

Damages Claims for the Deepwater Horizon Spill

Have you suffered damages to real or personal property or suffered a loss of profits or earning capacity that you believe is attributable to the Deepwater Horizon spill? Examples include hotel/condo cancellations, inability to fish, oil pollution on your property, an oiled boat, or reduced traffic at your business (such as restaurant, fish market, etc.).

File a claim with BP (BP has been identified as the "Responsible Party" for this incident). Call the BP claims line at 1-800-440-0858.

BP call center will collect basic information on the claim and claimant. This includes the occupation/business involved, location and dates of damages (such as location of fishing), phone number, mailing address, and the general nature of the claim (i.e.—damage to boat, lost fishing revenue, hotel/condo cancellations, etc.). Claimants should be contacted by BP adjusters within 5-10 days.

Be prepared to document damages incurred. For example, a hotel owner may begin tracking cancellations, including asking the reason for the cancellation and maintaining a list, with contact information, for those that cite the oil spill as the reason for the cancellation. As another example, for fishers, defensible estimates of lost revenue, based in past catches, including tax returns, financial statements, or other documents..

In addition, fishers impacted by oil and not working as a result of closures may be able to apply for short-term payments for loss of profits and earning capacity. These short-term claims supposedly can be paid within 48 hours and for up to \$5,000. We will update information on this as it becomes available.

BP will investigate and seek to settle your claim. If you are a shrimper, crabber, other fisher, or a licensed boat operator and unable to work due to the spill, inform BP of this as you may qualify for rapid (within 48 hours) partial payment for damages of up to \$5,000 for thirty days. If full claim are denied or not addressed within 90 days, claimant may apply to the National Pollution Funds Center for damages

