

Long Term Transport:

The oil is on the Texas shelf where the currents are dominated by local wind conditions. At the moment, the currents are upcoast, toward Louisiana. By Saturday, the winds are expected to shift to be off shore, moving any remaining oil away from shore, and likely changing the direction of the current. Any oil that is moved off shore will then be moved by the winds and the dominant currents in the gulf. After many days, it is possible that some of the oil could be moved toward Mexico, but any oil that travels that far will be very widely scattered, highly weathered, tarballs that are unlikely to be able to be discerned from the background tarballs in the region.

Oil Fate:

The NOAA Adios2 Oil Weathering model was run for a Texas Shelf Light Crude oil. The model indicates that about 50% of the released oil will evaporate and disperse within less than two days of the release. After this point, the remaining oil will be relatively stable, breaking up into tarballs. There is some chance that an emulsion could have formed in the first few hours after the release. In any case, after a few days, the oil will most likely be in the form of widely scattered tarballs.

Oil Name = TEXAS GULF COAST LIGHT
API = 35.0

Pour Point = unknown

Wind Speed = variable winds

Wave Height = computed from winds

Water Temperature = 68 deg F

Time of Initial Release = December 24, 0600 hours

Total Amount of Oil Released = 1,140 bbl

Hours Into Spill	Released bbl		Evaporated percent		Dispersed percent		Remaining percent
1	902	-	17	-	1	-	82
6	912		30		6		64
12	924	-	35	-	7	-	58
18	936		37		7		56
24	948	-	38	-	7	-	55
30	960		38		7		54
36	972	-	38	-	8	-	54
42	984		39		8		54
48	996	-	39	-	8	-	53
54	1,008		39		8		53
60	1,020	-	39	-	8	-	53
66	1,032		39		8		53
72	1,044	-	39	-	8	-	53
78	1,056		39		8		53
84	1,068	-	39	-	8	-	53
90	1,080		39		8		53
96	1,092	-	39	-	8	-	52
102	1,104		39		9		52
108	1,116	-	39	-	9	-	52
114	1,128		39		9		51
120	1,140	-	39	-	10	-	51