



Re: Fw: Governor's Brief

Cesnik, Catherine M

t 'Mark.G.Moland@uscg.mil', McNutt,
o Marcia K , Garcia, Martha N,
: Labson, Victor F, Faeth, Lori, Urban,
Heather

06/01/2010 07:16 PM

Mark, as requested:

From the FRTG, as of May 17, there were between 132,000 to 270,000 barrels of oil on the ocean surface with the potential to impact the coastline. Since that time (14 days), the RITT and subsea dispersants likely prevented the vast majority of additional oil from reaching the ocean surface. Daily reports from the vessels operating in the immediate vicinity of the well head confirmed that they had no problems with surface oil or VOCs.

That situation changed last Wednesday when the top kill procedure began and the RITT was withdrawn from the end of the riser. Dispersants continued to be applied subsea for much of the period, but not during periods of active mud pumping (3 concentrated periods each several hours in duration). The mass balance team concludes that nearly 50% of the oil released at depth makes it to the surface to form part of the oil slick, with the remainder being dissolved or evaporated.

Offsetting these additional releases of oil since May 17, according to the Coast Guard clean-up crews have burned an additional 48,620 barrels of oil since May 17th. Oil skimming continues as well.

Therefore, in the absence of additional information from more AVIRIS flights to quantify the current inventory of surface oil, the FRTG's best guess is that the additions of oil to the surface of the ocean have probably been modest and may have been offset by efforts at cleanup.

Catherine Cesnik
202-579-6023

----- Original Message -----

From: Mark.G.Moland@uscg.mil <Mark.G.Moland@uscg.mil>
To: Cesnik, Catherine M
Cc: Pond, Robert <Robert.G.Pond@uscg.mil>; Grawe, William
<William.R.Grawe@uscg.mil>; Offutt, Todd CDR <Todd.J.Offutt@uscg.mil>
Sent: Tue Jun 01 16:54:13 2010
Subject: RE: Fw: Governor's Brief

Catherine

Here is what we have:
Commander,

Total controlled burns completed as of 1JUN10: 121 Total estimated controlled burns (bbls) as of 31 May 10: 60,262 BBlS estimated to have been burned.

NOTE: This is the TOTAL number estimated to have been burned since beginning of response. Dr. McNutt will need to subtract the amount she has for pre-17 May.

Please forward to Dr. McNutt and her team.

Thanks

CDR Mark Moland
NIC- DC Legislative Affairs
Desk: 202-372-1715
Cell: 901-833-0345

-----Original Message-----

From: Catherine_Cesnik@ios.doi.gov [mailto:Catherine_Cesnik@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 4:10 PM
To: Moland, Mark CDR
Subject: FW: Fw: Governor's Brief

FYI.

Catherine

Catherine Cesnik

Deepwater Horizon Spill Response

National Incident Command - DC, Interagency Solutions Group

U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

202-579-6023 blackberry | Catherine_Cesnik@ios.doi.gov

From: Victor F Labson [mailto:vlabson@usgs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 10:16 AM
To: Cesnik, Catherine M
Cc: 'Scott.R.Lundgren@uscg.mil'
Subject: Re: Fw: Governor's Brief

Catherine,

The released numbers from the Mass Balance Sub-Team are in the press release from last week:

Mass Balance Team

The first approach led by the Mass Balance Team analyzed how much oil is on the surface of the Gulf of Mexico. The Mass Balance team developed a range of values using USGS and NOAA analysis of data that was collected from NASA's Airborne Visible InfraRed Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS), an advanced imaging tool. USGS has previously used the AVIRIS tool to discover water on the moon. This is the first time it has been used to measure the volume of an oil spill.

Based on observations on May 17th, and accounting for thin oil not sensed by

the AVIRIS sensor, the FRTG estimated that between 130,000 and 270,000 barrels of oil are on the surface of the Gulf of Mexico. It is important to note that the FRTG also estimated that a similar volume of oil to the amount AVIRIS found on the surface has already been burned, skimmed or dispersed by responders or has evaporated naturally as of May 17th.

Given the amount of oil observed and the adjusted calculations for the amount of oil that has been burned, skimmed, dispersed, or evaporated the initial estimate from the Mass Balance Team is in the range of 12,000 to 19,000 barrels of oil per day.

This methodology carried several challenges, including the fact that the AVIRIS plane can only fly over a portion of the spill in a day, meaning that an assumption must be made that the area imaged is representative of the entire spill region.

The summary of the accounting underlying this statement is in review and of course does not have UGSG Director"s approval or permission to release from DOI/NIC.

Vic