

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Silvertip Pipeline Spill



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, Region VIII

**Subject: SITREP # 02 July 10, 2011
Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill Response
Billings, Montana Latitude: 45° 39' 25.57" Longitude:108° 44'54.35"**



Reporting Period: 0700 hours 07/09/11 to 0700 hours 07/10/11

USEPA Concurrence	Finance Section	Logistics Section	Planning Section	Operations Section
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1.0 Introduction

At approximately 11:30 p.m. on Friday, July 1, a leak was detected on the 12 inch Silvertip pipeline (Wyoming mix crude, 21 API gravity) where it crosses the Yellowstone River east of Highway 310. The Yellowstone River on Saturday, July 2 at 2:00 a.m. was at 13.91 ft. flood stage. Normal level for the river is 8 ft.

1.1 Background Information

D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	7/2/11	Start Date:	7/2/11
RCRIS ID:			
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#: E11809		Reimbursable Account	

1.2 Preliminary Site Inspection and Response Activities

An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) has been directing and overseeing cleanup activities since arriving at the site. EPA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel conducted aerial assessments and reported seeing bank deposits and small pooling of oil in backwaters and slow water at intermittent points along both the north and south banks of the Yellowstone River. Personnel are walking the shores and are deploying absorbent booms along the river banks to absorb oil that collected in slow water along the shoreline. EPA is conducting air monitoring and has taken water samples to determine what impacts the spill may have on air or water quality. Shoreline assessment is ongoing to determine effective strategies for recovering the oil. Sorbent boom deployment is ongoing and where possible other oil recovery and containment approaches are being implemented. Flood conditions on the river have hampered oil recovery efforts and prevented a more thorough assessment of the impacts at this time.

1.3 Incident Objective

The following incident objectives and command emphasis are taken from the IAP for the Operational Period 6 – July 8, 2011, at 0730 to July 10, 2011, at 0730.

General Response Objectives

1. Ensure the safety of the responders as well as maximize the protection of public health and welfare.
2. Maintain the source of the spill
3. Maintain protection of environmentally sensitive areas.
4. Define impacted areas
5. Contain and recover spilled material
6. Develop and execute a remediation work plan for impacted areas
7. Manage a coordinated response effort
8. Execute Wildlife Plan to to recover and rehabilitate injured wildlife.
9. Keep stakeholders and public informed of response activities (Residential, Commercial, Agricultural, and Tribal)

2.0 Background

On July 6, 2011 EPA issued an administrative order to ExxonMobile instructing them to provide information on the circumstance of the spill, conduct appropriate recovery and remediation actions, and perform ongoing environmental sampling. The order also requires ExxonMobile to provide a workplan which is currently being reviewed by the state of Montana, EPA, and other agency partners.

3.0 Current Operations

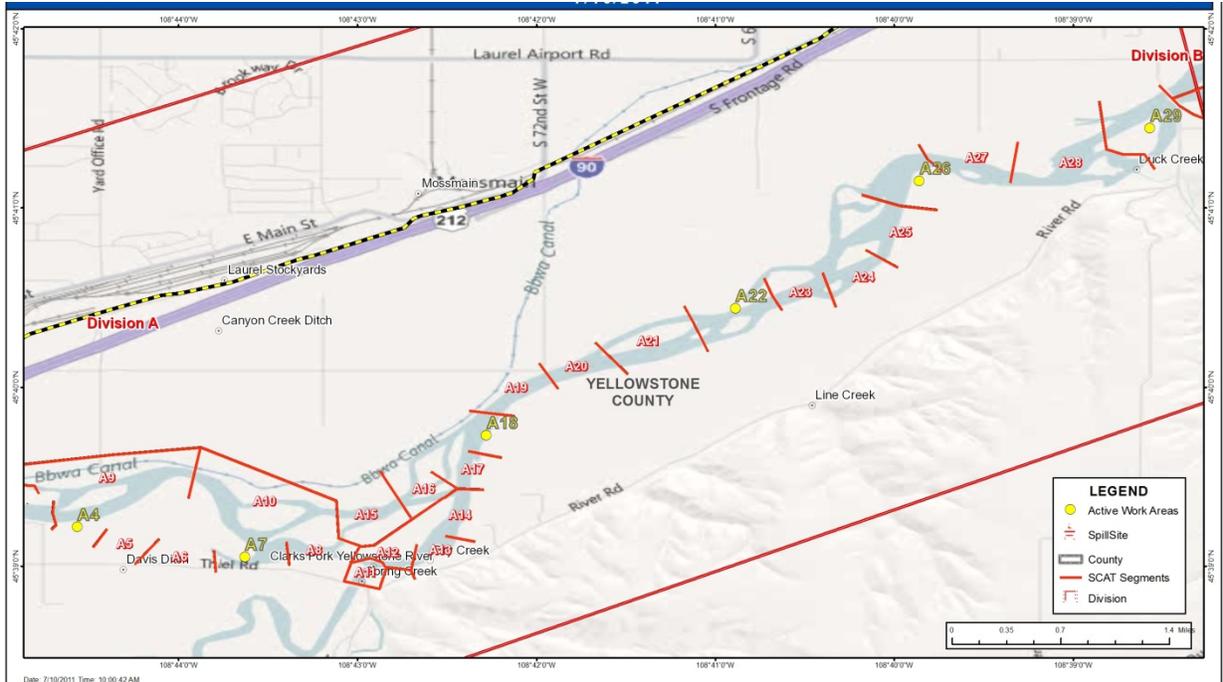
The river has been divided into 4 sections for purposes of responding to the spill. The first two sections (Division A and Division B) encompass the 20 miles of river immediately downstream of the spill. EPA Region 8 and U.S. Coast Guard oversees crews manned by EPA and ExxonMobile that focus cleanup and assessment efforts on Divisions A and B.

