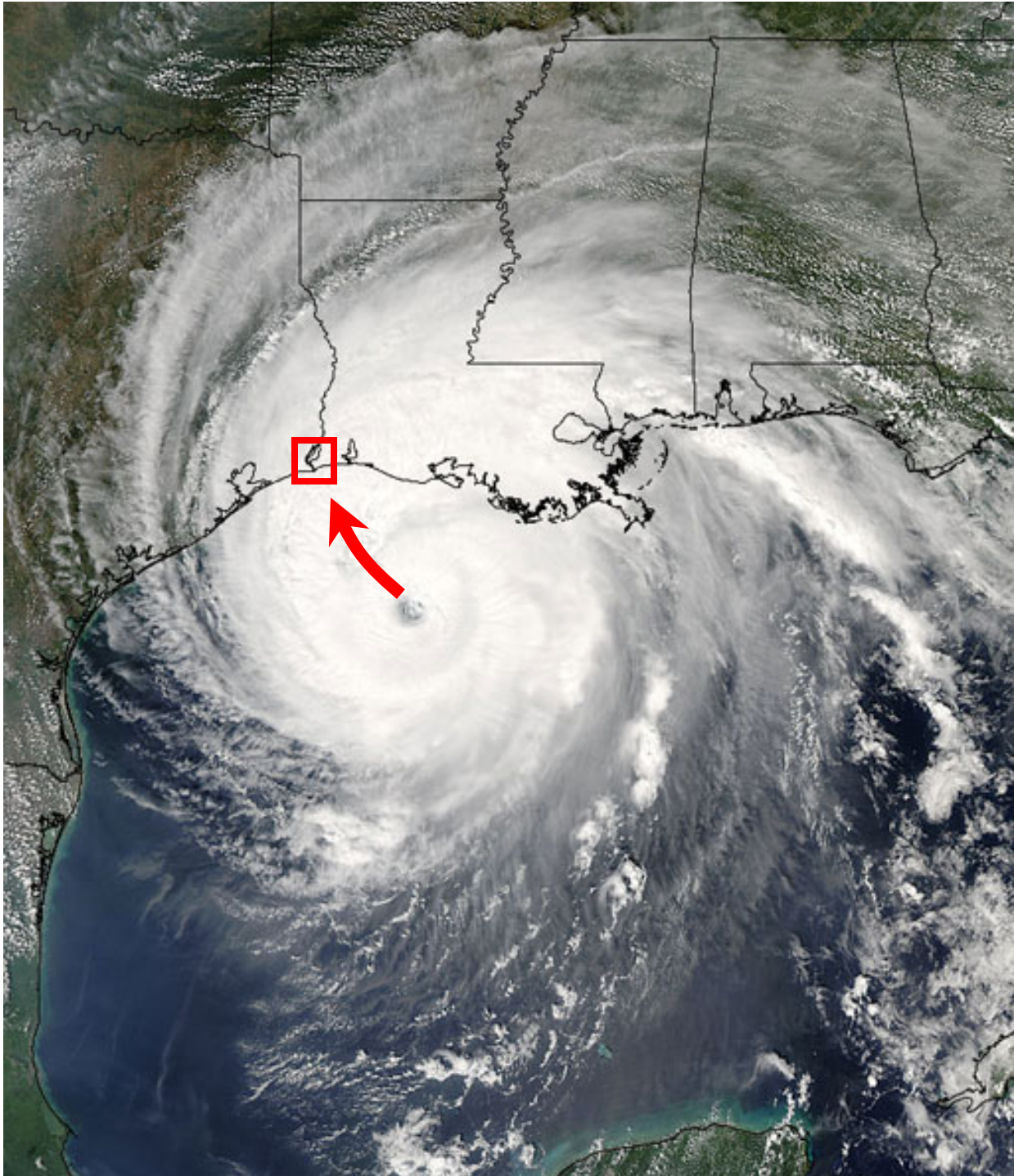


4

GOES-EAST RAINBOW IR CH. 4 - SEP 24 05 07:45 UTC

# Response Strategies to a Remote Inland Oil Spill and Fuel Transfer After a Hurricane

J T Ewing Texas General Land Office



## Challenges

- **Logistics:**
  - Remote location
  - Shallow marsh
  - Contractors and equipment all in New Orleans.
- **Communications:**
  - 800mhz radio
  - Nextel
- **Salvage Issue:**
  - ESF 3 vs ESF 10 money
- **GLO Responder Resources**

Credit: NASA image courtesy Jeff Schmaltz, from the MODIS Rapid Response Team at NASA GSFC

Damage Assessment

September 24<sup>th</sup> 2005



Texas General Land Office  
Region 1 Head Quarters



**Texas General Land Office, Oil Spill Divisions Role:**

**The Oil Spill Prevention and Response act of 1991 (OSPRA) designated the TGLO as the lead state agency for preventing and responding to oil spills in the marine environment.**



## Beaumont Area

21000 blue roofs / 4 million cubic yards of tree debris / ½ million cubic yards of tree debris left to recover.

