



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region



**FOR  
RELEASE:** June 1999

**An Observational Study of the Mississippi-Atchafalaya Coastal Plume  
Final Report**

OCS Report MMS 98-0040

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, An Observational Study of the Mississippi-Atchafalaya Coastal Plume: Final Report.

The scientific report finds there are two phases in the direction the discharges of the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers take when they enter the Gulf. Most of the year the discharges flow downcoast, but in summer they reverse. The new report describes the range of phytoplankton sizes in the Gulf. It also identifies and enumerates the zooplankton community over the mid- to Outer Continental Shelf. Scientists also investigated the kinds of pollution in Gulf waters and described their distribution.

For more information about the Environmental Studies Program, contact the Environmental Sciences Section (MS 5430), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, telephone (504) 736-2789.

You can obtain copies of the report from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$25.00 by referencing OCS Study MMS 98-0040. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
Public Information Office (MS 5034)  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394  
Telephone requests may be placed at  
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF  
or FAX: (504) 736-2620  
INTERNET: <http://www.mms.gov/>

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-8547  
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

MMS is the Federal agency that manages the Nation's natural gas, oil, and other mineral resources on the OCS; and collects, accounts for, and last year disbursed about \$6 billion in revenues from Federal offshore mineral leases and from onshore mineral leases on Federal and Indian lands.

**-MMS-GOM-**

MMS Internet website address: <http://www.mms.gov/>  
24 hour Fax-on-Demand Service: (202) 219-1703

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*This page is maintained by Jacklyn Johnston  
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