There are 200 Clean Harbors crew working in Division A and 90 crew in division B. Crews are working 15 of 42 areas identified through reconnaissance over-flight as having pockets of recoverable oil and oily debris. Crews are hampered from the other 27 sites by flood waters. Operations is testing airboat deployment today for possible upcoming operations in the river to address the remaining 27 sites as well as future operations to address oiled bank and riparian vegetation identified by SCAT.

SCAT has been completed on approximately 5 miles river. SCAT operations limited to extensive reaches of the river due to flood stage. SCAT may be allowed to conduct water operations on Sunday.

River Stage is dropping and is projected to drop couple feet over next three days. Jet Boats are being evaluated for fast water operations.

No work in Division C or D operations or SCAT.



Silvertip Pipeline Incident 7/10/11 Work Areas

Figure 1 – Division A Assessment and Monitoring Areas

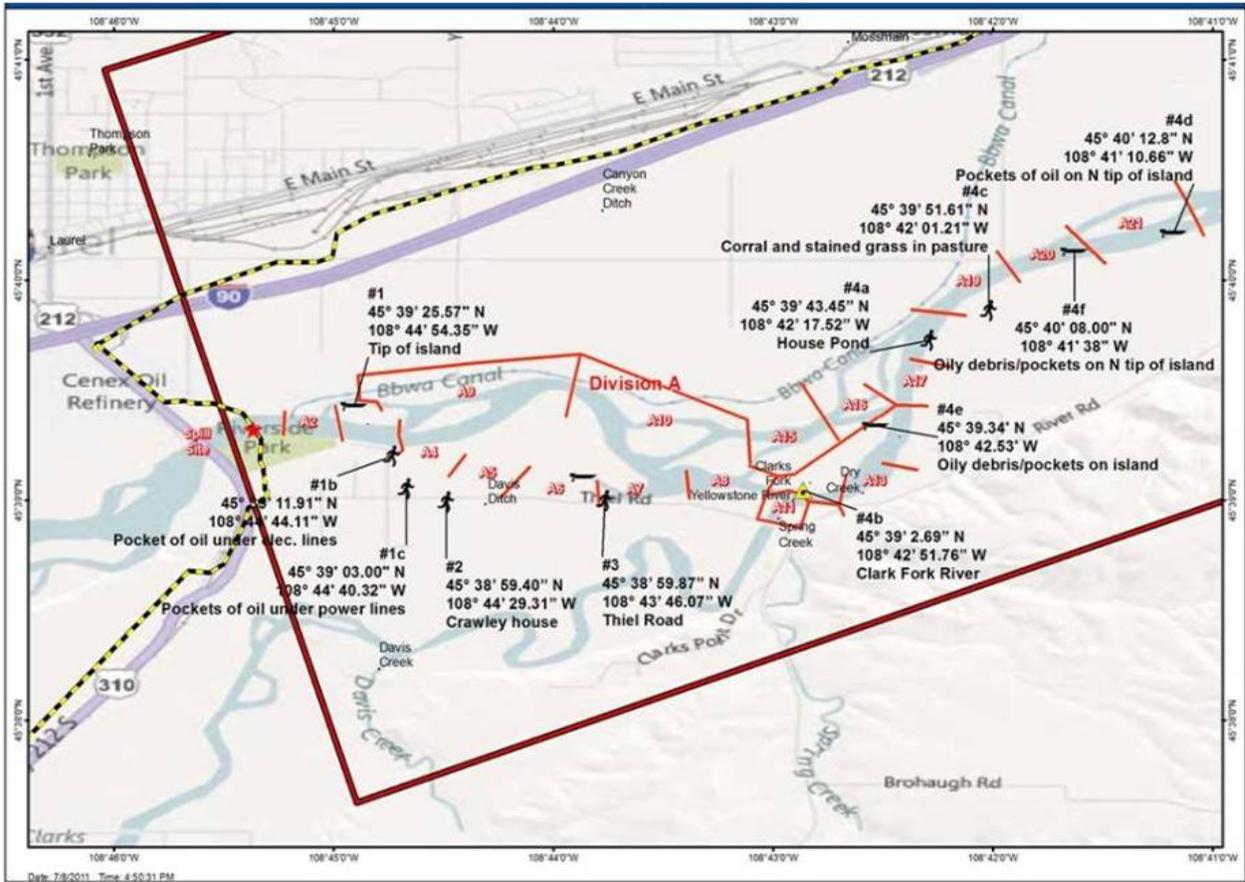
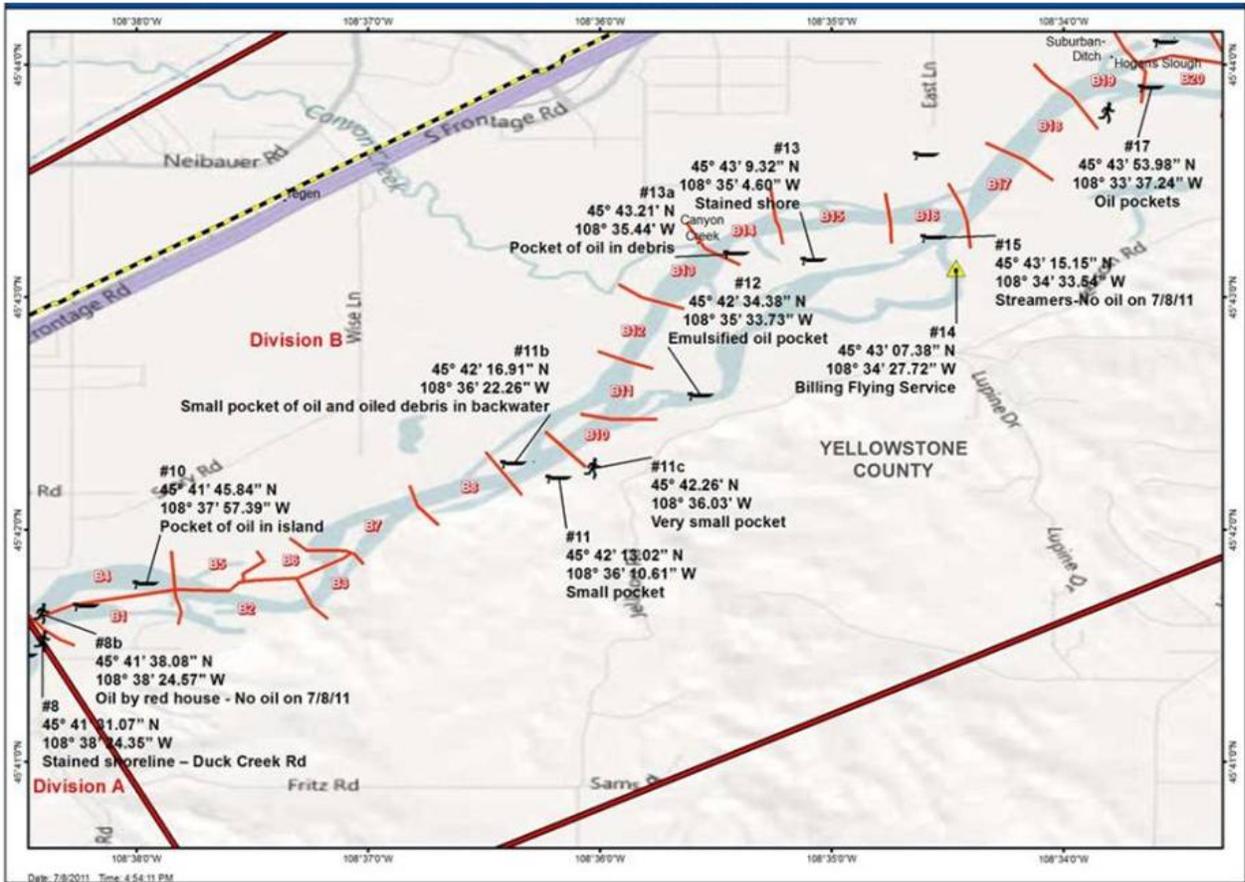


