

FACT SHEET

MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING PHASE

During the Deepwater Horizon MC252 oil spill response phase, Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) teams have been patrolling the shorelines and overseeing cleanup operations. After progressing through months of successful daily cleanups, shorelines are now being re-inspected to ensure compliance with Shoreline Treatment Recommendation (STR) standards agreed upon by federal, state and local entities. Where STR benchmarks are met, maintenance and monitoring (M&M) response actions will be recommended as part of multi-phase recovery efforts. This signifies a shift from active into passive response posture. If any residual MC252 oil is found during this phase, procedures are in place to respond.

Maintenance and Monitoring Goals

- To maintain capabilities to identify and respond to reports of re-oiling that may be MC252 oil,
- Support on-going treatment operations, monitor the effectiveness of natural recovery at selected sites and;
- Maintain federal, state, local and tribal collaboration and partnerships to ensure coordination of continued response efforts.

M & M consists of two types of activities

MONITORING – regular visual site inspections by SCAT and other monitoring teams of shoreline areas to observe for re-oiling deemed to be MC252. SCAT Teams will also conduct monthly photo monitoring and beach profiling at selected sites to document the erosion/ deposition cycles on beaches. Responders will investigate reports of suspected MC252 oiling. Any re-oiling discovered in areas without a standing STR-M (see below) will have a SCAT assessment and an STR-M will be written to conduct cleaning.

MAINTENANCE – clean up operations based on needs identified by the monitoring program consists of the following response actions:

- Regularly scheduled treatment operations outlined in the Shoreline Treatment Recommendation-Maintenance (STR-Ms), (e.g., daily, weekly, bi-weekly or monthly sweeps of a shoreline segment) along shorelines where chronic MC252 re-oiling is expected, from the revealing of buried oil or from a nearby source; and
- Gulf Coast Recovery Teams that will be deployed in response to episodic MC252 oiling events (e.g., exposure and/or deposits by storm-wave action).

Lastly, following where the M & M plan leaves off, a Spring re-assessment plan will be drafted which will ultimately lead to a Long-Term Recovery plan. **Ultimately, M&M functions represent a strong oversight to maintain high standards and to coordinate further response efforts for long-term restoration activities.**