

Subsurface Monitor

Sharing science from the Gulf oil spill response



Welcome to Subsurface Monitor, the newsletter of the subsurface oil monitoring program, an ongoing scientific collaboration in response to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Scientists from academic institutions, government agencies including NOAA, EPA, and USGS, and BP and other entities are working closely together to make certain that all oil that can be cleaned up is found and responded to in the proper manner.

Visit the subsurface monitoring Web page

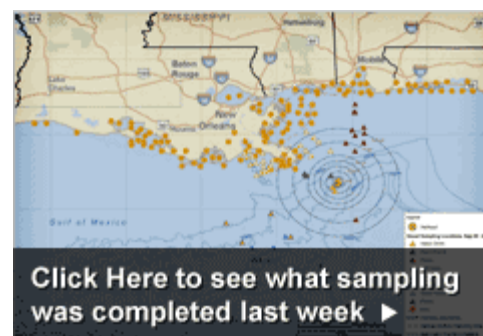
The subsurface monitoring program's new Web page is part of RestoreTheGulf.gov. The page is a portal for information on subsurface monitoring missions and data, plus news on seafood safety, fisheries status, beach information and other topics.



Research cruises continue

Follow research vessel activities on the [Mission Log](#) blog

Both federal and contracted vessels are sampling water and sediments in the nearshore, offshore and deep ocean, from the surface to the seafloor looking for indicators of subsurface oil. The data collected by onboard scientists are transmitted to shore and the results and modeling are used to plan future sampling missions. Scientists analyze samples onboard and send additional water samples to EPA labs for analysis.



As of September 27, seven vessels are in the Gulf of Mexico conducting water and sediment sampling missions: Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium's R/V *Pelican*, NOAA Ship *Pisces*, and the contract vessels R/V *Gyre*, R/V *International Peace*, R/V *Ocean Veritas*, R/V *Ryan Chouest*, and R/V *HOS Davis*.

NOAA Ship *Pisces* departed the port of Pascagoula, Miss., September 24 on a mission to collect data on water, sediment and deepwater seeps. The lead scientist on this cruise is Dr. David Valentine of the University of California, Santa

Barbara. Also at sea sampling deepwater sediments is the R/V *Ocean Veritas* with NOAA's Dr. Ian Hartwell as lead scientist.

Subsurface monitoring data resources

The subsurface monitoring program makes processed and unprocessed data from its Gulf oil spill science missions available through NOAA. The data can be accessed at <http://www.noaa.gov/sciencemissions/bpoilspill.html>.

Additionally, GeoPlatform.gov provides a customizable, interactive map containing near-real time information about the response effort including the current positions of deployed research ships and sampling locations.

About the subsurface monitoring program

The subsurface monitoring program is a scientific collaboration among academic institutions, government agencies, BP, and other entities in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The program's goals are to assess the distribution, concentration, and degradation of oil remaining in the water column and/or bottom sediments; evaluate the distribution of dispersants used in oil spill response activities and their break-down products; and identify any additional response requirements that may be necessary to address remaining subsurface oil. The data collected by the subsurface monitoring program will form a valuable foundation for long-term restoration efforts in the Gulf of Mexico.

Useful Links

- [National Oceanographic Data Center \(NODC\)](#)
- [Seafood Safety](#)
- [NOAA Science Missions & Data](#)
- [NOAA Roles](#)
- [Fact Sheets & Publications](#)

[Forward email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe**®

This email was sent to james.chang@noaa.gov by press.releases@noaa.gov.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



NOAA Office of Communications and External Affairs | HCHB Room 6217 | 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW | Washington | DC | 20230