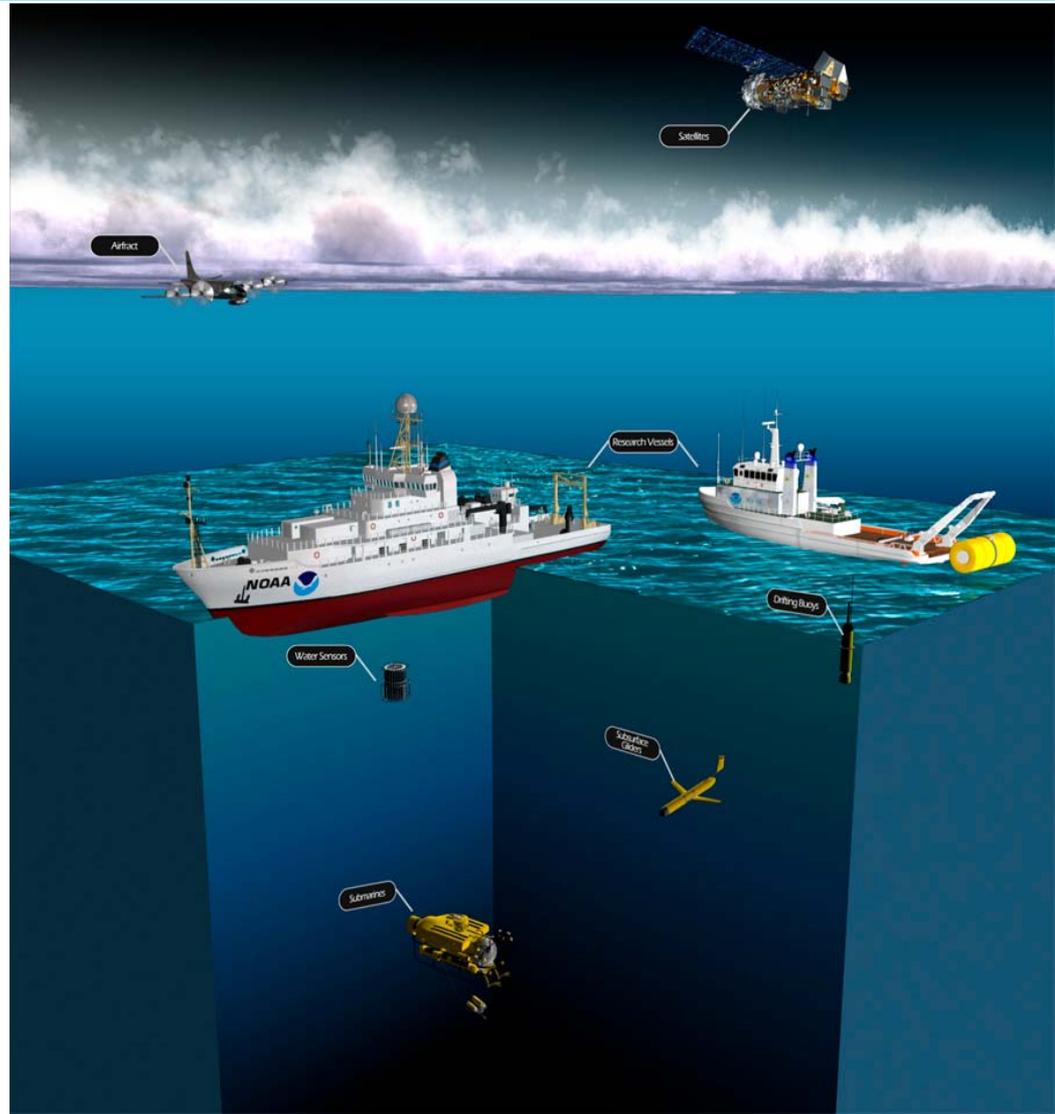
NOAA's Response

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NOAA has been tracking every aspect of this spill

NOAA brings all scientific methods to this task

NOAA's response has been immediate and sustained, strategic and scientific and coordinated



Scientists on the Scene

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Satellites & Planes

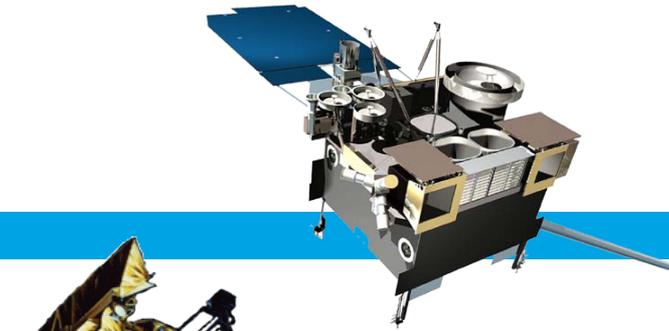
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NOAA's geostationary and polar-orbiting satellites help produce accurate, daily weather forecasts

