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Impact of the Deepwater Horizon Spill





10/21/2010

1.		Animated Open	
2.		On Camera Open: Hi, I'm Antonio Neves for the Dot News. Here in Bayou duLarge Louisiana, people are still feeling the effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and will be for years to come.	00:00:10
	Antonio Neves		
3.		Narration: A methane gas explosion on April 20 th 2010 killed 11 workers on the British Petroleum oil rig at Deepwater Horizon and led to the largest oil spill on record. At least four-point-nine million barrels of oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico	00:00:22
4.		Zukunft: <i>At one point we had nearly 48,000 people responding to this oil spill.</i>	00:00:41
	Coast Guard Admiral Paul Zukunft		
5.		Narration: Coast Guard Admiral Paul Zukunft is now supervising the cleanup.	00:00:46
6.		Zukunft: <i>Today it's about 16,200 Even though the last oil flowed about 3 months ago we're still seeing a lot of oil in the wetlands here in Louisiana</i>	00:00:51



7.		<p>Narration: As the oil drifted toward the coastal wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico, some 80-thousand square miles of fishing grounds were closed -- that is more space than the entire state of Nebraska. Thousands of people were laid off work. Six months later sixteen thousand square miles remain closed to fishing</p>	00:01:01
8.	 <p>Garret Graves CPRA</p>	<p>Graves SOT <i>BP and the other responsible parties are liable for every barrel of oil that's spilled; there's a civil penalty or fine that's associated with it, for every fish that's killed, every bird that's killed they're liable for that.</i></p>	00:01:22
9.		<p>Narration Garret Graves is chairman of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana.</p>	00:01:35
10.		<p>Graves SOT <i>You know the majority of our state's economy is based upon the coast, this unique culture we have in south Louisiana, the Cajun culture, the great restaurants we have. They are all tied back to that seafood, that wild seafood.</i></p>	00:01:40
11.	 <p>Jarod Voisin Motivatit Seafoods Houma, LA</p>	<p>Jarod Voison <i>We usually have around 30, maybe even more boats. Compared to this Summer-Fall we're at 12-15 boats, so that's a big jump, 50 even more percent, that's just not working.</i></p>	00:01:52



12.		<p>Narration Jarod Voison's company is back harvesting oysters. His field was spared the worst of the spill, but he is worried about the oil that remains in the gulf.</p>	00:02:06
13.		<p>Jarod Voison <i>Just the knowing, the uncertainty of it // There is still oil out there and we want BP's best effort to clean it up. Get it away from crabs, all the seafood, not just oysters, all seafood // and keep it off our reefs and leases and keep our business going. That's what everybody wants, keeping their way of life going.</i></p>	00:02:17
14.	 <p>Suzy Stensrud</p>	<p>Suzy Stensrud <i>Seafood used to be everywhere and now you can't find oysters or you're a little bit afraid to eat some of the shrimp or the fish.</i></p>	00:02:37
15.	 <p>Cadet Bright</p>	<p>Cadet Bright <i>The restaurant that I work in experienced a decline in numbers in the clientele that we were serving directly because of the scare with the oil spill and the seafood.</i></p>	00:02:43
16.	 <p>Matthew Carter</p>	<p>Mathew Carter <i>I know the guys down at P&J Oysters, they were actually- had to shut the doors down for a while</i></p>	00:02:55

17.	 <p style="text-align: center;">Al Sunseri P&J Oyster Company New Orleans, LA</p>	<p>Al Sunseri <i>We won't have any Louisiana oysters till probably the beginning of the week.</i></p>	00:03:01
18.		<p>Narration: Al Sunseri is co-owner of P and J Oyster house in New Orleans. The company has been in business since 1876.</p>	00:03:07
19.		<p>Al Sunseri <i>We've made it through the Great Depression, numerous recessions, plenty of natural disasters, unnamed and named storms. We've always bounced back. This has been the biggest obstacle we've ever had to deal with as far as I know in our history.</i></p>	00:03:16
20.		<p>Narration: Before the rig explosion and spill, P and J's employed 21 people. They opened and processed 25 to 30 thousand oysters a day. Today there are six employees – two full time and four part time.</p>	00:03:36
21.		<p>Al Sunseri <i>We've hit the tipping point and a number of the restaurants that we sell to have already taken oysters off the menus and some places have substituted the oysters from the West Coast when we don't have our Louisiana or Gulf oysters to sell, but they are finding that their customers are not happy with that product.</i></p>	00:03:53
22.		<p>Wayne Baquet <i>This is a shot of the buffet, some of the finest food (get a shot of this) you're gonna find anywhere in the world.</i></p>	00:04:18

