

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: December 31, 2010

ISSUE/description: 3. COASTAL CRISIS. On April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Drilling Rig exploded in the Gulf of Mexico. This was the beginning of what would become the worst environmental disaster in United States history.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four	10/05/10	04:03PM/2 minutes	News	*

* We reported on some Northwest Florida business owners who say they're not getting a fair share of the Oil Spill compensation fund. We reported last night that Escambia County ranks near the bottom in the amount of claims money paid out. Now, the Gulf Coast Claims Facility has released a new round of statistics showing nearly \$50 million has poured into the Gulf Coast in the last few days. But as reporter Dan Thomas tells us, Escambia and Santa Rosa counties still fall at the bottom of the list. He interviewed one local restaurant owner who said it's impossible to get word from the Claims Facility about when he would get paid. In the meantime, he and other business owners were juggling bills, laying off employees, and trying to fend off their creditors until the BP checks come in. Just days before he would have closed the business for good, he finally got a check allowing him to pay his vendors and re-hire two employees.

2. Channel 3 News at 6PM	10/07/10	06:02PM/4 minutes	News	**
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** A commission investigating the BP Oil Spill reported today that the Obama Administration misrepresented findings about the BP leak. Reporter Dan Thomas presented the findings of the commission. The amount of oil that spewed into the Gulf of Mexico during the BP Oil Crisis was grossly underestimated, and the rapid pace at which the federal and state government claimed the oil was being eaten up by nature just wasn't true. Next, Tallahassee correspondent Whitney Ray reports that there's a sobering "I told you so" from many environmentalists.

3. Channel 3 News at 6PM	10/18/10	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	***
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*** Nearly three months after BP's well in the Gulf was capped for good, oil is still out there...buried underneath our sugar-white sand. The oil giant started tackling the mess this morning with a deep-cleaning project on Orange Beach designed to remove oil up to 24 inches beneath the surface of the sand. Dan Thomas reported that the Mayors of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach want the project wrapped up well before most people start making vacation plans for next year. Meanwhile, beaches in Escambia County will get the same deep-cleaning treatment in the coming days. BP crews will use sifters called Sand Sharks, and other heavy machinery to dig any oil from beneath the sand.

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4. Channel 3 News at 6PM	10/20/10	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	****

**** Even though it has been months since the last drops of crude oil spilled into the Gulf, thousands of people are still working every day to clean up the catastrophe. More than 100 miles of Gulf shoreline are experiencing moderate-to-heavy oil impact. We summarized the cleanup efforts from Louisiana to the Panhandle of Florida, including the deep-cleaning efforts on Alabama beaches. BP plans to dig down 18 inches on Florida beaches, but a Florida State University researcher says most of the oil is buried deeper than that.

5. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four	10/26/10	04:08PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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***** BP has agreed to pay millions toward rebuilding consumer confidence in Florida Seafood. Local wholesalers took a huge hit after the spill as customers from all over the country cancelled orders because they weren't certain the fish was safe. So BP has agreed to pay for seafood safety inspections over the next 3 years.

6. Channel 3 News at 6PM	10/28/10	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** Time is running out to file a claim with the Gulf Coast Claims Facility...the deadline for Oil Spill claims is November 23rd. After that date, you could be asked to receive a lump sum payment and agree "not to sue BP". Today Kenneth Feinberg said he would also give people the option to keep getting periodic payments for the next three years. And some businesses are experiencing labor shortages now that their employees have received some BP checks and are asking for more time off. Other businesses are getting a boost from the claims payments as the recipients are beginning to spend the money. Innerlight Surf Shop has sold several surfboards to customers spending claims money. At \$500-\$1,000 per board, their business is getting back to normal.

7. Channel 3 News at 5PM	11/17/10	05:00PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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***** We reported on the heavy machinery that is now pounding and cleaning the sand of the most popular spot on Pensacola Beach, as crews try to remove the remaining oil from under the sand.

8. Channel 3 News at 5PM	11/18/10	05:03PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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***** We reported that BP divers have discovered two patches of underwater oil near NAS Pensacola, and are now planning underwater cleanup operations. The biggest of the patches measures 25 ft. by 50 ft. Removal will be difficult because the area is environmentally and archaeologically sensitive. There are also reports of more underwater oil near Fort McRae off Perdido Key.

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9. Channel 3 News at 6PM	11/19/10	06:02PM/2 minutes	News	*****

***** As of yesterday, BP reported it has paid \$2.3 billion to individuals and businesses affected by the Oil Spill. But that part of the cleanup process is coming to a close, with only a few days left until the deadline for filing claims. Now, local businessmen and residents are packing into the Gulf Coast Claims Facility as they rush to register their claims before the deadline.

10. Channel 3 News at 5PM	12/01/10	05:04PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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***** The Obama Administration says that there will be no new oil drilling off Florida's Gulf Coast for the next seven years, to make sure another oil spill disaster doesn't happen. Reporter Bill Pearson interviewed local businessmen, government leaders, and residents, all of whom have mixed feelings about the ban.

11. Channel 3 News at 10PM	12/02/10	10:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** Some frustrated small business owners got a one-on-one meeting with the man in charge of BP's \$20 billion Oil Spill Compensation Fund today. Ken Feinberg made a stop in Baldwin County at the request of Alabama Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions. Reporter Dan Thomas was there and reported that the biggest issue seemed to be that business owners didn't understand the rules for filing a claim. Next, we reported on a new marketing campaign being run by Alabama Tourism leaders to lure "snowbirds", vacationers from northern states and Canada, back to the Gulf Coast.

12. ABC News Nightline	12/03/10	11:01PM/10 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*****
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***** One of the topics featured tonight was a submarine ride to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico to see the effect of the BP Oil Spill on the sea floor and deep-sea life.

13. Channel 3 News at 5PM	12/29/10	05:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** We reported on more progress with the cleanup process on Pensacola Beach. The huge sifting and collection machines are still on the sand and the cleanup crews are still working to remove all the oil from underneath the sand, but both locals and visitors commented that our shoreline and environment can make a full recovery.