



TIME: 1900 CDT July 29, 2009

TO: NOAA SSC Charlie Henry

FROM: NOAA Office of Response and Restoration, Emergency Response Division Seattle, WA

SUBJECT: Eugene Island Pipeline Spill

For additional information, please contact Chris Barker,  
NOAA Emergency Response Division, Seattle, WA.  
Phone: (206) 526-4911.

---

Per your request, we have looked at trajectory implications of a release from a pipeline in GOM.

A pipeline experienced a drop in pressure in the afternoon of July 25. A slick was observed, and has been monitored since then. The line has been shut in, but unknown amount of oil is still leaking as of today.

In the first few days, the slick spread and moved primarily to the east. Multiple dispersant sorties have been flown, focusing on the leading edge of the slick. MSRC vessels are on scene conducting skimming operations. It is unknown how much oil has been released, or how much remains on the water surface.

This forecast was initialized from an overflight conducted this afternoon, July 29<sup>th</sup> at about 1645, showing the leading edge at about 28°53.90'N--90°13.63'W. This location is about 7 miles to the northeast of where the leading edge was this morning.

#### 1) WEATHER:

Tonight through Thursday: South winds are expected at 10-15 knots.

Friday: South winds are expected at 5-10 knots.

#### 2) TRAJECTORY:

Yesterday's trajectory forecast that the slick would move primarily to the North, perhaps contacting shore by late today. However, the actual movement was more to the northeast. This was due to the winds having more of a westerly component than forecast, and likely a current moving to the southeast. Today, the movement followed the wind more, as well as apparently a current moving to the northeast. We expect that the slick will continue to follow the predicted wind to the north, but that the currents will not continue with the same strength to the northeast, and will likely turn to follow the shoreline to the east as the slick approaches the shoreline.

We expect shoreline impacts by about midnight tomorrow, though if the winds persist a bit stronger than predicted, it is possible that there could be some impacts sooner. Much more of what remains of the slick is likely to affect the shoreline by the end of the day Friday. We expect the largest concentrations to affect the region between Port Fourchon and Grand Isle. The slick has been dissipating, particularly on the trailing edge, so it is likely to be smaller still before reaching the shoreline.



# Eugene Island Pipeline

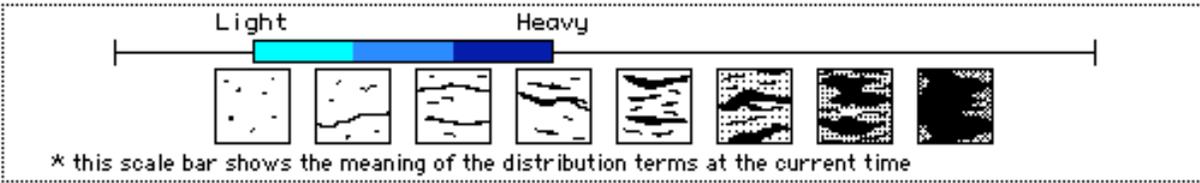
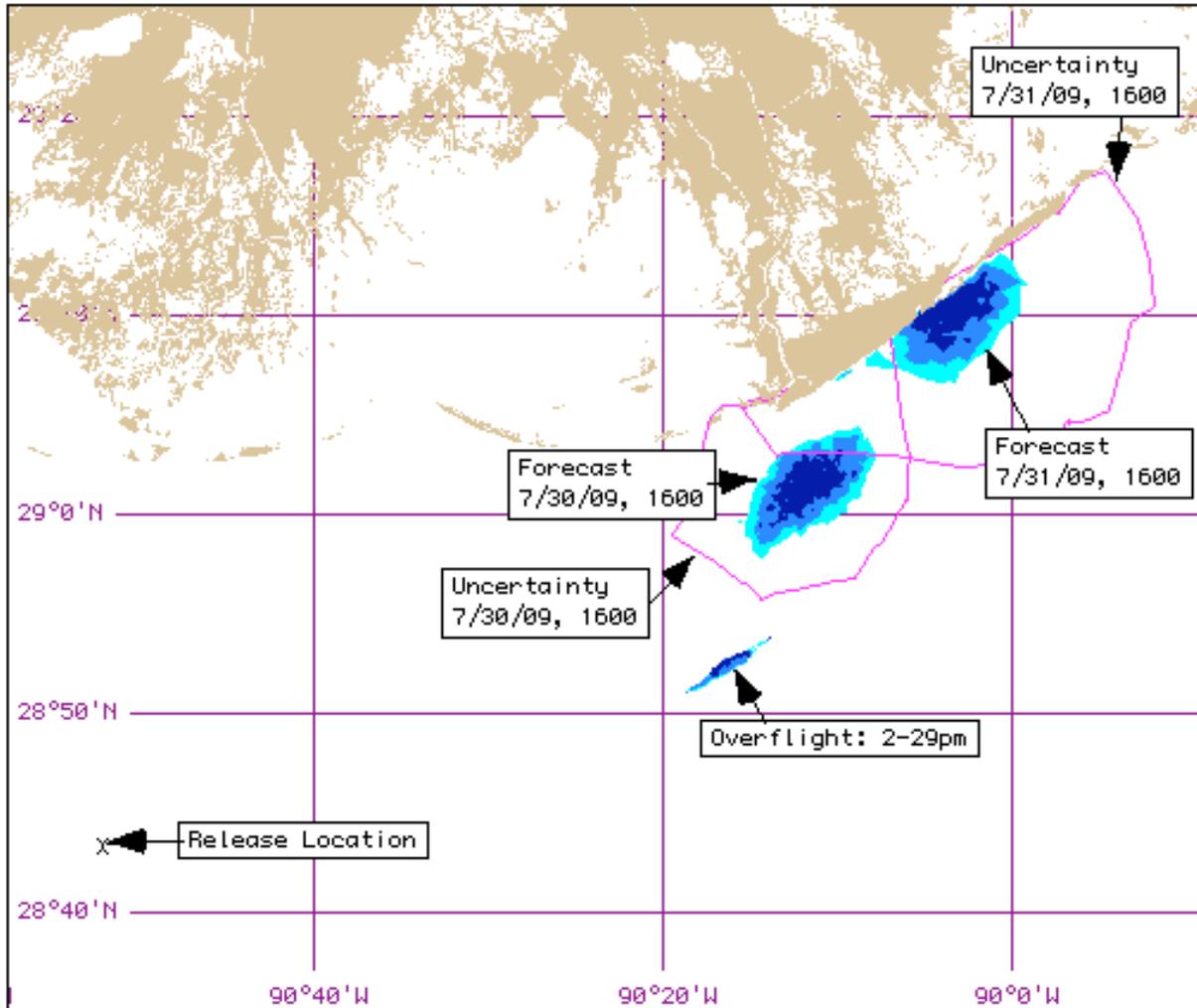
Estimate for: 1600, 7/29/09  
Prepared: 1900, 7/29/09

# HAZMAT Trajectory Analysis

NOAA/HAZMAT (206) 526-4911



These estimates are based on the latest available information. Please refer to the trajectory analysis briefing and your Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC) for more complete information. This output shows estimated distributions of heavy, light, and medium concentrations as well as an outer confidence line. The confidence line is based on potential errors in the pollutant transport processes.



The blue regions are the overflight observations from this afternoon, and the forecast locations of the slick over the next two days. The pink lines are the confidence bounds for where the slick may be on the afternoons of 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, given the uncertainty in the wind and current predictions.