

Good Morning everyone -

Here is the news for Region 3 (and beyond) for this week. It's the sixth anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon (MC252) well blowout – of course, we didn't know how bad it was on this day, but by April 22<sup>nd</sup> (Earth Day), we all knew it was going to be a world-altering event! Hard to believe it's been 6 years since DWH.

*PLEASE NOTE: None of this is verified or fact checked. If you have a problem with any of this information, please reply to the whole group and state your reasoning. If you have better or more accurate information, please let me know and I can update the group with your position.*

Also, PLEASE let me know if there is other information to be passed to the group. Feel free to share this email with others. As always, if you want the inbox deluge to end, just drop me an email stating that.

Debbie

## Region 3 News

### [Virginia among the first to adopt national standards for all hazards incident management](#)

Apr 19, 2016 07:14 pm | Anonymous

Emergency managers in Virginia spent months meeting and sifting through other states' documents and...

### [Study: Susquehanna River Basin can handle gas drilling demands](#)

Natural gas drillers in the Marcellus Shale haven't hurt the supply of water from the Susquehanna River Basin, according to a state agency that oversees the basin's water withdrawals. The Susquehanna River Basin Commission said the natural gas industry consumed 9.76 billion gallons between July 2008 and December 2013, compared with 1.97 billion gallons for public drinking water systems. Generally, the report said, "the basin's water resources are sufficient in magnitude to accommodate the water demands of the industry concurrently with other water users."

[StateImpact](#) (4/18)

### **Capitol Roundup: Cyber-attack could cause weeks, not days, of power outages**

By Bill O'Boyle, [Times Leader](#)

WILKES-BARRE — U.S. Rep. Lou Barletta, R-Hazleton, recently examined how well prepared the United States is for a cyber-attack on the electrical grid.

The sub-committee heard testimony that states and localities should be prepared to face weeks, rather than days, of power outages following such an assault.

## News for U.S. and Canada

### **The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health in the United States: A Scientific Assessment**

<https://health2016.globalchange.gov/>

### **Busier hurricane season predicted**

By E.B. Furgurson III, [Capital Gazette](#)

Hurricane researchers say this year's tropical storm season could generate a dozen named storms, five hurricanes, two of them major in the Atlantic basin, close to the historic average.

That was the initial seasonal report issued late last week by the Colorado State University's Tropical Meteorological Project, for years the preeminent storm forecasting center.

## [Why Historic Preservation Needs to Be Part of Disaster Planning](#)

Steve Detwiler, FPEM in [Emergency Managers Weekly Report](#)  
<http://ow.ly/10uk0h>

## **FEMA Seeks Comments On National Incident Management System**

By Eric Holdeman, [Emergency Management Magazine](#)

One of the things I'm interested in following with a new presidential administration coming in 2017 is what a new group of senior FEMA appointees might come up with to put their finger prints on how emergency management is done in the nation. I'm thinking that we could just redefine what the terms preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery mean. In fact, why don't we throw out preparedness as a phase of emergency management! Let's lump them all together in one soup bowl and call it resilience. Until that happens, the current administration is trying to update one aspect of the post 9/11 emergency management world. See below--In the "ever evolving" world of emergency management, see the announcement below for an opportunity to provide feedback on NIMS.

## [Global Climate Summary Information - March 2016](#)

See [Full Report](#)

**Note:** With this report and data release, the National Centers for Environmental Information is transitioning to improved versions of its global land (GHCN-M version 3.3.0) and ocean (ERSST version 4.0.0) datasets. Please note that anomalies and ranks reflect the historical record according to these updated versions. Historical months and years may differ from what was reported in previous reports. For more, please visit the [associated FAQ and supplemental information](#).

## [Calif. regulators eye cause, impact of new Aliso Canyon leak](#)

State authorities in California are looking into a leak of oil and natural gas at the Aliso Canyon storage facility in Los Angeles. Crimson Resource Management, which operates the well involved, called the leak on Saturday a "very small event" that was stopped after two hours. The storage facility was the site of a months-long leak of natural gas that began in October.

[Los Angeles Daily News](#) (4/18)

## [EPA: Wildlife Unaffected by Oil Spill in River in Illinois](#)

ABC News

A pipeline **spill** that dumped 48,000 gallons of diesel into a river that forms the border of southern Illinois and Indiana has had no effect on wildlife, ...

## [Diesel spill reported on Ohio River in Illinois](#)

Minneapolis Star Tribune

MOUNT CARMEL, Ill. — The operator of an Illinois **oil** pipeline is reporting 1,150 barrels of diesel fuel has **spilled**, resulting in the **pollution** of at least ...

