

Hurricane-caused oil spills threaten gulf

September 9 2005

Oil from storage tanks ruptured by Hurricane Katrina is threatening the Gulf of Mexico.

An estimated 4 million gallons of crude oil has flowed into the lower Mississippi river and surrounding wetlands -- a spillage approximately a third the size of that caused when the tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground off Alaska in 1989, the New York Times reported Friday.

Officials said they were uncertain how much of the oil will eventually flow into the Gulf since access to the area can only be made by water and it was still unclear exactly how much oil has been lost, The Times said.

Copyright 2005 by United Press International

Citation: Hurricane-caused oil spills threaten gulf (2005, September 9) retrieved 20 March 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-09-hurricane-caused-oil-threaten-gulf.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--