



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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July 17, 2010 Material in Mississippi update

Flight information:

- Reddish brown area with sheen was seen approximately 300 feet off the beach south of Keesler AFB. N30 23.26, W88 55.63
- Sheen seen at Henderson Point--approximately 50 feet area. N30 18.01, W89 18.30

Other Information from MDEQ staff:

Jackson County:

A report of an oily substance in the bayou near Pittman Road in Ocean Springs. N30 23.746, W88 46.293

- Hancock County:
 - Tar patties ranging from one to five inches at less than one percent coverage and a heavy concentration of staining along the seawall. N30 15.831, W89 23.573
 - Small tar patties, widely spaced, were seen between the Silver Slipper Casino and the rock jetty to the east.
 - Two tar patties, approximately six inches in size, were seen west of Dane Avenue in Waveland.
 - Between Dane Avenue and Angel Avenue there were sporadic tar balls with less than one percent coverage ranging in size from one half to seven inches.
- Harrison County: sporadic tar balls at five percent coverage ranging in size from two to five inches near the pier across from the Coliseum.
- SCAT team performed beach assessment along the western tip of Horn Island. The assessed area contained a one meter band in the middle inter-tidal zone of less than one percent coverage of sandy mousse patties. The far western tip of Horn Island contained 20 to 30 percent coverage of mousse patties. A six meter by three meter mat was discovered on the northern side of the western tip. After reaching the north shoreline, the team noticed a section of eroded sand creating a vertical face--traces of oil and mousse patties that had been buried could be seen. Also, a mixture of dark grass growth, organic material, and trace amounts of mousse patties about two meters in the water.
- SCAT team performed beach assessment along the shoreline from Treasure Bay to the Biloxi--Ocean Springs Bridge. The team noted less than one percent oiled coverage on the seawall at Treasure Bay Casino and from Treasure Bay going east, trace amounts of oiling were seen. The island directly south of Hard Rock Casino exhibited a few pieces of oiled debris and trace amounts of mousse patties. The remainder of the assessment area revealed no oiling or tar balls.

