You have questions. We find answers.

Sea Grant and partner Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative have assembled a team of oil spill science outreach specialists to collect and translate the latest peer-reviewed research for those who rely on a healthy marine ecosystem for work or recreation. Our specialists — all trained scientists themselves — connect with audiences in person, in print, and online.

About Sea Grant

The mission of Sea Grant is to enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal, marine and Great Lakes resources in order to create a sustainable economy and environment. There are 33 university-based Sea Grant programs throughout the coastal U.S. states and its territories. These programs are primarily supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the states in which the programs are located. For more information about the four Sea Grant programs that border the Gulf of Mexico, visit gulfseagrant.org.

About GOMRI

The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative is led by an independent and academic 20-member Research Board, which guides the research focus and the funding decisions to ensure the intellectual quality, effectiveness and academic independence of the GoMRI research. GoMRI was established using funds that are not associated with any oil spill penalties. For more information, visit gulfresearchinitiative.org.

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The Sea Grant Oil Spill Science Outreach Team works together regionally to research and share oil spill-related topics.

Larissa Graham — Based in Mobile, Alabama, with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Larissa has outreach experience with Sea Grant, the National Estuary Program and the National Estuarine Research Reserves. Her degrees and interest are in fisheries, environmental science, and human health. She works primarily on the environmental effects of the oil spill on humans and ecosystems. Email: larissa.graham@auburn.edu

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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. Email: edouglass@lsu.edu

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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. Email: stephen.sempier@usm.edu

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. Email: tara.skelton@usm.edu

Learn more about this effort at gulfseagrant.org/oilspilloutreach.

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