



NEWS RELEASE

Texas Animal Health Commission

"Serving Texas Animal Agriculture Since 1893"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On behalf of Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)

April 30, 2010

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries working to address recent oil spill in Gulf of Mexico

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is working in conjunction with professional oiled wildlife response companies to address the recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Currently, forward command posts staffed by LDWF, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and professional oiled wildlife rehabilitators UVA have been set up in Houma and Venice Louisiana. These command posts are well equipped to recover and treat oiled wildlife that will be presented in the near future. Initially, only HAZWOP trained personnel will be handling wildlife due to the inherent dangers of crude oil exposure. Trained, licensed wildlife rehabilitators are on standby across the country. Additional rehabilitators and veterinarians may be called in later to assist with the treatment of the oiled wildlife after it has been cleaned. LDWF is requesting that people DO NOT self-deploy to this disaster as this will cause confusion and will disrupt the organization of efforts. Volunteers are asked to stand by for contact at a future date. Impacts from this oil spill are expected to last for weeks or months, so ancillary help may be needed in the future.

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