

The Explosion Onboard Transocean's Deepwater Horizon Drilling Rig: Facts and Figures

By <u>Sue Sturgis</u> Global Research, May 07, 2010 <u>Institute for Southern Studies</u> 29 April 2010 Region: <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Environment</u> In-depth Report: <u>THE BP OIL SLICK</u>

Date of the explosion and fire onboard Transocean's Deepwater Horizon drilling rig in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico: $\frac{4}{20}$

Distance of the rig, which was being used by BP, from the Louisiana coast when the disaster occurred: <u>41 miles</u>

Size of the crew at the time of the blast: 126

Number of crew members who remain missing: 11

Date on which a lawsuit was filed by a missing worker's wife claiming negligence on the part of Transocean, BP and Halliburton, which was cementing the well when the explosion occurred: $\frac{4}{27}$

Number of deaths associated with offshore drilling operations in the Gulf of Mexico since 2001: <u>69</u>

Number of injuries: <u>1,349</u>

Number of reports issued by the U.S. Minerals Management Service documenting noncompliant offshore drilling operations: <u>150</u>

Time period during which MMS said it saw "no discernible improvement by industry" in terms of safety: <u>7 years</u>

Frequency with which MMS wants operators to have their safety programs audited: <u>every 3</u> <u>years</u>

Number of letters oil companies have sent protesting the proposed regulations, citing the expense: <u>over 100</u>

Profits earned by BP in 2009: <u>\$14 billion</u>

Number of oil spills of over 2,100 gallons that have occurred in the Gulf over the past decade: $\frac{172}{172}$

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's current estimate of the amount of oil being leaked from the Gulf disaster site: <u>5,000 barrels a day</u>

Factor by which that surpasses the previous estimate: 5 times

Square miles the slick is now covering: more than 2,200

Date on which cleanup crews conducted a "controlled burn" to help reduce risks from the oil slick: $\frac{4/28}{2}$

Date on which official forecasts say the oil slick may begin impacting the Louisiana shoreline: $\frac{4/30}{2}$

Number of Louisiana fishermen who packed a meeting this morning to help pinpoint locations for oil containment rings: <u>nearly 200</u>

Rank of the threatened area among those with the largest total seafood landings in the lower 48 states: $\underline{1}$

Percent of the nation's wild shrimp crop the area produces: 50

Number of species put in harm's way by the spill: more than 400

Current estimated cost of the disaster: at least \$1 billion

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