SEA GRANT AND SYNTHESIS: HOW WE CAN HELP

Sea Grant’s oil spill science outreach team has a proven track record of bringing peer-reviewed findings to our network of target audiences in the Gulf of Mexico and beyond. Team specialists are ready to assist GoMRI synthesis activities in the following manner.

BY ASKING AUDIENCE QUESTIONS IN THE SYNTHESIS PROCESS

Sea Grant’s outreach specialists — all scientists themselves — have spent years in direct contact with target audiences around the country who have ongoing questions about oil spill science. Specialists are ready to share these questions with synthesis workshop organizers during planning stages and at the meetings we attend. Our goal is to identify research results that answer the specific questions our audiences have, if available.

AND BRINGING ANSWERS TO OUR NETWORK

The oil spill science outreach team will extract key applied findings to share with our network through targeted publications and at upcoming Sea Grant seminars. Our products will join — but not replace — the synthesis group-led journal articles, reports, and other tools that may come from these synthesis activities.

To read team publications, get news about new events, and view videos of past presentations, go to gulfseagrant.org/oilspilloutreach.

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An oil spill science team member is the lead point of contact for each core area. Team bios and contact information can be found on the back.
The Sea Grant Oil Spill Science Outreach Team works together regionally to research and share oil spill-related topics.

**Chris Hale** — Based in Corpus Christi, Texas, with the Texas Sea Grant College Program, Chris has an interdisciplinary background in marine science, fisheries, restoration, and human dimensions. She previously served as a Sea Grant extension agent in the U.S. Virgin Islands. She works primarily on the environmental effects of the oil spill on ecosystems.

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**Emily Maung-Douglass**, Ph.D. — Based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program, Emily is trained in ecology, chemistry, and ecotoxicology. Her work has included studies of the impacts of environmental stressors on aquatic animals. She works on the chemical evolution of petroleum and dispersants and the interactions with ecosystems.

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**Missy Partyka**, Ph.D. — Based in Mobile, Alabama, with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Missy has a record of using her advanced degrees in integrated ecology to work closely with the public to research and explain complex environmental issues, particularly those relating to water quality and food safety. She focuses on the human impacts of oil spills.

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**Steve Sempier**, Ph.D. — Based in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Steve has worked on several Gulf-wide issues, including developing and updating the Gulf of Mexico Research Plan and implementing a Gulf of Mexico hydrological restoration program through a partnership with the NOAA Restoration Center. He coordinates the overall outreach effort.

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**Monica Wilson**, Ph.D. — Based in St. Petersburg, Florida, with UF/IFAS Florida Sea Grant Extension, Monica has used her physical oceanography background to model circulation and flushing of coastal systems in the region and the impacts of tropical storms on these systems. She focuses on the distribution, dispersion, and dilution of petroleum under the action of physical ocean processes and storms.

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**Tara Skelton** — Based in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Tara has served as a science communicator for the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative and the CONsortium for oil spill exposure pathways in COastal River-Dominated Ecosystems (CONCORDE). She supports the oil spill specialists in the development of outreach products and presentations.

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Learn more about this effort at [gulfseagrant.org/oilspilloutreach](http://gulfseagrant.org/oilspilloutreach).

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