NOAA aircraft conduct multi-spectral scan surveys of marsh/coastline survey flights

NOAA WP-3D Orion aircraft

- 🌐 Track loop current
- 🌐 Assisting EPA w/air quality monitoring



Vessels

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Collecting & surveying impacts to varieties of fish/mammals and seafood safety sampling
Performing sub-surface testing to determine presence of oil and monitor water quality



THOMAS JEFFERSON



GORDON GUNTER



PISCES



DELAWARE II



Numerous Partnerships

NOAA Information Resources

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Emergency Response

[Pollutants in the Environment](#)
[Serving Communities](#)
[Natural Resource Restoration](#)

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NOAA BP OIL SPILL INCIDENT RESPONSE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

As the nation's leading scientific resource for oil spills, NOAA has been on the scene of the BP oil spill from the start, providing coordinated scientific weather and biological response services to federal, state and local organizations. [More](#)

- [Deepwater Horizon / BP Oil Spill Press Releases](#)

[GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse](#) [leaves OR&R site] is a new online tool that employs the Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA®) a web-based GIS platform that provides you with near-real time information about the response effort. The site offers you a "one-stop shop" for spill response information.

The site integrates the latest data the federal responders have about the oil spill's trajectory with fishery area closures, wildlife data and place-based Gulf Coast resources — such as pinpointed locations of oiled shoreline and current positions of deployed research ships — into one customizable interactive map.

Updated daily
Situation: June 24, 2010

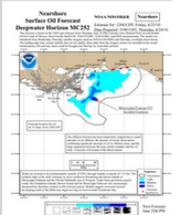
Administration Releases its First Scientific Report on Subsea Monitoring Data

Yesterday, NOAA, EPA and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) released the first peer reviewed, [analytical summary report](#) about the subsea monitoring in the vicinity of the Deepwater Horizon wellhead—which contains analysis of samples taken by the R/V Brooks McCall, a research vessel conducting water sampling from half a mile to nine miles off the wellhead—part of continued efforts to engage the brightest scientific minds to confront the worst environmental disaster the country has ever faced.

The report comes from the Joint Analysis Group (JAG), which was established to facilitate cooperation and coordination among the best scientific minds across the government and provide a coordinated analysis of information related to subsea monitoring in the Gulf of Mexico. This comprehensive analysis helps define the characteristics of the water and presence of oil below the surface



On board the NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson
NOAA Corps Ensign Jasmine Cousins, junior officer onboard the NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson, provides an overview of oil spill-related ship activities in the Gulf of Mexico.



[Trajectory Forecast Maps](#)

deepwaterhorizon.noaa.gov/

- ☑ Response
- ☑ Trajectories
- ☑ Closures
- ☑ Sea Turtles & Marine Mammals
- ☑ Assessments
- ☑ Important Contacts
- ☑ Factsheets and Publications

Data Resources

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www.geoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse

- ☑ “One-stop shop” for spill response information
- ☑ Web-based GIS platform that provides you with near-real time information about the response effort.

WWW.GEOPLATFORM.GOV/GULFRESPONSE

Environmental Response

Management Application (ERMA)



MAPPING THE RESPONSE TO BP OIL SPILL IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

The dynamic nature of the BP oil spill has been a challenge for a range of communities – from hotel operators to fishermen to local community leaders. We know the American people have questions about how the federal government is responding to this crisis, and we are committed to providing the answers with clarity and transparency. The site you're viewing right now is a symbol of that commitment.

GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse is a new online tool that provides you with near-real time information about the response effort. Developed by NOAA with the EPA, U.S. Coast Guard, and the Department of Interior, the site offers you a “one-stop shop” for spill response information.

The site integrates the latest data the federal responders have about the oil spill's trajectory with fishery area closures, wildlife data and place-based Gulf Coast resources — such as pinpointed locations of oiled shoreline and current positions of deployed research ships — into one customizable interactive map.

GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse employs the Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA®) a web-based GIS platform developed by NOAA and the [University of New Hampshire's Coastal Response Research Center](#). ERMA was designed to facilitate communication and coordination among a variety of users — from federal, state and local responders to local community leaders and the public. The site was designed to be fast and user-friendly, and we plan to keep it constantly updated.

Click the map below to use the tool yourself and see the latest information about the oil spill's trajectory, shipping information, fishery closures and where responders are taking action.



Federal Web Portal

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RestoreTheGulf.gov

HOME NEWS ASSISTANCE THE RESPONSE ABOUT

Health and Safety Information

Pensacola, Fla. - Workers clean oil from a Pensacola beach on June 23rd. After about two months of containing the oil through skimming and boom, large cleanup efforts were finally necessary on Santa Rosa Island.

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U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Emily F. Alley

News

News Archive

Photo Release: Brown pelicans released at Fort De Soto Park, Fla.
Wednesday, July 07, 2010 10:38:34 PM

Photo Release: Members of the Coast Guard Cutter Resolute
Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:36:33 PM

Using Sound Science, Fish and Wildlife Service Addresses Urgent Habitat Needs for Birds and Other Wildlife Along the Gulf Coast
Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:27:11 PM

The Ongoing Administration-Wide Response to the Deepwater BP Oil Spill
Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:17:57 PM

FILE A CLAIM

REPORT A CONCERN

VOLUNTEER

SUBMIT A SUGGESTION

Maps & Data

Visit geoplatform.gov/gulfresponse/ to see the latest information about the oil spill's trajectory, the position of NOAA's research ships, spilled oil's coastal location

Inside the Response

Fast Reaction to Oil

Fast Reaction to Oil

July 05, 2010 (Pensacola, Fla.) - Florida Fish and Wildlife staffers undertake serial searches with help from the Florida Army National Guard, and detect oil offshore of Pensacola beach. Minnesota Army National Guard video by Spec. Johnny Angelo.

www.restorethegulf.gov

- Clear and accessible information and resources for the public
- “One-stop” repository for news, data and operational updates related to administration-wide efforts

What about data quality?

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NOAA is working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to have an interlaboratory exercise for organic contaminants including the PAHs found in oil.

This follows up on the NIST's expertise in conducting QA intercomparison exercises.