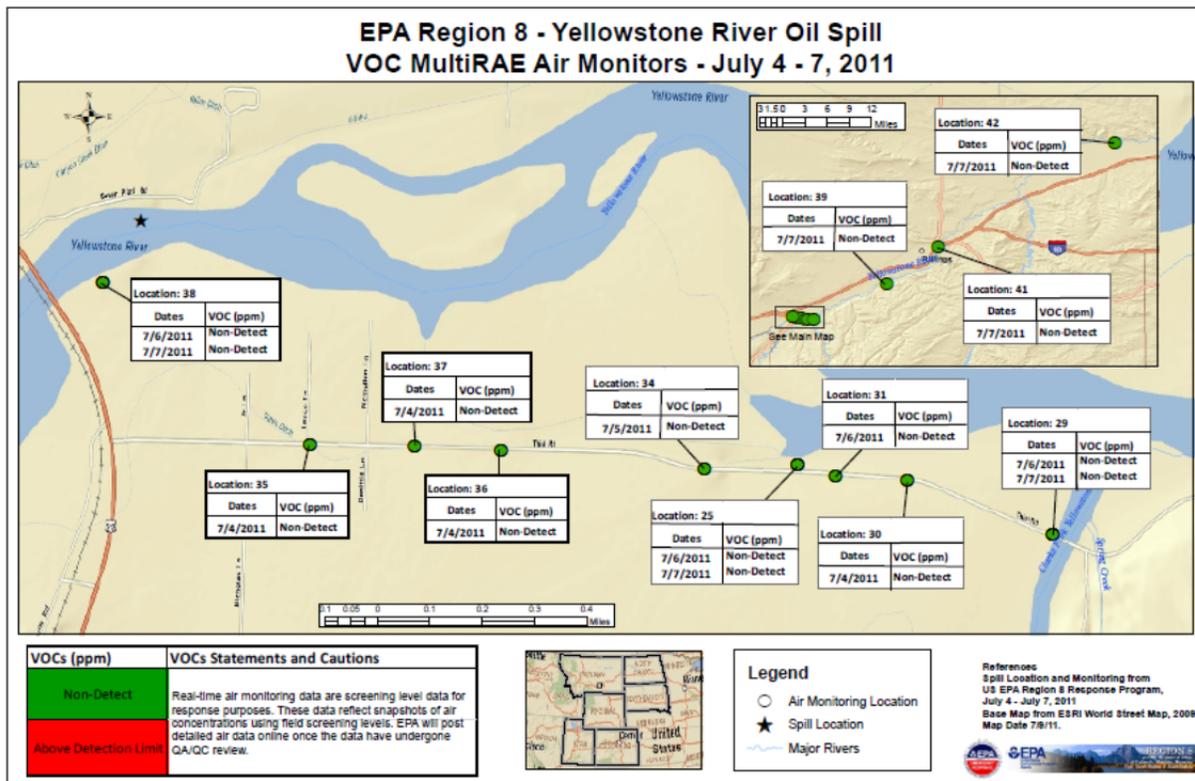
Figure 2 – Division B Assessment and Monitoring Areas



