



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

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*Operational and Socioeconomic Impact of Nonexplosive Removal  
of Offshore Structures*

OCS Study MMS 2004-074

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Operational and Socioeconomic Impact of Nonexplosive Removal of Offshore Structures*.

This report discusses the general decommissioning processes, the primary forms of nonexplosive severance used in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM), the processes involved in progressive transport (i.e., swallowing-up or jacket-hopping), and the economics related to and driving most decommissioning operations. During Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) take-regulation rulemaking in 1995 (60 FR 53141, October 12, 1995), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries (NOAA-F) Service made this report's development and completion a prerequisite for MMS prior to a subsequent reauthorization of take-regulations for severance activities under §101 (a) (5) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*). In addition, much of the information from this report will be incorporated into a programmatic National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document regarding the environmental impacts of all decommissioning operations on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) of the GOM.

This report is available only in compact disc format. The disc is available from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at no charge by referencing OCS Study MMS 2004-074. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
Public Information Office (MS 5034)  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394  
Telephone requests may be placed at  
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF  
or FAX: (504) 736-2620

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-8547  
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

The Minerals Management Service is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas, and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf in Federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for, and disburses mineral revenues from Federal and American Indian lands. MMS disbursed more than \$8 billion in FY 2003 and more than \$135 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund annually for the acquisition and development of state and Federal park and recreation lands.

MMS Main Website: [www.mms.gov](http://www.mms.gov)  
Gulf of Mexico Website: [www.gomr.mms.gov](http://www.gomr.mms.gov)

\*\*\* MMS: Securing Ocean Energy and Economic Value for America \*\*\*

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