

**Second Addendum  
Proposed Data Collection Plan to Assess Injury to  
Estuarine Dolphin Stocks**

**Original Plan Submitted: May 14, 2010**

**First Addendum Signed: June 9, 2010**

**Prepared by:** Dr. Lori Schwacke, NOAA National Ocean Service, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS)

**Original survey plan:** Three sites: Barataria Bay, Chandeleur Sound, Mississippi Sound with 3 biopsy sampling sessions and 3 photo-identification (mark-recapture) sessions per site.

**Survey plan revision:** Omit photo-identification surveys in Chandeleur Sound and extend photo-identification in Barataria Bay and Mississippi Sound to include a 4<sup>th</sup> session to be conducted in Spring 2011.

**Rationale:**

The original dolphin assessment plan proposed to conduct 3 sessions of biopsy sampling and 3 sessions of photo-identification (photo-id) surveys in Barataria Bay (BAR), Chandeleur Sound (CLS) and Mississippi Sound (MSS). Biopsy sampling efforts are being successfully conducted in all of these areas and photo-id surveys are on-going in BAR and MSS. However, logistical and safety concerns have prevented crews from completing photo-id surveys within CLS.

CLS is a relatively open area with limited port access. The distance to ports has been manageable for biopsy surveys as the field crew launches out of Long Beach, Mississippi and works northern to mid-Sound, staying within an approximate 1-hour distance to port. The crew has ventured further south in the Sound only when weather conditions permitted. Photo-id surveys, however, would require regular transits to, and transects of, southern CLS, which would be over 2 hours from the closest port. The frequency of afternoon thunderstorms that have been encountered to date, and the limited protection in the open Sound have raised concern that the photo-id surveys could not be completed in a timely manner without jeopardizing the safety of the small vessel crew.

Therefore, the plan will be modified to eliminate the photo-id surveys in CLS, although photo-id data will still be conducted opportunistically in association with the biopsy sampling and a catalog of individual dolphins will still be developed. In lieu of the CLS photo-id surveys, a 4<sup>th</sup> photo-id session will be added for both BAR and MSS. The 4<sup>th</sup> session for these areas will be conducted in spring 2011, providing a time point for abundance estimation that will approximately match the season of the first photo-ID session. All analytical and non-analytical data associated with cooperatively funded work under this work plan will be provided to BP/Entrix within a reasonable timeframe. A revised schedule with tentative dates for the remaining surveys is provided as Attachment A to this plan.

**Estimated Costs:**

We anticipate no additional costs.

**Safety Plan:**

Aside from the elimination of the CLS photo-id surveys, satellite phones have been acquired and will be carried onboard the boat(s) for CLS biopsy surveys. The phones are an additional safety measure to be used in an emergency situation and will also be carried for biopsy and photo-id surveys in Mississippi Sound and Barataria Bay.

**Approvals**

Approval of this work plan is for the purposes of obtaining data for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment. Each Party reserves its rights to produce its own independent interpretation and analysis of any data collected pursuant to this work plan.

Prior drafts of this work plan were inadvertently signed by representatives of NOAA and BP in September 2010. This agreement supersedes and replaces those prior drafts.

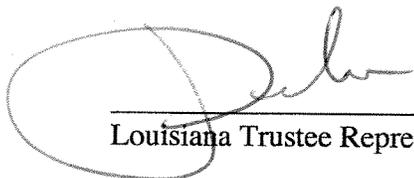
This plan will be implemented consistent with existing trustee regulations and policies. All applicable state and federal permits must be obtained prior to conducting work.

Lauree Sullivan

Department of Commerce Trustee Representative

10/21/2010

Date

 FOR  
NOAA AND  
GULF

Louisiana Trustee Representative

11/1/10  
Date

Joyce Mealey  
BP Representative

10/21/2010  
Date

**Attachment A: Revised  
Schedule with Tentative Dates for the Remaining Dolphin Surveys**

2010		2011								
August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
BAR bio (13-19)	CLS bio (13-19)	BAR pho (10-22)	MSS pho (4-18)		BAR bio (9-15)	CLS bio (6-12)	MSS pho (6-17)		BAR pho	MSS pho
MSS bio (27-1)					MSS bio (23-29)	BAR pho (16-26)				

BAR = Barataria Bay  
 MSS = Mississippi Sound  
 CLS = Chandeleur Sound  
 bio = remote biopsy sampling  
 pho = photo-id mark-recapture sampling