



**Fw: Guidance on USGS Response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill --
Coordination and Timely Release of Key Information and Publications**

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Subject: Guidance on USGS Response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill -- Coordination and Timely
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Sent by: Georgia J Diersing

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June 10, 2010

Memorandum

To: Executive Leadership Team
Regional Executives
Science Center Directors
Program Coordinators

From: Suzette M. Kimball (*signed*)
Deputy Director

Subject: Guidance on USGS Response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill – Coordination and Timely Release of Key Information and Publications

As part of the response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is conducting science in support of our sister bureaus in the Department of the Interior, and many other Federal agencies, State and local governments, industry, and communities. Our science includes up-to-the-minute situational awareness, observational and interpretive studies to understand the nature of the oil spill, and research into understanding ecologic impacts, mitigation, and recovery from this event.

Coordination on gathering and release of important scientific and other information that is being brought to bear on decision-making is needed for us to have the best response possible to the oil spill. A Unified Command Joint Information Center has been set up to coordinate information from all agencies and partners responding to the oil spill (<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com>). Critical science, such as the work we are jointly doing on understanding the flow of oil, will be announced through the Joint Information Center. Secretary Salazar places the highest importance on coordinating these efforts.

I am requesting that you help us be responsive to these coordination needs by providing timely information on pending products. Following USGS Fundamental Science Practices, we ask that products that may “involve matters of national interest, security, or potential commercial gain,” and that “may be especially newsworthy, have an impact on Government policy, or contradict previous public understanding” be forwarded to Barbara Wainman as you become aware of them. We then can coordinate response through the Joint information Center as appropriate. Thank you for your support of this important effort.

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