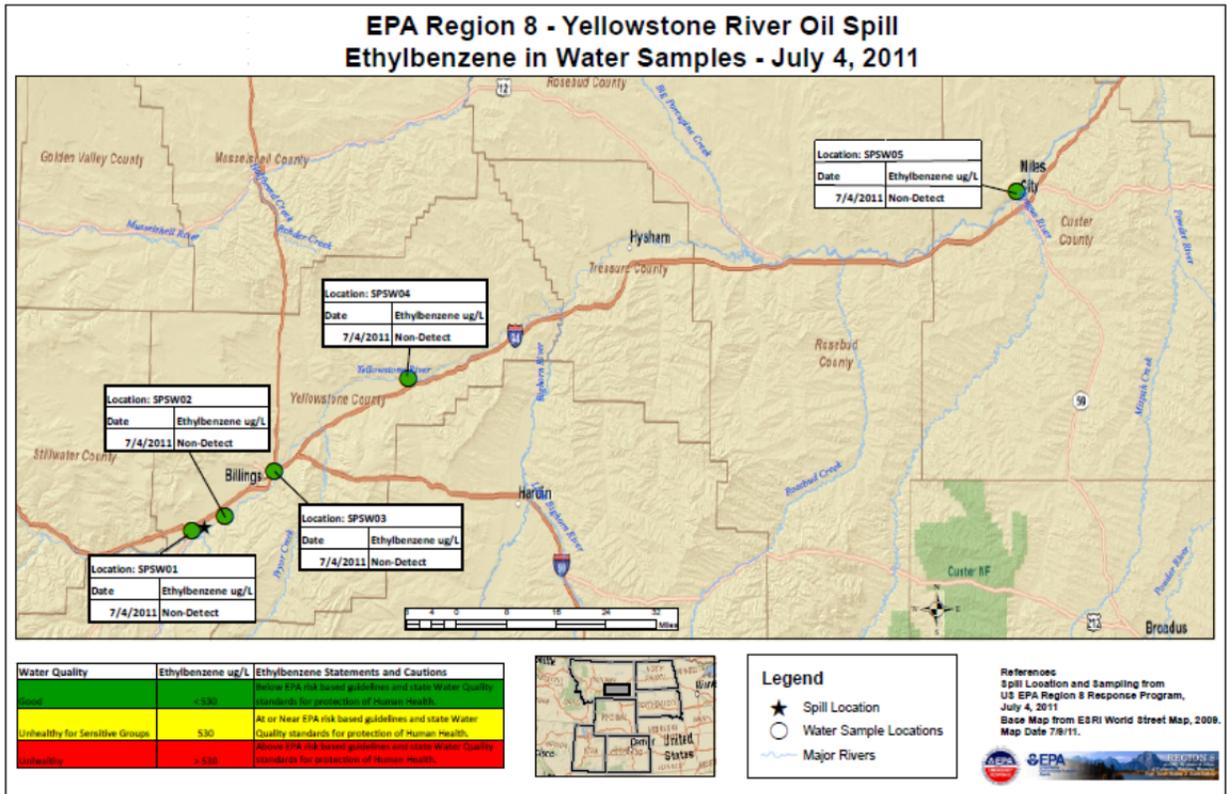
Samples Collected

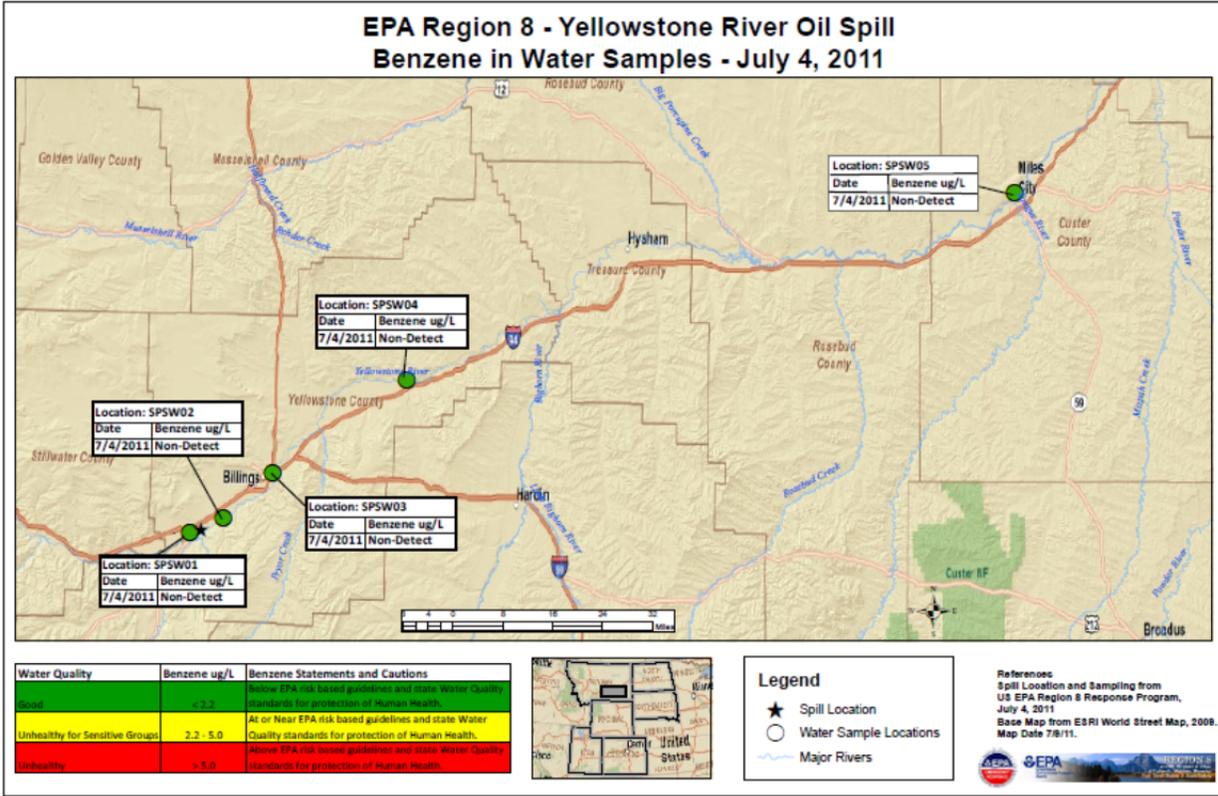
Sample Type	START	CTEH
Air Monitoring	6	50
Surface Water	4	0
Well-Irrigation/Drinking Water	5	25
Product	3	0
Background Water	1	5
Sampling	0	3
Total	19	83

