

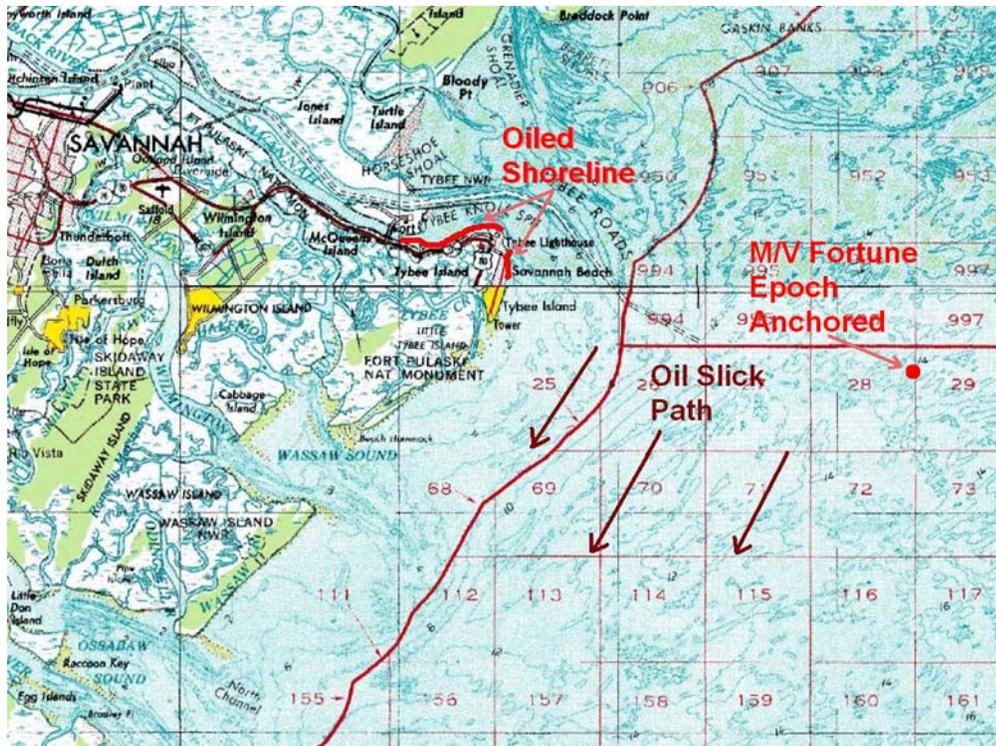
Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Projects

M/V Fortune Epoch NRDAR

On the morning of November 17, 2004, the 420-foot cargo ship *M/V Fortune Epoch* lost power and drifted out of the navigation channel as she left the port of Savannah, Georgia. When power was restored, the US Coast Guard directed the vessel to a safe anchorage about ten miles off the coast. At dawn, the crew noted an oil sheen coming from the ship and spill response efforts were initiated. It is estimated that about 6,800 gallons of heavy fuel oil were released into the sea.

Reports of oiled birds began shortly thereafter and over the next several days, a total of 54 birds were recovered from beaches and marshes within an 80-mile range (from Hilton Head Island, SC to Doboy Sound, GA). Following treatment by wildlife rehabilitators, it was confirmed that at least 44 birds died as a result of this spill (40 common loons, 3 northern gannets, and 1 brown pelican). Because of the complexity of this section of coastline and marginal weather conditions at the time, it is highly likely that as many as six to ten times this many birds were actually oiled by the spill but never located.

The Georgia FO and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (the natural resource trustees) are working cooperatively with the responsible party to assess the total damages to bird resources and identify suitable restoration projects on the Georgia coast.



