



**For Immediate Release:**  
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## **Tropical Storm Forces Oil Protection Barriers to be Removed**

*Actions being taken as a precaution in advance of tropical storm*

**MOBILE** – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management, in coordination with the Unified Command in Mobile, today announced the removal of oil protection barriers at specific locations along Alabama’s coast. The removal is necessary because of the threat of a tropical storm impacting the Alabama coastal area.

“High winds and rough seas associated with a tropical storm can dislodge boom and that can cause serious damage to the areas we are seeking to protect. Also, tropical storm conditions make boom much less effective,” said ADEM Director Lance LeFleur.

The barriers being removed include the rigid boom currently installed at Perdido Pass and hard containment boom that has been placed around environmentally sensitive areas. The removed barriers and associated equipment will be temporarily stored in a secure location to protect them from weather-related damage. Following the tropical activity, conditions will be assessed and officials will redeploy the barriers in the event further oil impacts are projected.

ADEM is the lead agency for the state’s response to the oil spill working under the Unified Command. The Department is coordinating efforts for a wide range of state agencies that are involved in responding to the situation. Additional information related to Alabama’s response efforts may be obtained at [www.adem.alabama.gov](http://www.adem.alabama.gov).

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