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NOAA ORR Oil Observing Program

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Why Conduct Overflights

- Surveillance of the Oil Slick
 - Location and Size of the Oil Slick
 - Scale the Problem
 - Oceanographic Features
 - Currents, Convergence Lines, Rip Tides
 - Environmental Conditions
 - Winds, Currents, Visibility

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Why Conduct Overflights

- False Positives
 - Kelp Beds, Cloud Shadows, Natural Slicks
- Validate and/or Recalibrate GNOME
- Wildlife in the Vicinity of the Spill

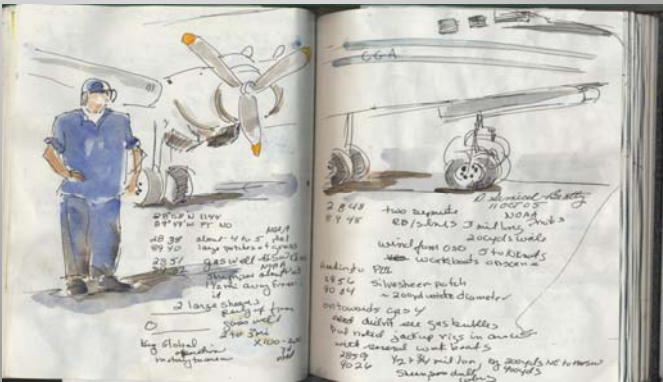
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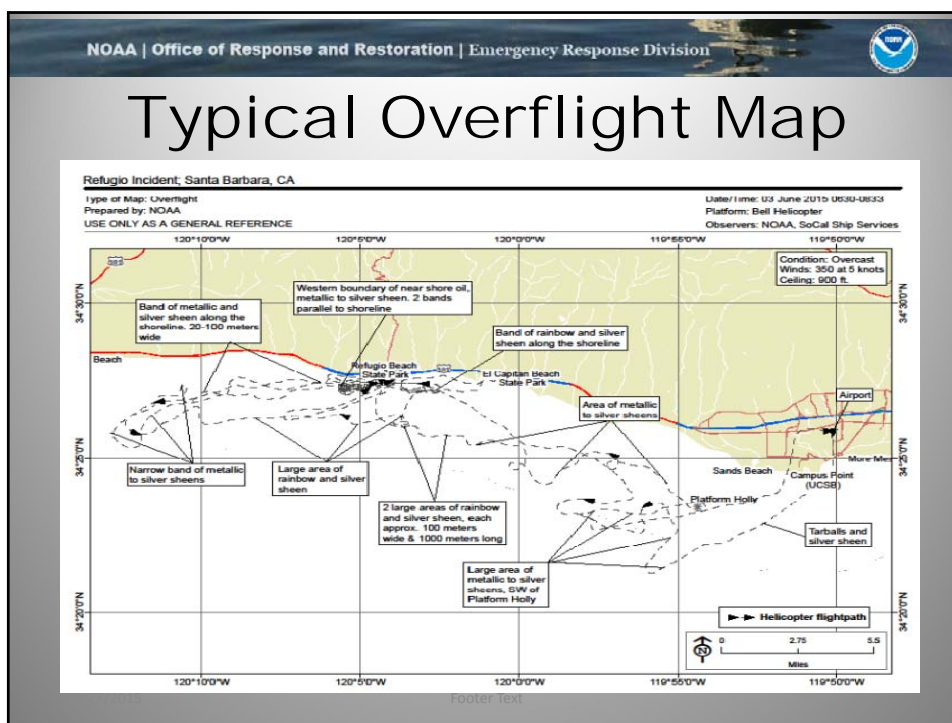


Overflight Map

- An overflight map is the combinations of:
 - Notes from the Observer
 - Trackline from a GPS
 - Photo's



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Overflights

- **Advantages**
 - Fast turnaround
 - Can Direct Flight Path
 - Able to Scale the Size of the Release
 - Can Conduct Multiple Flights Each Day
 - Deploy Tracking Devices
 - Trained Observer
 - Works Open Ocean, Rivers and Lakes


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Overflights

- **Disadvantage or Limitations**
 - Weather
 - Equipment Failure
 - No Trained Observer
 - Distance and Time
 - Daylight Hours
 - Delay Generating Final Map from Flight

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Equipment

- Aircraft/Pilot Fixed Wing/Rotary
- Trained Observer
- Safety Gear
- Note Pad
- GPS
- Camera
- Backup Gear

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NESDIS Satellite Analysis

EXPERIMENTAL MARINE POLLUTION SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Analysis Provided by The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NOAA/NESDIS)

REPORT DATE: July 19, 2010
 REPORT TIME: 2230Z (1730 CDT)
 ANALYST: DMH/PLH

DATA SOURCE: NASA/MODIS Aqua
 WPTP: Visible Channel, Band 1
 RESOLUTION: 250 Meter
 IMAGE DATE/TIME: 7/19/2010 1800Z (7/19/10 1400 CDT)

Legend

- Possible Oil
- + False Positives (not oil)
- ♦ Location of Deepwater Horizon Platform: [28°44'12" N / 88°13'14" W]

REMARKS:

This MODIS image provided the first good look at the majority of the main slick today. Part of this image included sunlight while the eastern half did not which made analysis more difficult and thus confidence is only medium overall. Compared to yesterday's analysis, most of the oil in the center and southern part of the slick moved west today with the mean wind flow. The south of oil trailing off the east of the spill packet is believed to have drifted through, while the extreme northern part of the slick had spread further northeast, possibly due to strong localized near-surface currents pushing it that direction.

This is an experimental product of the Satellite Analysis Branch and not operationally used. We will do our best to make it available as a free service.

Also available at: www.esd.noaa.gov/SIMPS/decawater.html

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Future Needs

- Hand Held Data Tracker: Tablet
- Streamline Bureaucracy

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