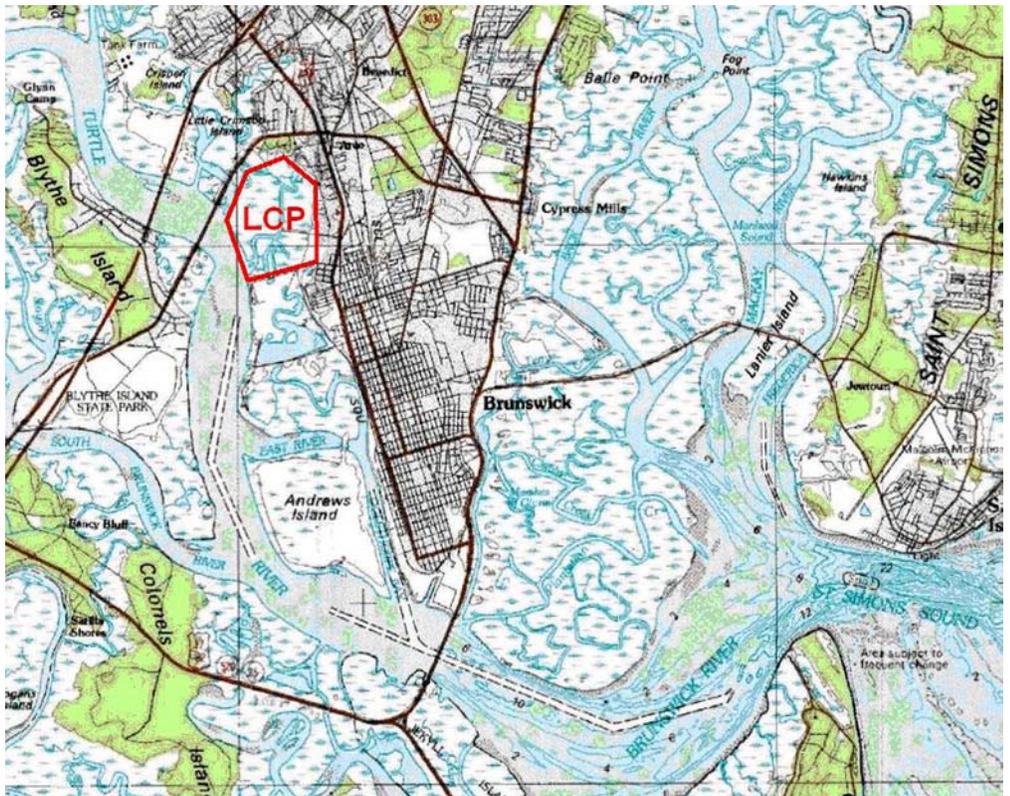
LCP Chemicals NRDAR

The site is located just outside the city limits of Brunswick, Georgia and consists of approximately 80 acres of upland and 550 acres of intertidal saltmarsh. From 1919 until 1994, various industrial occupants released mercury, PCBs, and other metal and petroleum wastes into the environment.



From 1995 to 1999, the US Environmental Protection Agency supervised emergency removal actions at the site, including the removal of upland contamination and 13 acres of the most heavily contaminated saltmarsh sediments. Despite these actions, high levels of contamination remained in sediments throughout the marsh. Ecosystem sampling indicated that organisms at all trophic levels were exposed to the contamination and likely suffering ongoing injury.

In 1998, the Georgia FO, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (collectively the natural resource trustees) initiated a NRDAR case and began collecting data to assess the level of injury to the ecosystem. In 2003, Honeywell, Inc., the primary responsible party, expressed an interest in working cooperatively with the trustees and an MOU was signed.



Under the framework of this MOU, the following tasks have been completed:

- Developed a comprehensive database of all environmental sampling data (approximately 500,000 records).
- Developed a methodology for assessing benthic injury and achieved preliminary results.
- Developed food-web models to assess injury to higher trophic level species.
- Completed an economic analysis of recreational fishing losses.
- Formed a restoration workgroup and solicited public input for restoration alternatives.
- Honeywell, Inc. reimbursed the trustees for most of their past and ongoing assessment costs.

Future

The cooperative NRDAR process between the trustees and Honeywell, Inc is progressing well. Remaining work will focus on refining the various injury assessments and scaling the level of damages. Concurrent to this work will be the identification and assessment of restoration projects in the Brunswick area.