VOC MultiRAE Air Monitors



Ethylbenzene in water sampling locations





4.0 Additional Operations

The Wildlife Branch conducted activities in all Divisions.

5.0 Progress Metrics

All progress metrics in Section 2.1.8 are as reported by ExxonMobile unless otherwise indicated.

Boom/sorbent Report

Equipment	Staged	Assigned
Boom Available (ft)	52,190	32,035
Sorbent Rolls	22,212	288
Sorbent Pads	2,923	1,598
Sorbent	55	
Viscous Sweep	3,372	52

Soil and Debris Waste Tracking

Waste Stream	Disposed	Staged	Cumulative Quantity Shipped
Oily Liquids (bbls)	910	0	
Oily Solids (yd ³)		305	

Shoreline Impacts

Degree of Oiling	Miles Affected*
Very Light	6
Light	6
Medium	3
Heavy	
Other Locations	
Total	15

*Approximations based on aerial overflights

6.0 Planning Section

6.1 Environmental Unit/Data Management

- Coordinating with PRP Environmental Unit to define data management process
- Developing sampling plans for increased oversight sampling of ExxonMobile
- Staffing up for increased sampling and data management effort

7.0 Anticipated Activities for Next Reporting Period

The next reporting period (SITREP #3) will cover July 10, 2011 0700 to July 11, 2011 0700.

9.0 Logistics Section

- Coordinated with various other units within the ICS on multiple projects.

10.0 Safety Reports

Nothing to report in this reporting period

11.0 Liaison Officer

12.0 Information Officer

- Participated in media event with 3 TV stations and 3 Print media in attendance

- Conducted 2 overflights with local tv media

13.0 Finance Section

The current NPFC issued ceiling is \$750,000. Pollution Removal Funding Authorizations have been issued to USFWS, Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality, Montana Dept. of Fish Game and Parks, and BLM.

14.0 Unified Command

U.S. EPA

ExxonMobile (Responsible Party)

Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality

14.1 Support Agencies

DOT

BLM

BIA

Yellowstone Co.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MT Dept. of Fish and Game

14.1 Congressional Presence

U.S. Congressman Denny Rehburg

U.S. Senator Max Baucus

U.S. Senator John Tester

15.0 Personnel On Site

Personnel On Site

Agency/Entity	Numbers Reported 7/9/11	Numbers Reported 7/10/11
EPA	11	11
START	6	6
USCG	4	4
USFWS	10	10
US DOT	1	0
BIA	1	1
BLM	1	1
Yellowstone Co.	1	1
Total	35	35

15.1 Additional Information

For additional information, please refer to: <http://www.epa.gov/yellowstoneriverspill/>

15.2 Reporting Schedule

SITREPs are now being created every day and will continue until the UC establishes a different reporting schedule.