3200 applications for FEMA trailers / 2900 approved as of Jan. 4, 2006. Working on solutions for permanent housing for SE Texas.





# Holly Beach

## Louisiana

Photograph by Smiley N. Pool/Dallas Morning News/Corbis

## Holly Beach, Louisiana before and after Hurricane Rita



2004 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle (D000)



September 25, 2005 NOAA Aerial Image

Hurricane Rita swept away the coastal community of Holly Beach, Louisiana (population: ~300). The top image shows the small fishing town in 2004 before the hurricane struck. Early on September 24, 2005, around 3:30 a.m., Hurricane Rita made landfall near the Texas-Louisiana coastal border. The bottom image, taken by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on September 25, 2005, reveals the damage. With the surrounding wetlands under water and roads buried by dirt and debris, little sign of the town remain.

Of the 241 homes assessed by FEMA, 13 qualified for the “blue roof” program. There were 75 others that were severely damaged . . .



and 150 were considered destroyed, meaning that 95 percent of the homes in Sabine Pass are uninhabitable.



As of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006 FEMA had handed over keys to 1375 FEMA trailers in Jefferson County, 450 trailers in Hardin County, 822 trailers in Orange County, 373 trailers in Jasper County, 230 trailers in Tyler County and 193 trailers in Newton County





Barge in yard  
of Sabine Pass  
home, 1/2 mile  
from shore.

