Remote sensing to aid oil spill ecosystem response

Thursday Evening (Feb. 3, 2011) 6:30PM – 8:30 PM
Open to the Public
A side meeting of the North American Carbon Program All Investigator Meeting,
The Roosevelt New Orleans Waldorf Astoria
123 Baronne Street, New Orleans, LA 70112
504.648.1200 | 1-800-WALDORF
http://nacarbon.org/meeting_2011/

Dial to listen in: 877-521-4510, Passcode 1959771
Presentations will be available for download from the conference website

Understanding and responding to the ecological impacts of the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill requires accurate pre-spill ecological information, as well as long-term monitoring. Due to the affected coastline's inaccessibility and vast extent, remote sensing data can play a very important role in aiding recovery. Several important remote sensing data sets have been collected already and there are plans for more collections in support of long-term monitoring of the area.

We are soliciting interest for a breakout session to provide information on these efforts as well as describe how these data sets can be used to monitor ecological changes during restoration efforts and quantify restoration to original conditions.

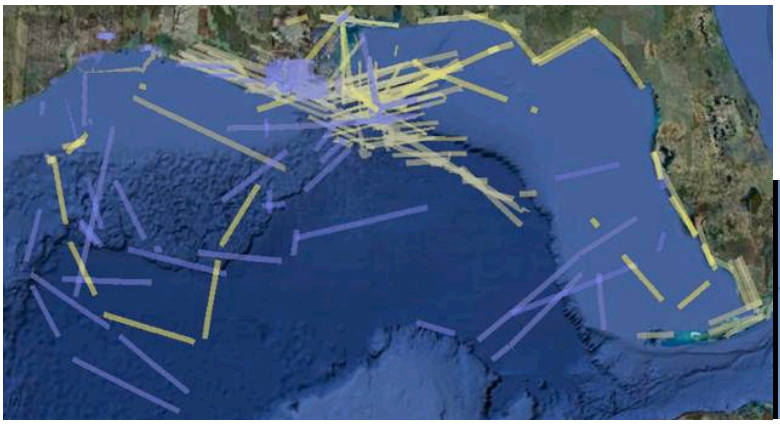
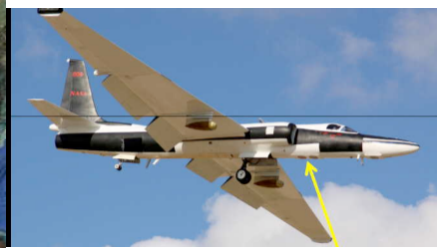
Our primary interest is to involve local stakeholders who have a commitment to long-term ecosystem monitoring for involvement in these remote sensing efforts, both in flightline proposals grounded in "in situ experience and knowledge," and in use of the existing and future data sets.

• NASA-collected hyperspectral imaging spectrometry data with the AVIRIS (Airborne Visual Infrared Spectrometer) for the Gulf coast from S. Florida to south Texas *prior to tar arrival* on area beaches. Follow-up data were collected in the months after the spill to document ecosystem response to oil inundation and human activities. NASA has a strong commitment to continue data collections over the next years as the ecosystems slowly recover, adjust, and adapt, as well as various remediation efforts are undertaken.

• NASA-collected UAVSAR data, which maps ecosystem characteristics, also was collected for some impacted coastal areas and for extensive areas of the southern Louisiana inland marshes. Continued yearly monitoring with this instrument is planned.

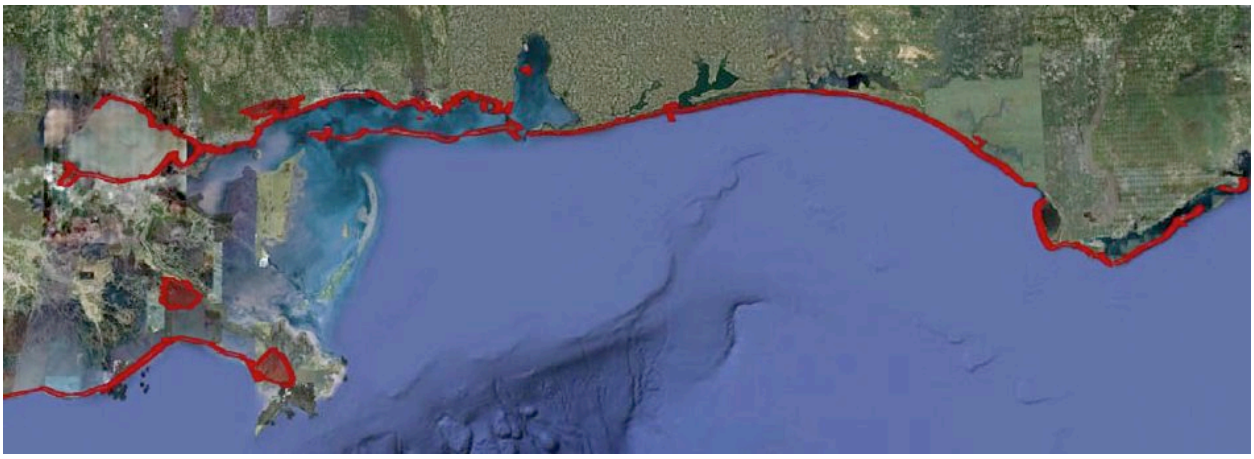
• Army (JALBTCX) - collected airborne lidar bathymetry data of the Gulf coast from a few weeks prior to the spill.

Please email ira.leifer@bubbleology.com to indicate interest

NASA AVIRIS Data for Summer 2010.

NASA UAV SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) Data for Summer 2010.



The USACE Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise (JALBTCX), national coastal mapping program 2009 - 2010.