

LA 1 Fact Sheet: February 24, 2002

LA 1 is the only means of land access to Port Fourchon, which services between **16% to 18%** of the domestic oil and gas production. The Persian Gulf Region supplies 23% of U.S. oil needs.

Port Fourchon is Louisiana's southern most port and it is on the Gulf of Mexico.

LA 1 is the only means of land access to Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP), which handles **13% of the U.S.' imported crude oil** and is now servicing the OCS. LOOP's pipelines are connected to **35% of the U.S.' refinery capacity**.

LA 1 is the only means of **land access for oil spill response** for Port Fourchon and LOOP.

LA 1 is the only means of land access to Louisiana's only inhabited barrier island -Grand Isle.

LA 1 is the boundary between the **nation's two most productive estuaries** -the Barataria and Terrebonne. It is estimated that **70% of the state's total value for commercial landings** is derived from the Barataria and Terrebonne systems.

LA 1 is the only means of evacuation for thousands. **Approximately 35,000 people**, including 6,000 offshore workers, **use LA 1 for evacuation**.

Truck traffic has increased in some years by **as much as 24%**. The national average is approximately 5%. The daily traffic count on LA 1 is over 9,000.

Between 1991- 1996 there were over 5,000 accidents. Studies indicate that **LA 1 is twice as deadly as similar highways**. Furthermore, MMS studies indicate that LA 1 will continue to deteriorate due to OCS activities.

LA 1 is included as part of the **National Highway System (NHS)**. The NHS comprises only 4% of the country's total highways; however, they are estimated to service 90% of all businesses and industries in the country.

In December 2001, LA 1 from Port Fourchon to U.S. 90 was designated by Congress as a **High Priority Corridor** based on its role as critical energy infrastructure. Only 43 others highways in the U.S. are designated as High Priority Corridors.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' study estimates that **60% of all Louisiana offshore drilling over the next thirty years will be in the service area of Port Fourchon**. Over **600 platforms** are within a **40-mile radius of Port Fourchon**.

Approximately **75% of the deep-water activity in the Gulf is serviced by Port Fourchon**.

The Gulf of Mexico is now considered on of the top geologic providence in the world. At one time labeled the "Dead Sea", it is now considered, "**America's New Frontier**."

It also has the **most extensive network of offshore oil and gas pipelines in the world** (over 20,000 miles).

90% of the petroleum extracted from the OCS is from the Gulf of Mexico. In 2000 the total revenue collected by MMS from OCS was \$4,485,349,778. **Louisiana's coast provided 74.2%**.

MMS' Lease Sale EIS' have determined LA 1 and Port Fourchon as "**focal points of OCS stress**."