Photo courtesy of NOAA



**Approximately 60 fishing vessels sunk.**

11.01.2005 11:13

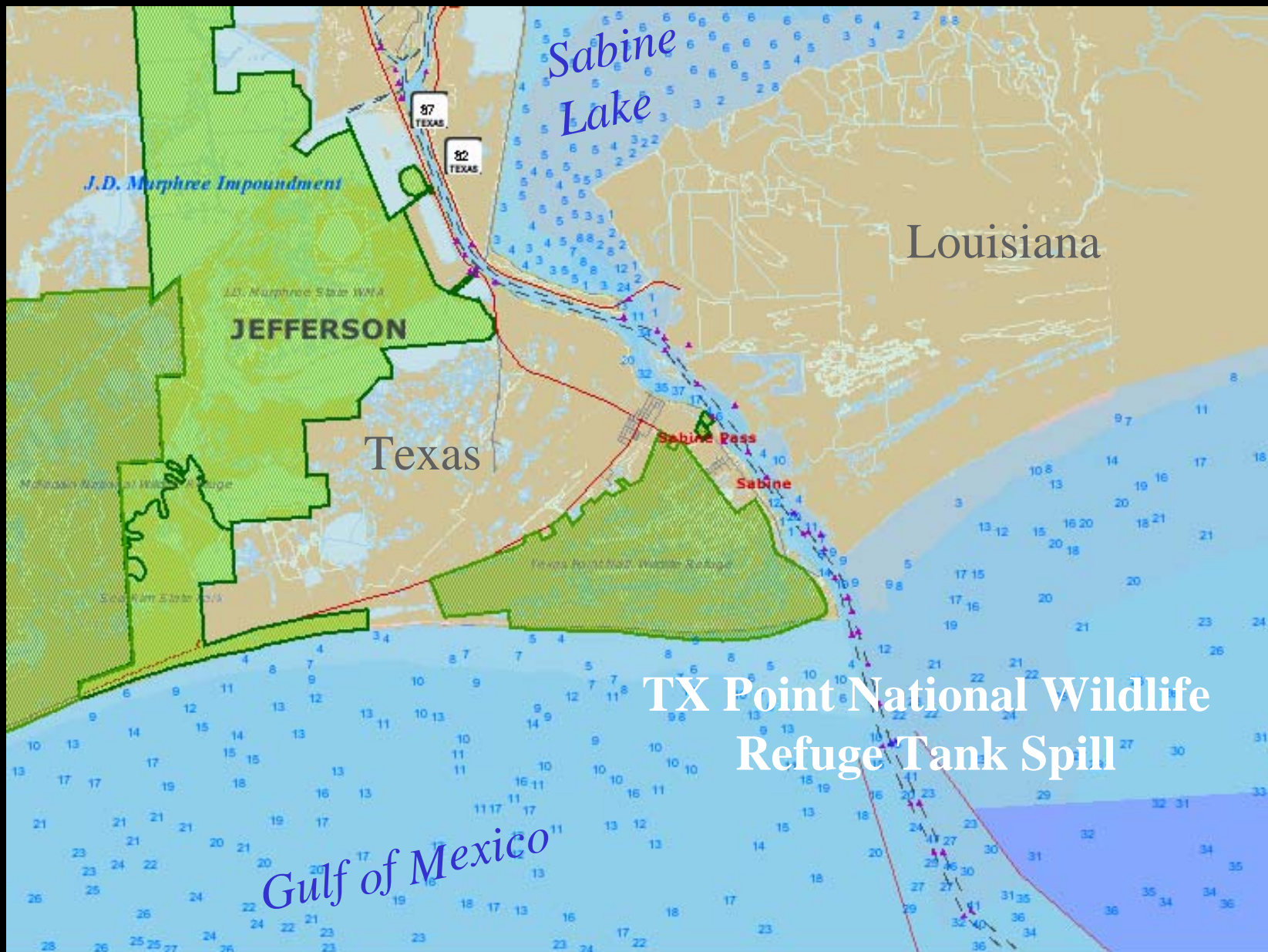




19 12:31 PM



19 5:08 PM



# TX Point National Wildlife Refuge Tank Spill



diesel tank

water tank

100,000 gal initially reported

17,000 gal of diesel recovered from tank

**View from the Staging Area near Sabine Offshore Services**



Sabine Offshore  
Services



## Response Ideas!

- Chinook Helicopter
- Dredge a canal to access location
- Portable pipeline
- Towable bladders

SEP 28 2005

tank →

## Incident Management Issues

- HMHTTC Response Inc. (New Jersey based)
- Local cleanup contractors
- Local resources (Shamrock Rentals)

