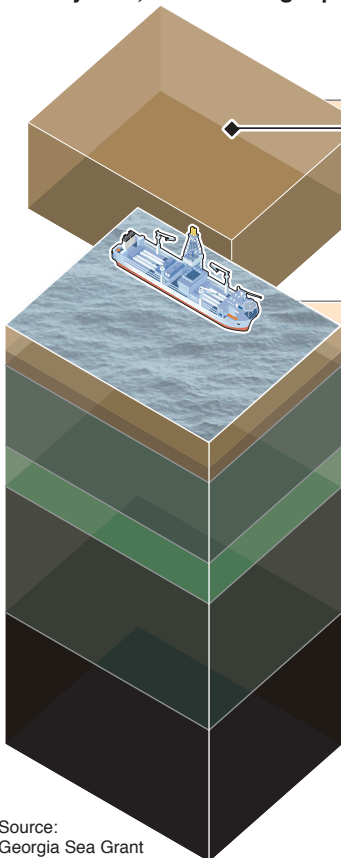


80 percent of Gulf oil spill remains unrecovered

A new study concludes that almost 80% of the oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill has not been removed and remains a threat to the ecosystem, contradicting reports that just a quarter is unaccounted for



OIL RELEASED BY WELLHEAD (Barrels)
Total, April 20-July 15 **4.9 million**

Piped direct to surface ships **800,000**
Never entered waters of Gulf of Mexico

Released into Gulf **4.1 million**
Only 10% of crude oil removed, leaving 90% unrecovered

Removed: *Burned* **245,000**
Skipped **147,000**

Natural dispersal  **784,000**
As micro-droplets **Degraded*
168,000-319,000

Chemical dispersal  **392,000**
Micro-droplets with dispersant coating

Dissolved in sea water  **1,225,000**
Evaporated
306,000-490,000

Residual oil  **1,274,000**

Total still present **2.9-3.2 million**

**Degradation by marine organisms mainly short-chain hydrocarbons – most toxic components least likely to degrade naturally*