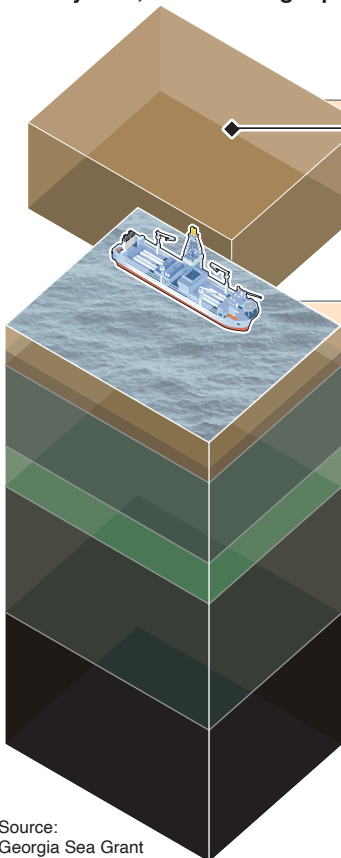


# 80 percent of Gulf oil spill remains unrecovered

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**  
*Skimmed* **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  **1,225,000**  
sea water *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*