SEP 28 2005



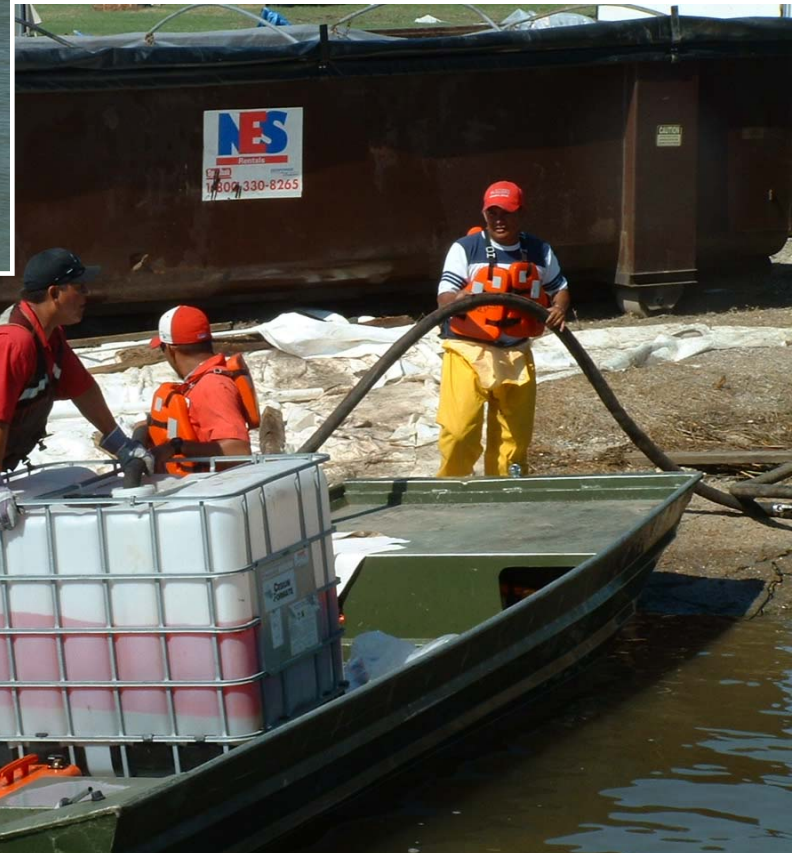
# On Scene

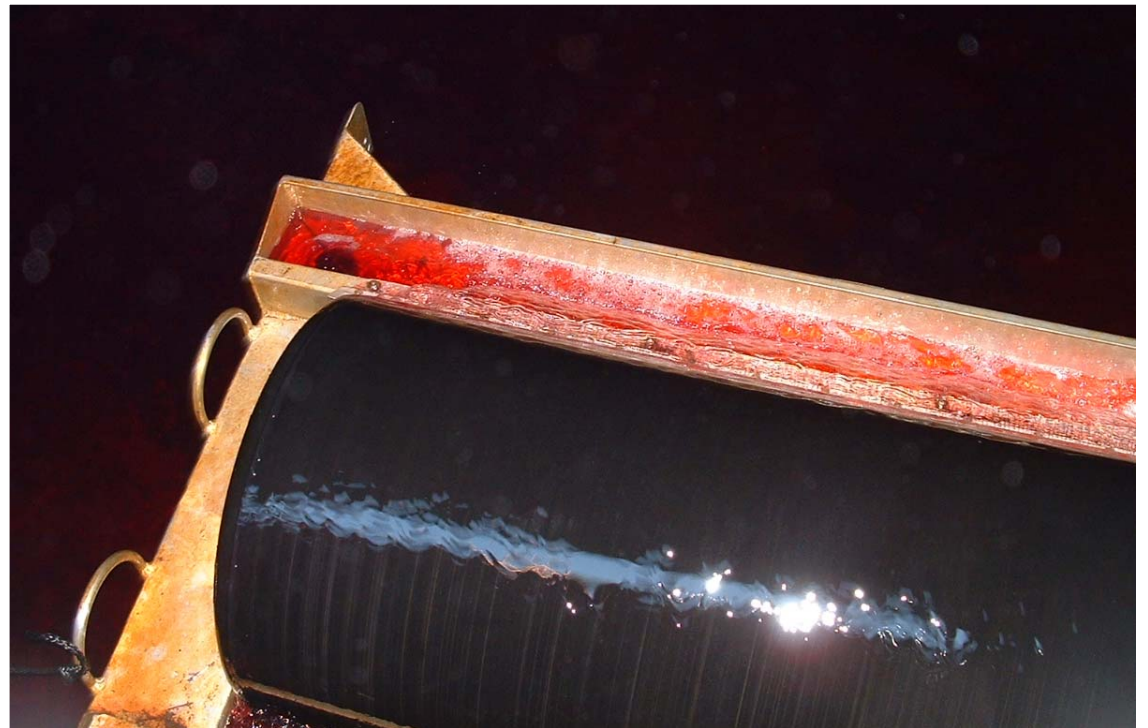
## Cleanup & Logistics Issues

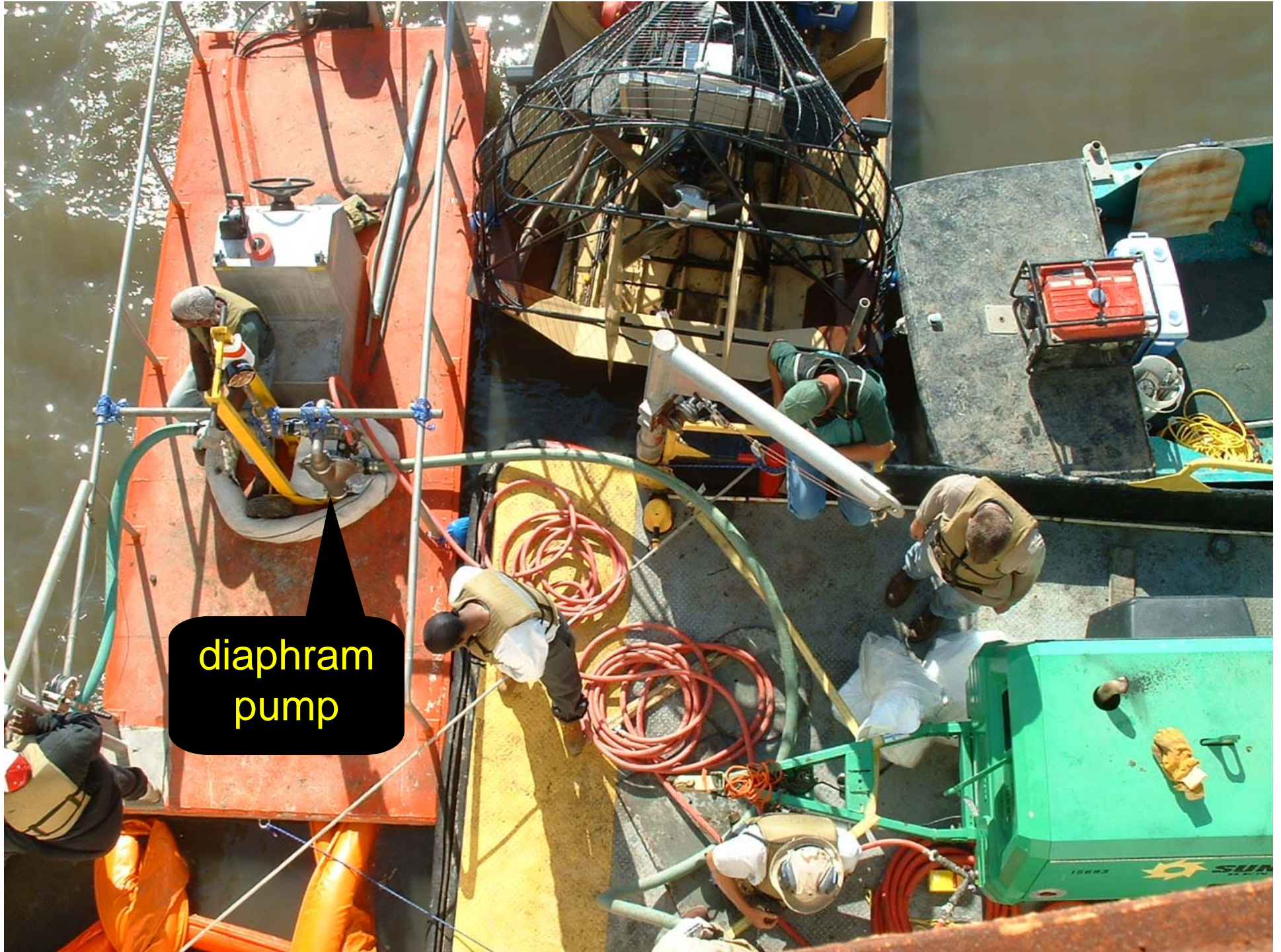
- Difficulty finding pumps
