

## **FAQs for animals/wildlife in the Deepwater incident.**

\*What should I do if I see an injured or contaminated animal?

**Please do not approach or touch the animal.** These are wild creatures, and the animals may be frightened and stressed. Instead of trying to take personal action please contact the experts to help these animals. Well meaning help by untrained individuals may actually cause more harm than good.

\*What should I do if I see a marine mammal in distress?

Please use the same contact procedure.

\*How do I report an injured or contaminated animal?

Please call (866) 557-1401 to make an initial report. That information will be sent directly to the local responders. At this time the initial response in Bay County will be by Bay County Animal Control, but the reports need to be coordinated through the above number for tracking purposes. Please describe the location as specifically as possible to aid the rescue/recovery personnel in finding the animal.

\*What about animals that appear to be dead?

These calls will be handled in the same manner and disposal will be dealt with safely to protect other animals and the environment.

\*What will happen to rescued animals that are affected by this incident?

These animals will be carefully evaluated, decontaminated, and then released after recovery.

\*What can I donate to help these efforts?

We are developing a list of needs. When we establish those materials that we need a want list will be posted. Until then we appreciate your desire to help but prefer that you wait for further updates.

\*Can I send money to help?

BP has stepped forward to address all of the costs involved in this effort. Local Governments, State and Federal Officials are working in concert with specific BP contractors to respond to these challenges. Individual organizations will arrange with BP to cover their expenses and should not need donations to address this operation. At this time there is no way to apply financial donations to this particular cause.