

STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 09-2011

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING AN EMERGENCY
TO EXIST IN THE COUNTIES OF YELLOWSTONE, TREASURE, ROSEBUD, CUSTER, PRAIRIE,
DAWSON AND RICHLAND ALONG THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER DUE TO OIL SPILL

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2011, just before midnight, an oil spill was discovered near the City of Laurel and there was a substantial release of crude oil into the Yellowstone River estimated at 1,000 barrels (42,000 gallons); and

WHEREAS, local evacuations in the Laurel area were ordered until initial surveys could be conducted including air monitoring; and

WHEREAS, crude oil has been discovered downstream from the release and has travelled beyond Hysham in Treasure County, collecting along the shorelines and any low lying flooded areas; and

WHEREAS, Exxon Mobile Pipeline Company has been identified as the responsible party for this release and has called in its North American Regional Response Team from across the United States to respond to the spill; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana, through the Departments of Environmental Quality, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Public Health and Human Services, and Military Affairs, DES Division, has taken an active role in the oversight of the cleanup, has committed all available resources, and is taking all possible actions to respond to, mitigate and alleviate the situation; and

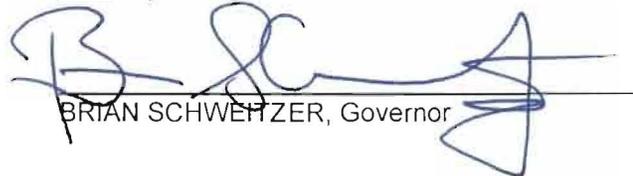
WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has also mobilized its response crews to monitor the cleanup; and

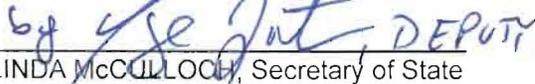
WHEREAS, a declaration of an emergency under § 10-3-302, MCA, authorizes the Governor under § 10-3-312, MCA, to expend funds from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from these conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution of the State of Montana and Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby declare an emergency to exist along the Yellowstone River in the Counties of Yellowstone, Treasure, Rosebud, Custer, Prairie, Dawson, and Richland and authorize the expenditure of funds from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from the emergency.

This Order is effective July 1, 2011.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT
SEAL of the State of Montana, this
5th day of July, 2011.


BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor

ATTEST: 
by  DEPUTY
LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State