- Cleanup contractors, food and housing for contractors
- Erosion Issues w/ heavy equipment
- Road repair



# Removing Product







diaphragm pump





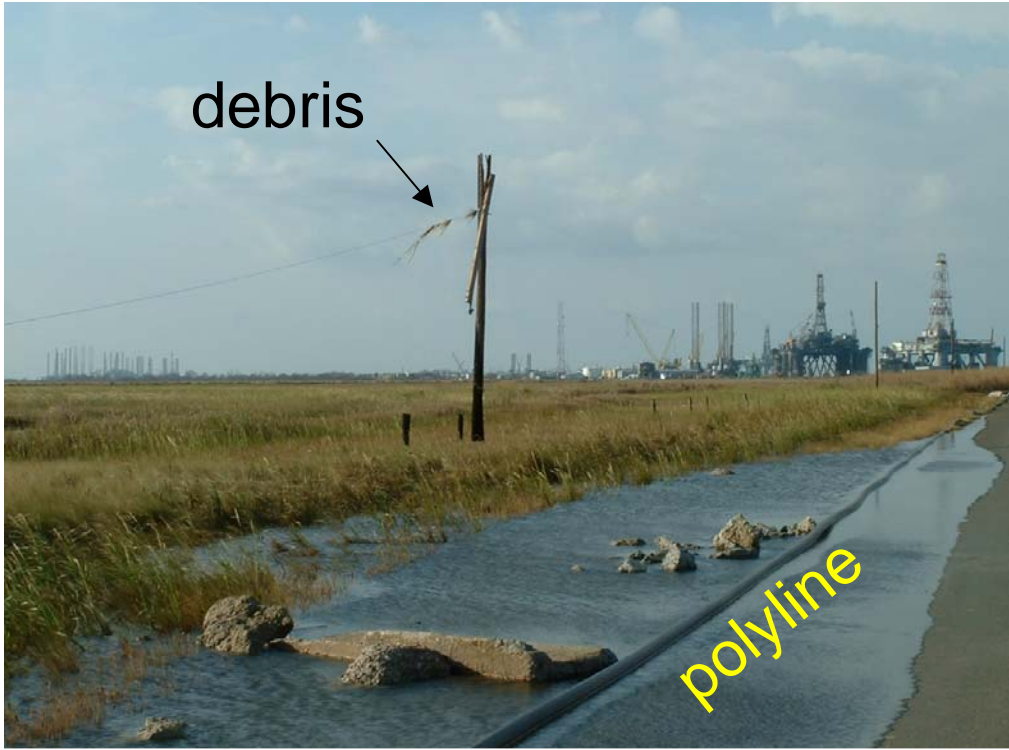
**Portable pipeline to transfer diesel approx. 2 miles**



