

The Gulf Dead Zone is the size of Connecticut and Rhode Island combined. It was caused by too much nitrogen and phosphorous nutrients from watersheds within the Mississippi River Basin which include states from Montana to Pennsylvania and extending southward along the Mississippi River. These nutrients come from Farm fields ex. the fertilizers to help plants grow, and city streets ex. fluids people use when washing their cars on the streets that flows into the storm drains. The water from the Mississippi river floats on top of the saltwater preventing the oxygen in the atmosphere to get to the deeper part of the Gulf of Mexico which lowers the oxygen level harming many of the sea life and other animals nearby.

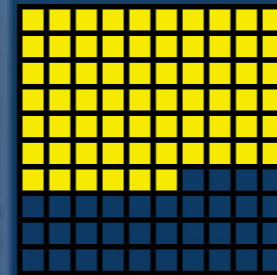
GULF DEAD ZONE

The U.S government's response to this was the energy independence and security act of 2007. This act called for the production of 36 billion u.s gallons of renewable fuel by 2022. This will also slow down the gas production slightly.

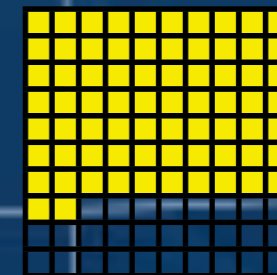
Below are graphs of the amount of sea animals that the provides the U.S with the seafood we eat. The red is the area affected and there is also a picture of what it looks like. The brown color is the area affected and the blueish color is the area that has not been affected yet.

HYPOXIA AREA

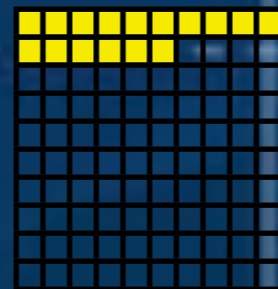
The Upper Mississippi River Basin association responded to this disaster by writing a letter to the Hypoxia Working group basically stating some implements that could happen in response to the Gulf Dead Zone. They suggest that it would be hard to monitor the amount of nutrients that will be allowed to be used and drained to the Mississippi river, but they will try.



66% HARVESTED OYSTERS



72% HARVESTED SHRIMP



16% COMMERCIAL FISH

**TYANNA PLEASANT
DIAMOND BLENMAN
MARYAM BIUIBRAHIM**