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Gulf Islands National Seashore

Beaches within Gulf Islands National Seashore, including West Ship Island, were affected by the April 2010 Deep Water Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Currently, highly weathered oil such as tar balls do appear on the beaches and may be in the water adjacent to beach areas. This situation along the National Seashore beaches is subject to change daily.

All beaches and waters within the park are open; visitors are advised to avoid contact with tar balls in the water or on the beach.

Clean up crews may be present at many locations working to remove tar balls from beaches.