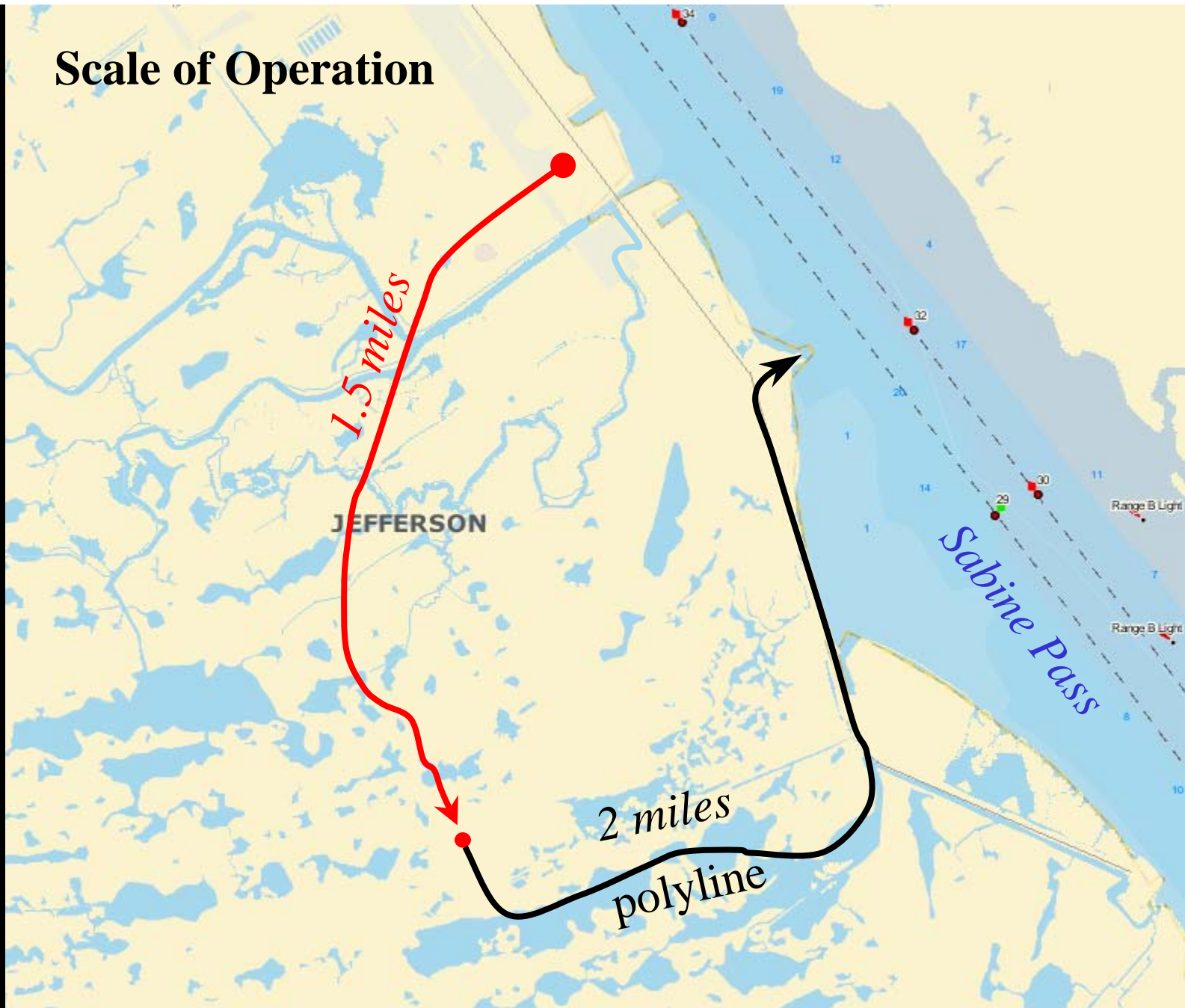


*From the tank ...*





# Scale of Operation



# Disassembling the Tank











# Lessons Learned

- Sourcing material needs far from the expected storm activity.
- Planning for humanitarian assistance needs of responders, families and local communities.
- Communications – develop a duplicate Communications Strategy.