## [US Sets Offshore Safety Rules Six Years After BP Spill](#)

Legal Reader (blog)

The standards come nearly six year following the deadly explosion on the **Deepwater Horizon** oil rig off the Louisiana Coast, which led to the worst oil ...

## [Oil spill and another gas leak in Aliso Canyon](#)

LAWestMedia.com (registration) (blog)

Another leak occurred in Aliso Canyon this week, but the Southern California Gas Company pointed out today that it involved a third-party company ...

## International News

### Featured Topic: Oil by Rail and Pipeline

#### [South Dakota Oil Spill Reveals Major Pipeline Problems](#)

*Time* – 4/14/16

States with tar sands pipelines are dealing with lousy leak-detection systems, toxic and difficult-to-clean spills and pitiful tax revenue.

#### [Montana to create rail safety plan after critical audit](#)

News & Observer

The report also found there's a lack of statewide emergency planning and hazardous-material response capability should an **oil spill** occur.

## Other News

#### [Semiconductive fabric soaks up oil spills while fighting bacteria](#)

*Gizmag* – 4/19/16

The latest candidate to emerge in this area is a multipurpose fabric covered in tiny semi-conducting rods, affording it a unique set of properties that could see it used to deal with everything from water decontamination to wiping down your kitchen counter.

#### [Cheap Oil Slows Move to LNG as Bunker Fuel](#)

*MarineLink* – 4/19/16

Low oil prices are denting the take-up of liquefied natural gas as a cleaner source of energy to power ships, and it will be a few more years yet before the fuel makes serious inroads into the marine bunker market.

## Public Health Updates

### **New Map Finds 2 Billion People At Risk Of Zika Virus**

By Maggie Fox, [NBC News](#)

A new global map calculating when and where Zika virus is likely to spread shows 2 billion people could be in the Zika zone.

Nearly 300 million people in the Americas live in areas where the mosquitoes that spread Zika thrive, and more than 5 million babies a year are born to women living in these areas, the team at the University of Washington, Oxford University and elsewhere report in the journal *ELife*.

### **President Obama Signs Zika Virus Bill**

By Emily Schultheis, [CBS News](#)

President Obama on Tuesday signed into law a bill aimed at encouraging pharmaceutical companies to help combat the Zika virus and develop vaccines.

The legislation puts the Zika virus--a mosquito-borne illness that is spreading throughout South and Central America--to the Food and Drug Administration's priority review voucher program in order to jump-start the development of treatments for tropical diseases.

## **Virginia lab to start testing for Zika virus**

[WDBJ7](#)

RICHMOND, Va. (WDBJ7) A Virginia laboratory has received approval from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to start testing for the Zika virus.

The testing will be ready to go ahead of mosquito season, which begins May 1.

As of last week, the Virginia Department of Health reported 11 cases of Zika virus in Virginia.

The detesting can detect Zika virus in an infected person's blood from approximately six days after symptoms are present up to 12 weeks after being infected.

## **Senate Democrats Press For \$1.9B To Fight Zika Virus**

By Andrew Taylor, [Associated Press](#)

WASHINGTON (AP) – Democrats are pressing top Senate Republicans to stop dragging their feet and act immediately on President Barack Obama's request for \$1.9 billion to combat the Zika virus.

More than 40 of the chamber's Democrats Monday signed on to a letter to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., demanding a Senate vote on additional Zika funds. The White House says the money is urgently needed to fight the spread of mosquitoes that transmit the virus, develop a vaccine and help other countries battle Zika.

## **[From WHO: Good 7 Listings Of Facts Concerning, Medical Conditions, Cases, And Countries In Conjunction of Zika Virus, Microcephaly, and The Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Along With Maps](#)**

Ruth McClure in [CDC Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response \(PHPR\)](#)

## **Expect A US Zika Outbreak This Summer, Says Top Health Official**

By Jessica Firger, [Newsweek](#)

As Zika continues to spread throughout Central and South America, the Caribbean and Pacific Islands, the question on many people's minds is if—and when—the U.S. might also experience an outbreak.

On Sunday, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, said Americans should prepare for local transmission of the mosquito-borne virus. Fauci and other public health officials from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) suspect dozens of people will be infected. So far, local and state health authorities have only reported travel-related cases of Zika. While the virus spreading on American soil is a scary idea to many, Fauci doesn't believe the outbreak will become widespread.

