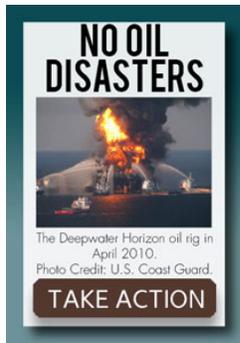


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GULF WAVES

Take Action: Protect Our Waters From Oil Disasters



Take action now to support increased safety for oil & gas workers, our communities and the environment. Right now, the oil & gas industry is working to stop a critical rule that will increase safety and oversight of the oil & gas industry.

Join us by taking action

to protect our communities, waters and wildlife from another catastrophic oil disaster.

Blogging For A Healthy Gulf: Environmental Justice in the Gulf

In a [new blog](#), Howard Page, Mississippi Organizer, discusses the roots of the Environmental Justice Movement and what environmental justice concerns exist in the Gulf. Howard was recently



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<http://www.flickr.com/photos/healthygulf/>

appointed to a workgroup for the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), and last week, the council held a meeting in Gulfport. Check out Howard's [blog](#) to learn more about environmental justice in the Gulf and NEJAC.

Photo Credit: University of Michigan School of Natural Resources & Environment

A New Lease on Life



Citizens [protesting offshore oil drilling](#) in the Gulf interrupted an oil and gas lease sale in the Superdome on

Wednesday. The Obama administration was holding an offshore lease sale of 43 million acres of the Gulf's water to oil and gas companies. As a result of drilling in these areas, thousands of oil, gas and chemical spills occur in the Gulf, leaving precious waters vulnerable to another catastrophe like the BP disaster.

Photo Credit: Paul Corbit Brown

Oil Rig Fatality

A tragic, [oil drilling related incident](#) occurred on March 11, at a site about 150 miles south of New Orleans.



According to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Roy Miller of Mississippi was fatally injured on Platform A, Green Canyon Block 18 in the Gulf of Mexico, an area described as rich in oil fields. Miller, an employee of Whistler Energy II, was fatally injured during maintenance activities on the oil rig.

Photo Credit: Selbe Lynn

Americans Want Biodiversity Conservation



A national survey revealed that most Americans are willing to pay more tax money in support of biodiversity conservation in

the Gulf of Mexico. The survey determined that the average household was willing to pay between \$35 to \$100 more to help fund expansion of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in the Gulf near the Texas-Louisiana border. The survey revealed that Americans from all over the country are supportive of the project - highlighting the significance of Gulf preservation for the entire nation, not just those who are most directly affected.

Photo Credit: NOAA.gov

Creature Feature: North American River Otter (*Lontra canadensis*)

The [North American river otter](#) is the only river otter found north of Mexico. These otters thrive in a variety of aquatic



ecosystems all throughout North America. In the Gulf Coast region, they're known to marshes, bayous and brackish inlets. They have thick fur to insulate heat while swimming in cold waters and a narrow body, flattened head and webbed feet for faster, streamlined swimming. River otters communicate with one another through whistles, yelps, growls and screams, as well as touch and body posture.

Photo credit: Flickr user, Valerie

Gulf Traveler: Henderson Beach State Park



More than 6,000 feet of natural shoreline covered in pristine white sand overlook the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico at this northern Florida

coastal getaway. Dolphins, sea turtles and a variety of butterflies are frequently spotted and the park's nature trail provides visitors a rare glimpse of the coastal dune ecosystem. [Henderson Beach](#) is the perfect spot for swimming, sunbathing, fishing and catching breathtaking sunsets.

Photo Credit: Flickr user, Rex

Land Stewardship Project Manager

New Orleans Redevelopment Authority

For more information email

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Mississippi Campaign Coordinator

Mississippi River Network

More information [here](#).

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