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CPSO confirms oil spill on Caddo Lake

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By KSLA Staff [CONNECT](#)

CADDO PARISH, LA (KSLA) - Almost a week after KSLA News 12 contacted state officials about a potential oil spill on Caddo Lake, we're finally getting some answers.

Last Wednesday, May 20, a Caddo Lake fisherman recorded cell phone video of what he says appeared to be containment equipment on the water. He brought his concerns to our attention and on Friday, we made several calls to state officials to try and determine what was going on.

Friday, May 22, we called the Louisiana Oil Spills Coordinator's Office, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office and Louisiana State Police. State Police responded claiming there had been no reports of an oil spill.

We also sent the video to the Department of Environmental Quality for review. They told us they had not received any reports of an oil spill and referred us back to the Louisiana Oil Spills Coordinator's Office.

Thursday, May 28, the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office responded to our inquiry stating that there was in fact an oil spill on Caddo Lake this month.

Sgt. John Hay at the sheriff's office told KSLA News 12 that the spill was first reported on May 14 and was contained to an area of North Caddo Lake near James Bayou. A deteriorated oil pipeline is reportedly to blame for the incident and the pipeline is in the process of being replaced. We're told about 15 barrels of oil, or 630 gallons, leaked into the lake. The pipeline is owned by Allen Brothers Oil Company of Oil City.

Sgt. Hay says the company followed protocol "to a tee" by immediately reporting the spill to Louisiana State Police.

The cleanup is being overseen by the Department of Environmental Quality.

"Remediation efforts have been executed; however, we will be leaving a protective boom deployed for the next two weeks. We ask that the public refrain from allowing their boats to come into contact with our boom while it is deployed," said Allen Brothers.

Sgt. Hay says no drinking water has been affected and no animals or fish have perished as a result.

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office and DEQ are monitoring the cleanup process.

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