

Survey Area: Escambia County segment FLES2-005 (NPS Fort Pickens).

Team Members:

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Survey Conditions:

During today's survey the skies were sunny, winds were N @ 5-10 knots, and seas in the Gulf were calm. The tide was low and rising, with low tide (-0.33 ft) at 6:33 AM and high tide (0.87 ft) at 8:36 PM.



Survey Summary:

Today FDEP personnel conducted a post-response monitoring survey in Escambia County Division 2, segment FLES2-005 at NPS Fort Pickens. Conditions in the Gulf were calm with great water clarity.

In segment FLES2-005, several SRBs were found during the initial survey of the segment. Most SRBs were recovered as the team continued its survey. Exceptionally calm conditions allowed the team to survey a few meters offshore and a submerged oil mat (SOM) was found east of the Fort Pickens Ranger Station. The SOM measured about 3 meters by 3 meters in diameter, was up to 15-20 centimeters thick, and was found about 7 meters offshore in water that was about 1 meter deep. Immediately upon discovery, an NRC report was filed.

The team met with USCG personnel in the field shortly thereafter and the OSRO was deployed to assist with recovery of the SOM. However, the OSRO's safety policies would not allow the crew to go in further than knee-deep water. As a cooperative effort, FDEP personnel removed product by hand using shovels provided by the OSRO. As chunks of the SOM were removed by FDEP personnel, the OSRO began sifting, weighing, and categorizing the material. By the end of the day, 1,249.56 lb of SOM product was removed just from a small 3 m x 3 m area.

Although about 90% of the visible SOM was removed by FDEP personnel using shovels, some material could remain. Further investigation will take place tomorrow, February 28th with FDEP, USCG, and OSRO personnel.

What is remarkable about this area is that this segment has been previously surveyed 9 times by FDEP since the end of the active *Deepwater Horizon* response in June 2013. On one previous survey (December 10, 2013) four yellow Driftcards from the Texas A&M study were found in this area, indicating that this may be a natural collection area. The 9 previous surveys of this segment amounted to 32 lb of MC-252 product before today. However, through persistent proactive monitoring, a significant deposit of MC-252 oil was located and removed today. Without such a proactive monitoring program in place, it is unlikely that such a deposit (or any future deposits) would have been located or removed.

115 SRBs (3.53 lb) were recovered during the survey before the SOM was located, plus an additional 1,249.56 lb of MC-252 SOM product, amounting to **1,253.09 lb** of MC-252 product removed from the beach today by FDEP personnel.

MC-252 Oil Observed

Segment ID	SRBs	SRB Size (cm)	SRB Weight (lb)	NRC Report #	NRC Followup
FLES2-005	115 SRBs + 1 SOM	2.0 - 9.75 3 m x 3 m	3.53 1,249.56	1075240	Continue tomorrow

* About 90% of SOM material removed by FDEP personnel. Further investigation tomorrow.

Monitoring Photos:



Submerged Oil Mat (SOM) found in FLES2-005



Closeup of Submerged Oil Mat (SOM) found in FLES2-005



FDEP personnel removing SOM with shovels. OSRO assisting.



Chunk of Submerged Oil Mat (SOM) material recovered from FLES2-005



Thickness of Submerged Oil Mat (SOM) material



Strange tubular formation found in SOM material recovered from FLES2-005



Portion of SOM material recovered from FLES2-005



OSRO sorting, weighing, and disposing of SOM material from FLES2-005



More Submerged Oil Mat (SOM) material recovered by hand from FLES2-005

Recommendations:

FLES2-005: Segment has been signed out of the response but continues to yield MC-252 material. Recommend further periodic monitoring of this segment when weather conditions are favorable for product recovery.

ACRONYMS

ES - Entire Segment

EZ - Entire Zone

FLES - Florida Escambia County

FLGU - Florida Gulf County

FOSC- Federal on Scene Coordinator

HBR- Hard Black Rubbery Tar Ball

LITZ- Lower Intertidal Zone

LTZ- Lower Tidal Zone

MTZ - Middle Tidal Zone

NRC- National Response Center

NPS - National Park Service

SOM - Submerged Oil Mat

SRB - Surface Residue Ball

UITZ- Upper Intertidal Zone

USTZ - Upper Supra Tidal Zone

FLBA - Florida Bay County

FLOK - Florida Okaloosa County

FLWA - Florida Walton County

GUIS - Gulf Islands National Seashore

ITZ- Intertidal Zone

LSTZ - Lower Supra Tidal Zone

MIT - Mitigated

NAS - Naval Air Station

NOO - No Observable Oil

STZ - Supra Tidal Zone

SRP - Surface Residue Patty

USCG- United States Coast Guard

UTZ - Upper Tidal Zone

USTZ - Upper Supra Tidal Zone