



**Proposed Studies FY 13**

**Environmental Justice and OCS Petroleum: A geo-spatial analysis**

**An Analysis of the Impacts of the *Deepwater Horizon* on the Seafood Industry**

**An Analysis of the Fiscal Impacts of the OCS Industry in the Gulf of Mexico**

**The Demographic Consequences of the Gulf of Mexico Offshore Petroleum Industry**

**Coastal Land Loss and Oil & Gas Infrastructure**



## Background

- Environmental Justice considers whether or not low income or minority populations may be disproportionately and negatively affected by an action
- BOEM considers his question under NEPA
- BOEM has conducted 2 previous studies:
  - The first developed a method for mapping risk related to OCS infrastructure
  - The second applied it comparatively to types of oil development, risk over time, and subsistence land use
- Katrina-Rita changed population distributions significantly
- DWH raised EJ issues that were not previously considered



## Relevance to BOEM

- Every BOEM Environmental Assessment considers EJ implications of an action
- The Gulf needs an approach that is applicable and that is based on current data

## Objectives/Methods

- Compare changes in risk over time among coastal areas (relationships between population changes and affecting factors)
- Analyze the distribution of affecting factors with an emphasis on refining the relationships of risk to specific petroleum related infrastructures
- Develop a process and/or tools for applying the methodology to Gulf EISs

## Cost

- \$280-420



## Background

- DWH had immediate and significant impacts on the Gulf seafood industry
- Closures affected supply and the income of participants
  - Most notable for fishermen
  - Entire supply chain –oyster processors, retailers
- Safety concerns affected demand, at least in the short run
- Questions remain as to possible longer-term impacts such as from
  - Lingering changes in demand
  - Changes in the capitalization/organization fishing fleets
  - Changes in supply chain (e.g., enduring shifts to other sources)



## Relevance to BOEM

- The DWH raised concerns in areas that were previously not an Agency focus—commercial fisheries is one.
- Support for more detailed EIS descriptions/analyses of Gulf fisheries
- Support for an Agency analysis of the consequences of large spills

## Objectives/Methods

- Description and documentation of short and long-term responses to the spill and its aftermath
- A synthetic approach building on expertise and drawing on available datasets

## Cost

- \$240-360



## Background

- Regional fiscal effects are a staple of SIA
- New activities generate additional revenues but also additional demands
- BOEM assessments (in the Gulf and elsewhere) have not addressed regional fiscal effects
  - Indirect
  - Multitude of jurisdictions
  - Multitude of funding mechanisms
- Gulf studies have approached this issue
  - Regional impact studies (e.g., Port Fourchon)
  - Study to identify contributions and dispersal in Louisiana (closed without completion)
  - Ongoing study identifying and correlating measure of local fiscal health (indirect)



## Relevance to BOEM

- Support for regional-level analysis

## Objectives/Methods

- Develop a literature-based description of the relevant fiscal effects and evaluation of estimation techniques
- Identify the direct and indirect fiscal effects on state and local government from OCS
- Pursue time series measures these were possible
- Analyze impacts for selected counties and public service institutions

## Cost

- \$280-420





## Background

- The relationship between labor demand and demographic impacts is central to most SIA
- In the GOMR, the situation is different
  - There is no relationship an action (a sale) demographic change
  - The historical/long-term effects of the petroleum industry are large
- Demographic change is a critical driver of socioeconomic effects but the Gulf has addressed it only tangentially





## Relevance to BOEM

- This study will be used in support of GOMR projection modeling (MAGPLAN)
- It will be used to support our new Impact Area approach to assessments

## Objectives/Methods

- To describe the relationships between OCS and demographic change
- To describe these relationships for new Impact Areas
- To develop valid estimators specifying OCS labor demand and demographic change

## Cost

- \$240-360



## Background

- Coastal Louisiana is the epicenter of coastal land loss
- It has the highest concentration of OCS-related infrastructure
- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita highlighted its exposure to land loss



## Relevance to BOEM

- Support for baseline and cumulative assessment of program

## Objectives/Methods

- Limited study from industry point of view
- Identification/analysis of measures of effects of storms/land loss on operations
- Identification and assessment of industry views and response planning

## Cost

- \$160-240





**Proposed Studies FY 14**

**An Assessment of Transportation Infrastructure Usage by the OCS Oil and Gas Industry**

**Effects of the OCS Industry on Tourism in the Gulf of Mexico: Extensions of Previous Research**

**Social Impacts of the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill on Coastal Communities in the Gulf of Mexico Region (Phase II)**

**Subsistence Activities and Use in Coastal and Near Coastal Areas of the Gulf of Mexico**



## Background

- BOEM has documented and described many important “industry sectors”
- Transportation has been part of earlier socioeconomic research
  - Early failed attempt to delineate the flow of goods
  - Truck traffic and Port Fourchon
- OCS-related transportation sectors (particularly trucking) are large with important socioeconomic consequences
- They are mostly undocumented



## Relevance to BOEM

- This fills a significant gap in BOEM assessments of socioeconomic impacts

## Objectives/Methods

- Describe and document OCS-related transportation sectors with an emphasis on the on-shore half of the intermodal system
- Describe OCS-induced demand on public infrastructure, particularly roads
- Develop estimates of flows of goods at selected ports, roads, and waterways

## Cost

- \$230-350



## Background

- Past GOMR studies have not emphasized recreation and tourism
- The *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill heightened concerns about OCS effects
  - Accidents: the direct and indirect effects of spills
  - Normal operations: industrial traffic, noise, releases
- The Gulf has an ongoing study addressing direct and indirect effects of the spill





## Relevance to BOEM

- Support for the assessment of potential effects of future OCS spills

## Objectives/Methods

- Update and extend descriptions of current recreation and tourism industry
- Extend tools used to estimate scale of these industries and of the potential OCS impacts to them

## Cost

- \$160-240



## Background

- The *Deepwater Horizon* may prove to be a watershed event in the Gulf
- Large spills are unusual, their consequences unique
- DWH has had significant socioeconomic effects but little “on-the-ground” documentation
- BOEM has had a study documenting socioeconomic effects since the spill
- The agency plans to continue this effort with some refinements



## Relevance to BOEM

- Critical to an analysis of potential effects of OCS oil spills, a basic public concern
- Support for baseline description of Gulf Coast states

## Objectives/Methods

- To document mid- and long-term socioeconomic consequences of DWH
- Organized in phases; this phase is based on findings of first BOEM study
- Mixed methods: fieldwork and applied demography
- Focus on Louisiana/Mississippi with limited effort in Texas and Alabama

## Cost

- \$250-370



## Background

- Prior to *Deepwater Horizon*, Gulf Coast subsistence was recognized and undocumented
- Popular views of subsistence include the concept of need
- Social scientific approaches emphasize non-market based harvesting and use
- DWH heightened awareness of subsistence in both senses
- The Gulf Region has an ongoing exploratory study of subsistence



## Relevance to BOEM

- Supports baseline descriptions and assessment of effects

## Objectives/Methods

- To describe the full range of subsistence activities along the Gulf coast from production to distribution to use
- To describe the scale of these activities
- To describe the participation in these activities and the value and meaning of these activities to the participants
- Collection and synthesis of formal expertise
- Collection and synthesis of information from participants
- Structured data gathering

## Cost

- \$290-440

