Assessing Oil Spill Education Needs

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Education “Oil Spill” Needs- Based on Prior meetings and through a Survey for LA Educators developed by Dianne Lindstedt:

Curriculum Development

- Focusing on real-time data (“new” activities) to track the spill at the surface and subsurface, as well as impacts on wildlife (plants and animals);
- Revising curricular activities-modified from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill in 1989 or other appropriate resources (*Project Wild*);
Curriculum Development (Cont’d)

- Including activities concerning socio-economic factors from economics to emotional stress;
- Re-enforcing activities on habitats, water quality, and coastal hazards (anthropogenic and natural), and marine and aquatic organisms (plants and animals); and
- Providing “new” chemical, geological and physical activities, i.e., fingerprinting techniques of oil, degradation process, dispersants, and gases (methane & volatile) issues.
PD Programs for ...

• Enhancing content knowledge and pedagogy of pre- and inservice teachers, as well as for informal educators and

• As part of extra-mural funding—i.e., B-Wet, additional PD programs, should include implementing classroom-based monitoring programs.
Education Needs (Cont’d)

RESOURCES

• Providing credible resources (hard copy and URLs) within all PD Programming and

• Developing and implementing educator-speaker visits to schools in a “community forum” type setting.
Data Acquisition

- Developing oil related programs for data collected by citizens (students and interested, community adults).

- How can this need be best accomplished?
• Classroom teachers’ use, i.e., water quality test kits and GPS units;
• PD programs through academic and informal centers (museums, aquariums, and science centers);
• Student field-trips to visit their coasts in FL, AL, MS, LA, and/or TX;
• Opportunities for teachers to present and share their oil-related resources with their peers and academic and industry professionals; and
• Translations for activities from English to Spanish and Vietnamese.
Education Needs (Cont’d)

• What are we forgetting?
• Discussion by everyone!
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