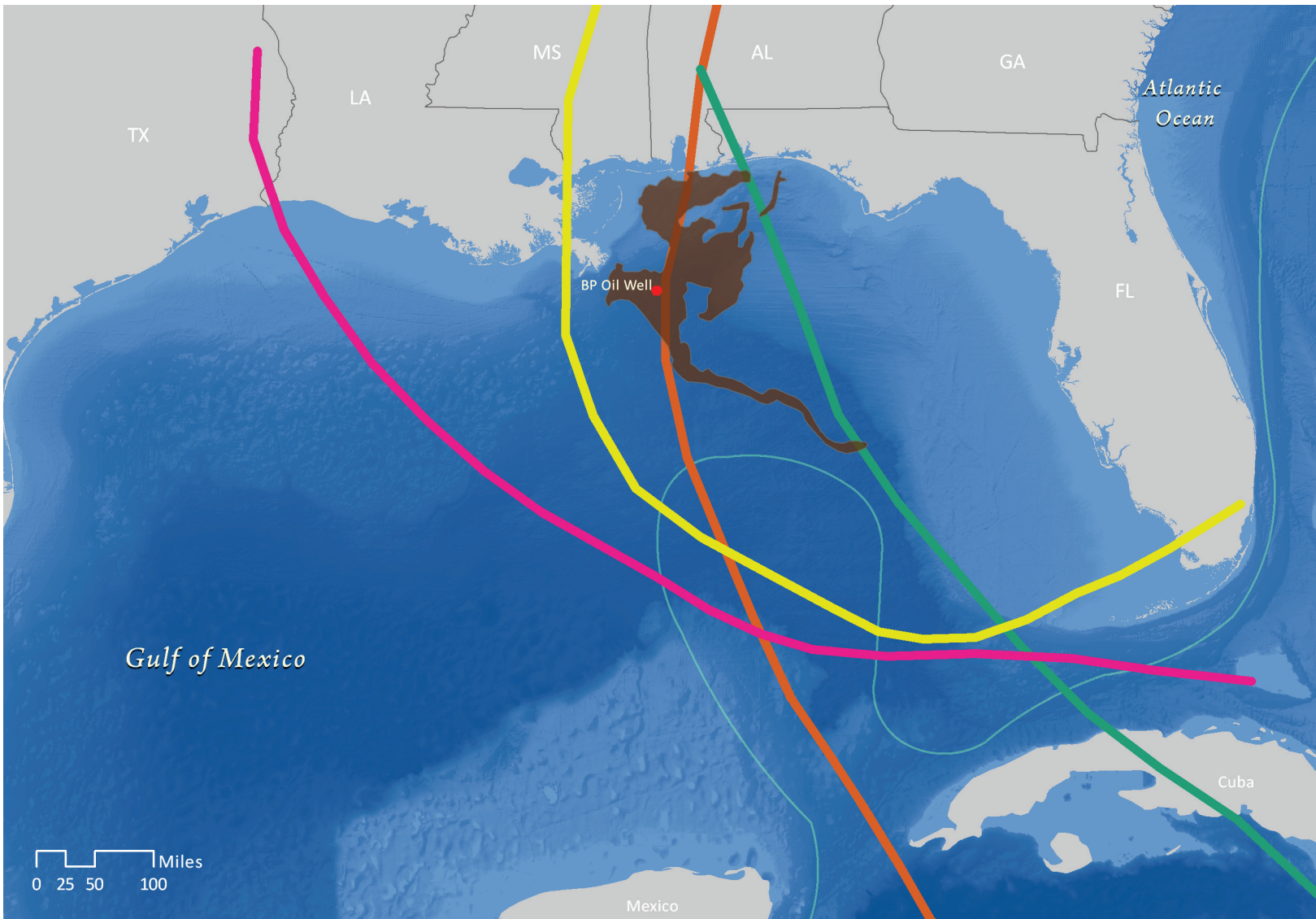


BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill | Hurricanes



Forecasters expect an above average 2010 Atlantic hurricane season with a 44 percent chance for a strong hurricane hitting the Gulf Coast this year. The impacts of the interaction between hurricanes and the oil spill will depend in part on the intensity, path and size of the hurricane. A hurricane could dilute the oil or it could stir up more oil and drive it towards land. The map here depicts the paths of four large (category 4-5, on a scale of 1-5, with 5 indicating sustained winds over 155 miles per hour) hurricanes that passed through the Gulf in 2004 and 2005.

Hurricane Path

Ivan Rita Dennis Katrina

Observed Oil Slick Extent On June 3rd, 2010

Loop Current

Sources: NOAA Coastal Services Division (paths for hurricane categories 1-5); SkyTruth (oil slick extent); Collecte Localisation Satellites (loop current's main trajectory)

www.PewEnvironment.org/GulfOilSpill