23.		<p>Narration: Restaurant owner Wayne Baquet's business is off more than 20 percent since the oil spill.</p>	00:04:24
24.	 <p>Wayne Baquet Lil' Dizzy's Café New Orleans, LA</p>	<p>Wayne Baquet: <i>I don't sell oysters anymore. I have it on the menu but I don't sell it.</i></p>	00:04:31
25.		<p>Narration: Like many merchants in New Orleans he's concerned that people are afraid of Gulf seafood.</p>	00:04:35
26.		<p>Wayne Baquet: <i>Business is off since the oil spill, across the board, everywhere for everybody. People are afraid.// We have one company that's been here for over a hundred years, over a hundred years selling oysters, they're out. Because they can't get oysters, the oyster beds were destroyed. Oysters couldn't get out of the way.</i></p>	00:04:42
27.		<p>Greg Voison: <i>This is our shucking table, we're doing shucking today. The ladies take those oysters individually, they're going to shuck the meat out of the shell and drop the meat down into a meat trough which is transferred by water into the next room.</i></p>	00:05:03

28.	 <p data-bbox="440 575 716 642">Motivatit Seafoods Houma, LA</p>	<p data-bbox="834 197 1003 226">Narration:</p> <p data-bbox="834 233 1295 653">Seafood along the coast is being constantly tested for contamination, especially oysters which often are eaten raw. Oysters grow in brackish water along the coast feeding on algae. This helps purify the water which is why oysters are so important to the environment. John Supan studies oysters and analyzes water quality.</p>	00:05:20
29.	 <p data-bbox="386 911 769 976">John Supan Louisiana State University</p>	<p data-bbox="834 657 1008 686">John Supan</p> <p data-bbox="834 693 1300 848"><i>Well as filter feeders they filter water. As adult oysters they may filter up to 8 liters an hour so they are the first organism really to show impact of water quality</i></p>	00:05:44
30.		<p data-bbox="834 980 1003 1010">Narration:</p> <p data-bbox="834 1016 1312 1476">Heavy rain along the Mississippi River this spring brought more fresh water than usual to the oyster fields which caused many oysters to die. After the Deepwater rig exploded authorities released even more fresh water by opening the levees to push the oil back... but there was too much for that tactic to work...so the oil eventually came into the oyster grounds killing even more.</p>	00:05:59
31.		<p data-bbox="834 1480 1008 1509">John Supan</p> <p data-bbox="834 1516 1295 1858"><i>What we need right now is Nature to play her role again // //young oysters repopulate the reef naturally and if that happens this fall // that's our first step towards recovery. If it doesn't then we're gonna have to wait till Spring before something happens and that's half a year //then its 2-3 years before oysters are market size again to harvest.</i></p>	00:06:28

32.		<p>Narration: Right now many along the Gulf Coast are relying on compensation to get by. BP has accepted full responsibility for the spill, and pledged 20 billion dollars to help individuals, businesses, and restoration.</p>	00:06:52
33.		<p>Garret Graves <i>The greatest challenge now is that uncertainty. Where is that oil? What is the threat it poses to our coast? What vulnerabilities do we have? And what proactive steps can we be taking now to stop further, adverse impacts from the oil on our coast.</i></p>	00:07:08
34.		<p>Zukunft <i>We recovered quite a bit of it, but we're dealing with 26% or about 1.2 million barrels remaining. So we have a flotilla of ships out there today that are doing water sampling, down to depths of 5000 feet, sampling the sediment on the ocean floor, looking for traces of hydro-carbon, oil from the spill.</i></p>	00:07:24
35.		<p>Narration: Water is being sampled for contamination at more than 400 sites off Louisiana every day. And already officials are trying to take the lessons learned from the spill and formulate them into law.</p>	00:07:47

36.		<p>Zukunft <i>We wrote the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to deal with an instantaneous large release of oil such as the Exxon Valdez. But that scenario doesn't cover an event like this //The role of policy moving forward is to be much more inclusive at the local level. We normally include federal, state, and tribal when we do our exercises but these spills really hit hardest at the very local level; in these fishing communities, these fishermen that are now put out of work because these areas are now closed to fishing</i></p>	00:08:07
37.		<p>Jarod Voison <i>What we're losing besides seafood is just- people being out here interacting with other people; hunting, fishing, all that; people being active in the community and the bayou, just having a good time really, but that starts with everybody being out here and everything being alive, fresh, and everybody working, shrimping, oystering, crabbing, everything...</i></p>	00:08:40
38.		<p>Narration: I'm Antonio Neves for the Dot News</p>	00:09:06