

MODIS Imagery of Gulf Oil Spill Closing on Mississippi Delta (Apr. 2010)

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True-Color Image from MODIS
Gulf Oil Spill Closing on
Mississippi Delta

The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Terra satellite captured a natural-color image of the oil slick just off the Louisiana coast. The top image shows a wide-area view, and the bottom image shows a close-up view of the oil slick (outlined in white in the top image). The oil slick appears as dull gray interlocking comma shapes, one opaque and the other nearly transparent. The northwestern tip of the oil slick almost touches the Mississippi Delta. Sunlight – the mirror-like reflection of the Sun off the water – enhances the oil slick's visibility.

