



CHARLIE CRIST  
Governor

SECRETARY MICHAEL W. SOLE  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DAVID HALSTEAD  
State Coordinating Officer

## **Plan to Replace Sand Removed from Florida Beaches Fronting the Gulf of Mexico, Straits of Florida and Atlantic Ocean Due to Contamination from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill**

### **I. Inspection and Assessment**

- All care and effort shall be made to avoid additional mixing of oil and sand through foot and vehicular traffic.
- Local marine turtle and bird monitors shall be consulted.
- Heavily contaminated areas may need to have public access restricted to avoid exposure, wildlife impacts and sand mixing.
- SCAT Teams shall be employed to conduct shoreline surveys to identify the severity and extent of contamination along designated shoreline segments.
- If large expanses of sandy beach shoreline appear to be subjected to oil impacts, the Civil Air Patrol or other aerial reconnaissance shall be utilized to obtain oblique and/or planimetric photography of the impacted area.

### **II. Excavation / Sand Removal**

- All activities shall be coordinated with the local marine turtle monitors, or Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- Cleanup and remediation techniques shall minimize the volume of uncontaminated sand removed. Consideration shall be given to hand removal for small, patchy areas, rubber blades on scraping machines, and on-site screening if contamination is sufficiently consolidated.
- Consideration shall be given to stockpiling sand for additional cleaning. All disposal shall be in accordance with an approved waste disposal plan.
- All sand removal shall be tracked by Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) Reference Monument number, date, and volume, and reported to the FDEP's Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, and ESF10.

### III. Sand Replacement / Beach Restoration

- *Timing*  
Sand replacement will occur after excavation activities have ceased.
- *Prioritization*  
Sandy shorelines fronting the Gulf of Mexico and the Straits of Florida will be evaluated using FDEPs critically eroded shoreline protocol. Those beaches where sand removal diminishes the storm protection to public and private development and infrastructure will be given the highest priority; sensitive environmental areas and habitats will also be given priority consideration for prompt remedial actions.
- *Truck Hauls*  
Shoreline areas subject to oil-contaminated sand removal and thus requiring small (less than 6 cy/ft) volumes of sand shall be considered for truck hauls of beach compatible sand from upland sand sources. The services of a qualified coastal engineer will be used to prepare plans, obtain necessary permits, oversee the project, and collect post-construction surveys or otherwise certify to the quantities of sand delivered and placed.
- *Offshore Sand for Replacement*  
Shorelines with larger sediment needs will need to use uncontaminated sand from offshore borrow areas. The services of a qualified coastal engineer and/or coastal geologist shall be used to locate the borrow area sand source, design and oversee the project, collect post-construction surveys, and coordinate environmental monitoring requirements.
- *Dune Vegetation Plantings*  
Planting native, salt-tolerant dune vegetation will be required if vegetation was removed or lost during remediation efforts or oiling of the beach. It will be necessary to document the beach condition prior to beginning oil removal efforts.

### IV. Funding

- It is necessary to coordinate restoration efforts with the Responsible Party and to agree to the expected endpoints. BP is responsible for funding of the project or reimbursing the state or governmental entity if the work is undertaken by a governmental agency. Annual Legislative appropriations designated for planned beach erosion control projects are not eligible for this restoration work.