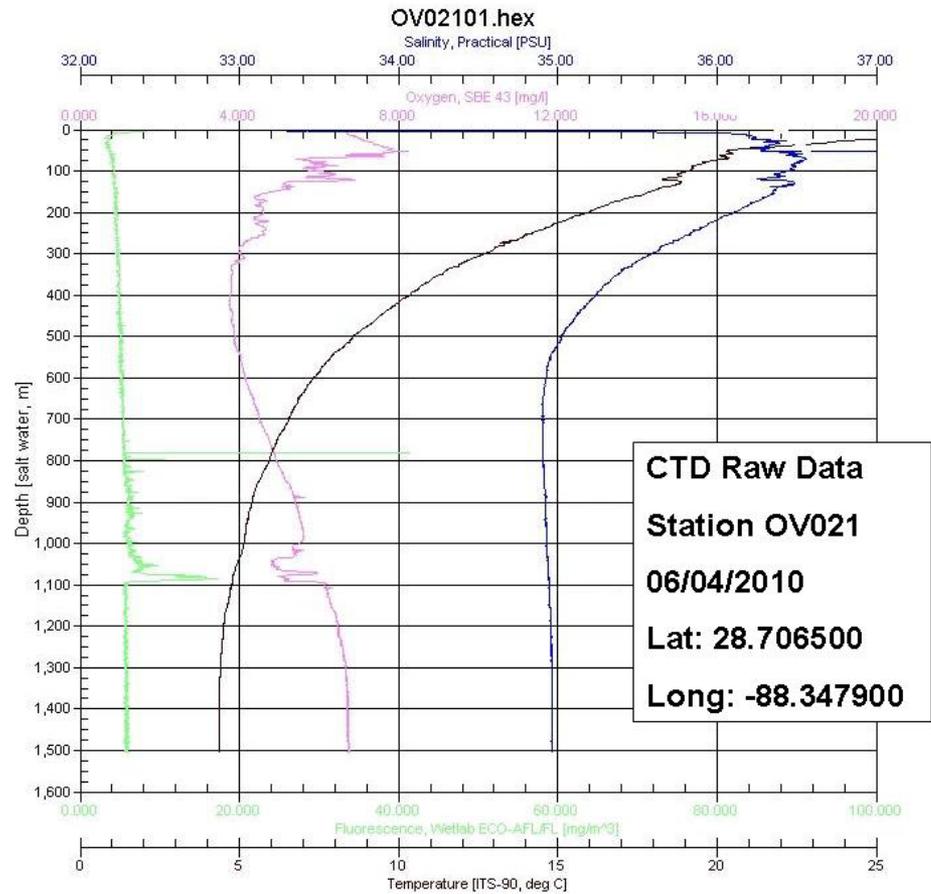


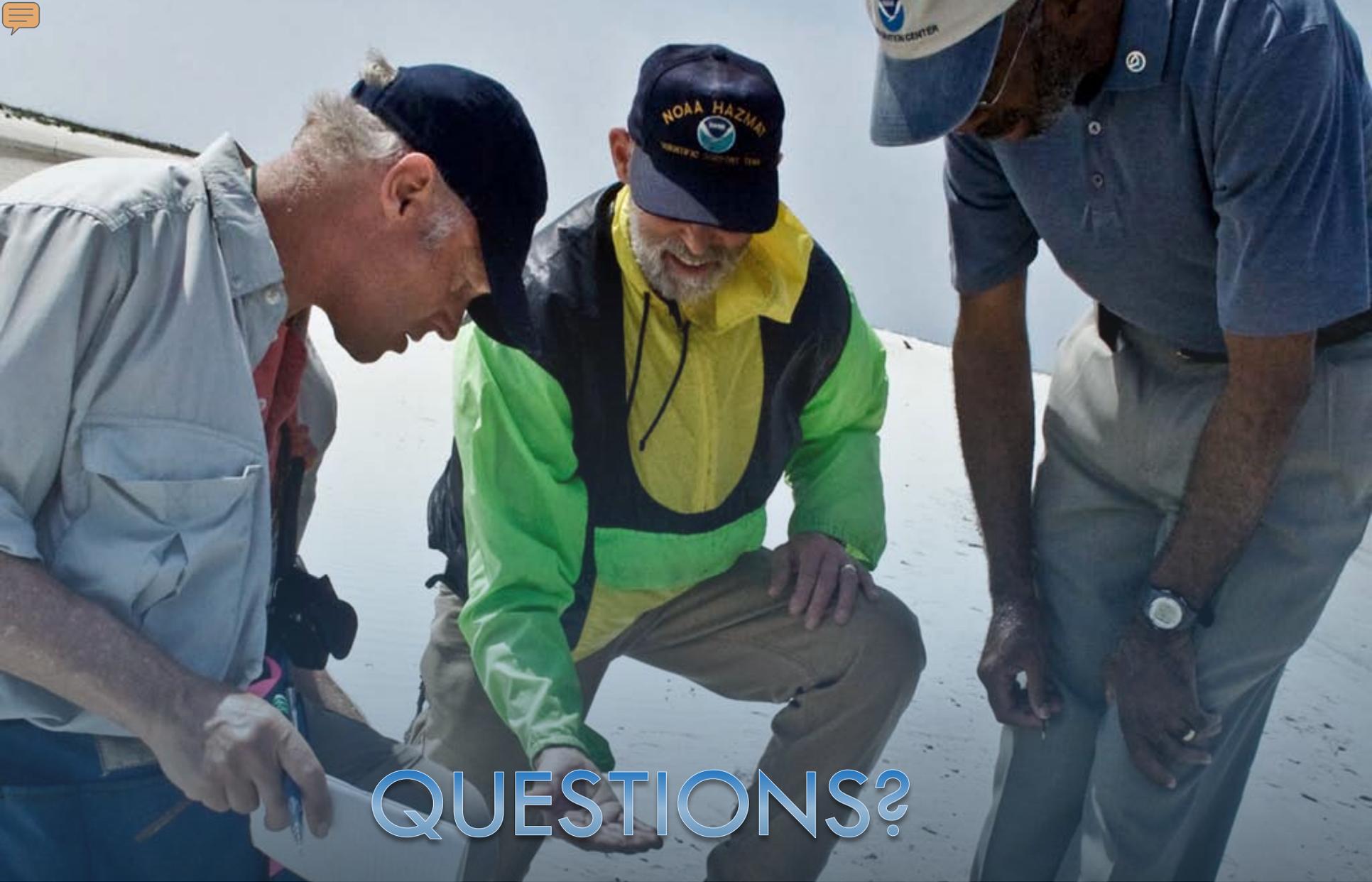
Mussel Watch Special Sampling



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QUESTIONS?



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