

## SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS: DEFINING ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL HARM

- **Actual harm: Demonstrated effect that altered the normal functions and populations in an ecosystem**
  - Observations in the field of harmed resources (*e.g.*, oiled birds, oiled marsh)
- **Potential harm: Evidence suggests that there might be harm, but does not unambiguously demonstrate it**
  - Evidence of known causes of harm to resources (*e.g.*, surface oil distribution, oil concentrations in surface waters, toxicity studies)