

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC)
United States Coast Guard (USCG)

Incident Management Team
1250 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70113

5700
May 1, 2012

Mr. R. Cooper Shattuck
Executive Committee Chair
Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill NRDA Trustee Council
State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Mr. Shattuck:

I write to formally confirm my endorsement of the two Louisiana projects approved by the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustee Council pursuant to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Phase I Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (ERP/EA) to move forward. Based on the information currently available to me, neither project appears to interfere with our ongoing or planned response activities.

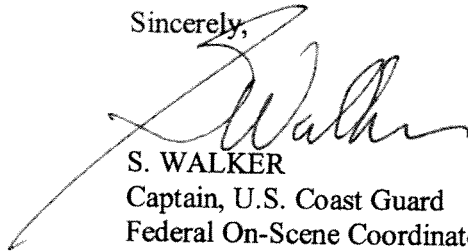
The Louisiana Oyster Cultch project involves the placement of oyster cultch onto approximately 850 acres of public oyster seed grounds throughout coastal Louisiana. Since these placement sites are all in the open water (offshore) it appears that none of these projects will affect our shoreline cleanup operations. Only the Drum Bay cultch site has the closest proximity to any active shoreline cleanup areas, but still should not interfere.

Louisiana Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation project is located well inshore in an area that was not impacted by oil and therefore will not impact any of our operations.

I do note that the information currently available to me regarding each of these projects is quite limited. Until the projects are awarded to a contractor with a detailed scope of work and schedule, it is impossible to know with complete assurance that we will not have to develop a collaborative scheme for deconfliction. Accordingly, I ask for your support in facilitating direct and frequent communications between the project manager and my US Coast Guard Branch Chief in Louisiana, Chief Petty Officer Aaron Hemme (Aaron.S.Hemme@uscg.mil; 504-252-8854). Such direct contact will facilitate ongoing dialogue as the restoration projects are more fully developed and work begins, while avoiding conflict. This is consistent with our respective statutory requirements to do so.

I remain committed to the pledge I made to the Trustee Council previously, to do all in my power to facilitate simultaneous restoration and response activities. I look forward to working closely with the Executive Council as we move forward together in these endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Walker", written over the word "Sincerely,".

S. WALKER
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Federal On-Scene Coordinator
Deepwater Horizon Response

Copy: CPO Aaron Hemme, USCG, GC-IMT Louisiana Branch Director
Mr. Dirk Kavanaugh, Louisiana State on Scene Coordinator (on rotation)
Ms. Laura Folse, BP Executive VP, Science, Tech, Envir. & Reg. Affairs, GCRO
Ms. Carla Fontenot, BP Incident Commander, GC-IMT
Mr. Danny Wallace, BP Deputy Incident Commander, GC-IMT
Mr. Larry Malnor, BP Deputy Director NRDA, GCRO