

Resources at Risk for the Grand Bayou Blue Well Blowout, Near Galliano, LA

I. Spill Source Information

This report was prepared on 18 September 2008. Information in the report is based on the report of a well blowout of crude oil in Grand Bayou Blue at 29° 28.011' N Lat. 090° 22.901' W Long.

II. Geographic Region Covered

This report covers the Grand Bayou Blue and surrounding bayous, lakes, ponds, canals and marshes. Consult other ResponseLink reports for oil trajectory information.

III. Shoreline Resources at Risk

The release occurred in open water surrounded by broken marsh. Marsh types include brackish marsh and intermediate marsh closest to the release. Three to four miles south of the release site the marshes are mostly salt; approximately two miles north they are predominantly fresh. There are some patches of scrub-shrub and forested wetlands throughout.

IV. Biological Resources at Risk

Birds

Formerly listed bald eagles are present within several miles north and west of the release site. Nesting season begins in October. A rare raptor occurs near the release site; its nesting season ended in August. Birds likely to be present in marshes and open water bayous, lakes, and ponds at this time of year include: blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, mottled duck (nesting), northern pintail, and northern shoveler. Additional species and greater numbers of birds will be migrating to the area in October.

Fish

Species present in canals and surrounding waters include:

Species	Abundance or Presence	Months present (juveniles)	Sensitive life-history time period for spawning, eggs, and/or larvae
Largemouth bass	Medium	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Atlantic croaker	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Bay anchovy	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Drum (black, red)	Common	Jan.-Dec.	Aug.-May
Crevalle jack	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Gizzard shad	Common	Jan.-Dec.	Mar.-Sep.

Gulf menhaden	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Seatrout (sand, spotted)	Abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Feb.-Oct.
Sheepshead	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Silver perch	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Spanish mackerel	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Southern flounder	Abundant	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Spot	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Striped mullet	Abundant	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Tarpon	Rare	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Florida pompano	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Gray snapper	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A

Invertebrates

Species present in canals and bayous include:

Species	Abundance or Presence	Months present (juveniles)	Sensitive life-history time period for spawning, eggs, and/or larvae
Bay squid	Abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Blue crab	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Brown shrimp	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
Gulf stone crab	Common	Jan.-Dec.	N/A
Pink shrimp	Common	Jan.-Dec.	Apr.-Oct.
White shrimp	Highly abundant	Jan.-Dec.	May-Dec.

Mammals

Small furbearing mammals (e.g. raccoon, mink, muskrat, otter, and nutria) can be found throughout the wetlands.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Alligators are present and nesting in wetlands. Nesting occurs from Jun.-Aug., hatching from Aug.-Sept.

V. Human-Use Resources at Risk

The Point-Au-Chien WMA occurs northwest of the release site. Marinas and boat ramps are present throughout the bayous in the vicinity of the spill.