



**Governor's Office of  
Homeland Security &  
Emergency Preparedness**

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**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 4, 2012

**LDWF Closes a Portion of Coastal Waters  
Due to the Emergence of Oil on Adjacent Beaches**

BATON ROUGE, La. – Effective immediately, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Secretary Robert Barham announced an emergency closure of a portion of coastal waters due to the emergence of a large tar mat and concentrations of tar balls on adjacent beaches. This action is taken in coordination with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, who will assist with the investigation to determine the extent, source, and impacts of the oil in the environment.

The area affected by this emergency closure includes the portion of state outside waters seaward a distance of one mile from the shoreline from the eastern shore of Belle Pass at 90 degrees 13 minutes 30 seconds west longitude eastward to the western shore of Caminada Pass at 90 degrees 02 minutes 46.6 seconds west longitude.

Click here to view a map of the closure: [http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/35906-map/new\\_image.pdf](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/35906-map/new_image.pdf).

All commercial and recreational fishing is prohibited within these waters except for recreational and charter boat angling. The harvest of live bait by wholesale/retail seafood dealers who hold a special bait dealers permit and who harvest live bait for sale to recreational fishermen exclusively is also permitted.

In addition to this closure, certain areas are still closed to recreational and commercial fishing due to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Maps of the areas still closed to recreational and commercial fishing are posted on the LDWF website at [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/oilspill](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/oilspill).

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