

The GPI+

The Gulf Permit Index: A Report on New Well Permit Issuance and Plan Approvals

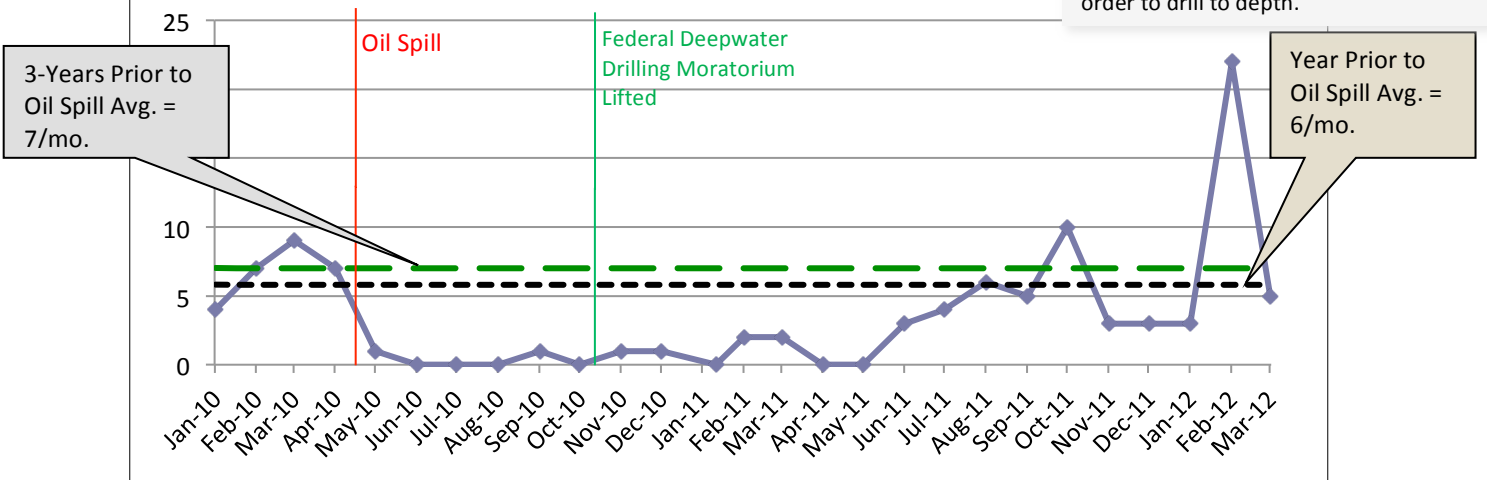
The GPI+ is provided by GNO, Inc., and its parish partners in collaboration with the Business Council of New Orleans & the River Region, Jefferson Business Council, and Northshore Business Council

GPI+ through March 31, 2012

Permits

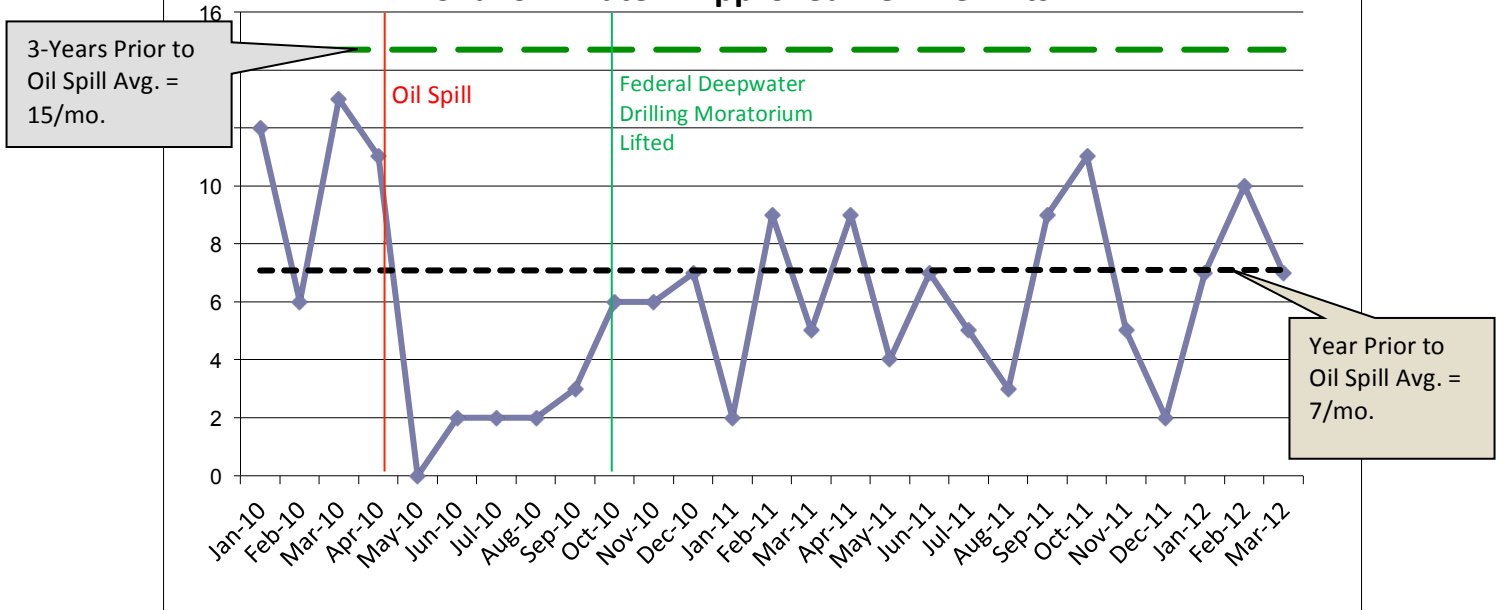
In February 2012, 22 deep-water permits were issued. These permit approvals represent an increase of 16 permits (279%) from the monthly average observed in the year prior to the oil spill, and an increase of 15 permits (214%) from the historical monthly average of 7 new deep-water well permits. While this number is encouraging, it is possible the change is due to batch sets.* In March 2012, 5 permits were approved for new deep-water wells.

Deep Water - Approved New Permits



In February 2012, 10 shallow-water permits were issued, representing an increase of 41% from the monthly average observed in the year prior to the oil spill, and a decrease of 32% from the 3-year historical monthly average of 15 new shallow-water well permits. In March 2012, 7 shallow-water permits were approved.

Shallow Water - Approved New Permits



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GPI+ through March 31, 2012

Plans

In February 2012, the average approval time for a plan was 106 days, representing an increase of 75% from the historical average of 61 days. This is due in a large part to the February 2012 approval of a plan submitted in October 2009 (approval time of 837 days). If this outlier is eliminated, the average approval time for plans approved in February is 61 days—exactly the 5-year historical average.

In March 2012, the average approval time for a plan was 107 days, representing an increase of 76% from the historical average.