## **CDC: 182 Zika Cases Discovered In US**

By Steve Sternberg, [US News & World Report](#)

Zika virus tests of thousands of people in the US have turned up just under 200 confirmed infections, only seven in pregnant women who had no symptoms of illness, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Friday.

The report offers an overview of Zika virus infections in the U.S. to date, based on national test results. Scattered infections had previously been reported in more than 100 people, mostly in travelers returning from countries in South America, Central America and the Caribbean where the mosquito-borne virus is circulating.

## State task force prepares Zika action plan

By Katie Demeria, [The Roanoke Times](#)

With mosquito season looming, state officials are on high alert to respond to new cases of the Zika virus and prepare Virginia for a rapid response to a potential outbreak.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe called for the creation of a Zika Task Force in February, and on Thursday the group met to discuss the ongoing creation of a Zika Action Plan for the commonwealth.

So far, 11 Virginians have been infected with Zika, which is spread through mosquitoes and sexual activity. All those cases were related to the patients' travels outside the United States. There have not yet been any cases of a Virginia resident contracting Zika from a local mosquito.

## Meeting On Zika Urged By House Democratic Appropriators

By Kellie Mejdich, [Congressional Quarterly](#)

House Appropriations Democrats requested Chairman Harold Rogers convene a special meeting on the Obama administration's \$1.9 billion request for an emergency supplemental appropriation to help combat the Zika virus, according to a letter publicized Friday.

## Deepwater Horizon Updates

### [Six Years after BP Spill, US Sets New Offshore Oil Safety Rules](#)

*MarineLink* – 4/14/16

The Obama administration on Thursday unveiled new oil well control rules to prevent the kind of blowout that happened six years ago on a BP Plc rig in the Gulf of Mexico.

### [BP Oil Spill Trashed More Shoreline Than Scientists Thought](#)

National Geographic

Oil from the **Deepwater Horizon** spill covered Orange Beach in 2010. ... The findings shed new light onto the BP **Deepwater Horizon** disaster in the ...

### [This day in history — April 20](#)

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

The **Deepwater Horizon** oil rig exploded in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010, killing 11 men and spewing 200 million gallons of oil. Credit: Associated ...

### [Oil spill inspired greater scientific knowledge of Gulf of Mexico](#)

Tampabay.com

Today marks the sixth anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon **oil spill**, an event that remains one of the nation's largest, most complex and most ...

### [RANDALL LUTHI: Lessons from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill](#)

Washington Times

This month marks the sixth anniversary of the **Deepwater Horizon** oil spill. The waters of the Gulf of Mexico and communities along the Gulf Coast have ...

### [Preliminary results and 2016 research](#)

Mote Marine Laboratory

Since the early days of the **Deepwater Horizon** oil spill, which began April 20, 2010, Mote Marine Laboratory has played a significant role in research ...

### [Authorities investigate possible cause of death behind recent turtle fatalities](#)

Maine News Online

Since the 2010 **oil spill**, there has been an increase in the number of dead Kemps Ridley turtles along the Gulf Coast. This year so far, 48 dead Kemps ...

### [National Wildlife Federation releases oil spill impact report](#)

WBRC FOX6 News - WBRC.com

This week marks the sixth anniversary of the BP **oil spill** in 2010. On Monday, the National Wildlife Federation released a report that outlines the impact ...

### [USF researchers study oil spill's impact on the gulf](#)

FOX 13 News, Tampa Bay

ST. PETERSBURG (FOX 13) - It's been six years since an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon **oil** rig killed 11 workers and dumped more than 200 ...

### [Officials Look Into Dead Turtle Increase Along Gulf Coast](#)

ABC News

WLOX TV ( <http://bit.ly/1qSSB7v> ) reports officials are trying to determine if the turtle deaths are linked to the BP **oil spill** in the Gulf that happened in ...

### [New documentary focuses on efforts of scientists to measure impact of Deepwater Horizon oil release](#)

The Advocate

When the Deepwater Horizon drilling platform exploded in 2010 releasing the largest **oil spill** in United States history, scientists from around the ...

### [Sediment pumped onto Shell Island West serves as the foundation for 600-acre restoration project](#)

The Advocate

This is the first of four barrier island projects to go to construction after receiving early restoration money from BP following the **Deepwater Horizon** ...

### [Jellyfish become unintended victims of oil spill mitigation](#)

PR Newswire (press release)

MIAMI, April 15, 2016 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- A chemical used to disperse oil following the 2010 **Deepwater Horizon** oil spill has been proven ...