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**From:** Austin, Meredith CAPT  
**To:** Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil  
**Sent:** 6/13/2010 5:28:35 PM  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

The shoreline damage is actually not as bad as is being portrayed...frankly, they are showing the same heavily oiled patch and making it seem that it represents miles and miles of shoreline--it absolutely does not! What you mostly see along the affected coast, which, by the way is much less than 200 miles are sheens (which will burn off) and tar balls, which are picked up one at a time. It is not sheets and sheets of oil. The marshes will recover...they have been impacted by oil spills in years past, including in the aftermath of Katrina. After a year or so, you can't even tell there was ever any oil there. Plus, you have to be really careful when dealing w/ marshes--you don't treat them during the spring/summer growing season, because just going in there can cause irreparable damage. So, despite people yelling, not going into the marsh this time of the year and waiting is the most environmentally friendly way to treat them. The oil coating the marsh has pretty much lost its toxicity and just sticks to the reeds...then falls off. It is very resilient this way.

There have been many birds impacted and this is sad.

The turtles...yes, there has been many dead turtles, but not all of them are from the oil spill (don't even know if it's most of them or not. May not be. Necropsies are being done to confirm). There's something w/ the temp this time of year that can cause a die-off (this happens every year) and is unrelated to the spill. Of course, this is never mentioned in the media.

Like I said, there is some damage, but not nearly what's being portrayed. And that's sad, because people are working really hard to make a difference and when they hear what's being said about the responders and the condition of the shoreline, it's pretty demoralizing.

The unbelievable story is that despite a 30+ ish million gallon spill, we've managed to keep over 90% of the oil from hitting the shore, which is amazing. Of course things are still pretty dynamic and this could always change (which is why I'm still here-I was supposed to be back in PA by yesterday), but we are doing some pretty good things out there that no one is hearing about.

M

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 3:23 PM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

For some reason I thought you were coming back on 12 June. Have you seen much of the coast and the animal and plant live devastation. I just saw a report of 50 sea turtles rescued but more than 250 dead :( This makes me very sad.

-----Original Message-----

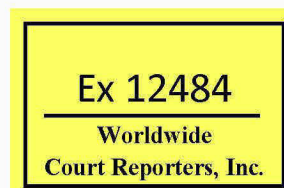
From: Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 3:49 PM  
To: Neary Kathleen A Ms NGA-HDSPS USA CIV  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

6 Jul...doing the procedure on the 13th. At least I'll have a couple days in the office to dig out--luckily, my Deputy is handling things pretty well so it shouldn't be too painful. I'm keeping up w/ email down here.

M

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 2:45 PM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit



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TREX-012484.0001

Most of the stuff we are doing is unclass so you won't be missing that much. When do you come back to Philly?

-----Original Message-----

From: Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 3:29 PM  
To: Neary Kathleen A Ms NGA-HDSPS USA CIV  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

I've gotten pretty used to going to bed at 10 or 11 or 12 and getting up at 5, although today I actually slept in until 9! (first time I got more than 7 hrs sleep since I've been here; mostly I get around 6 hr).

Our NGA rep sits w/ the GIS folks, so I don't really interact much w/ them, only to say hi in passing. We are looking at your products though, but only the unclas ones.

M

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 2:13 PM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

He stopped by this morning. He didn't seem his normal pleasant self. He was just out your way last week I didn't know he was heading out there again. You can put a good word in for me, but he won't know who I am despite a briefing I directly gave him within 6 months of his arrival here and our pithy interaction this morning!! Unless you are talking about Tish Long. She'll arrive in July and take command in August.

I know you've got the ground truth on all the spin and I can't wait to talk to you about it. The news and administration spin has been interesting but slanted.

Have you bumped elbows with any of our NGA folk? We've got a lot deployed working long hours everywhere down there. I hope they are doing you right.

Am in the CAT for another hour or so. It's been slow this afternoon and I'm just prepping the brief for tomorrow's Ops Intel.

Getting up at 4 a.m. is tough!

Kathleen

-----Original Message-----

From: Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 2:27 PM  
To: Neary Kathleen A Ms NGA-HDSPS USA CIV  
Subject: FW: NGA Director Visit

Anything we should know about your Boss? Want me to put in a good word for you?

Everything's going okay...don't believe what you hear on TV. The people in the field are working very hard, and we're working together w/ the locals, despite what certain folks are yelling on TV.

Meredith

-----Original Message-----

From: Lee, Christian LCDR  
Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2010 10:28 AM  
To: Laferriere, Roger CAPT; Austin, Meredith CAPT; Forgit, Robert CAPT  
Cc: McCullough, Victoria; McLoughlin, Richard CDR; Tate, Gail; Kreisler, Jon; Williams, Jerred LCDR; Auth, Nicole LT  
Subject: NGA Director Visit

Capt's,

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TREX-012484.0002

FYSA - Vice Admiral Robert Murrett, Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, will visit ICP Houma on Thursday. He has requested a meeting with the Incident Commander and would like an over-flight of affected areas. I am working out the details, but wanted to make you aware.

V/R,  
Christian

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TREX-012484.0003