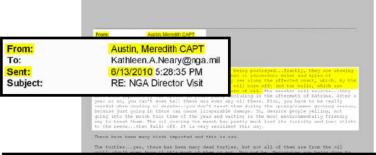
12484.1.2



The shoreline damage is actually not as bad as is being portrayed. Frankly, they are showing the same heavily ciled 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 niles 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.