

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Reducing Wildlife Impacts-A Case for In-Situ Burning of Spilled Oil

Crude oil from a pipeline rupture entered a fresh water marsh area that was dominated by cattail. This habitat attracted hundreds of small birds as a night roosting site. The oil and its volatile emissions were killing several birds and the oily bird carcasses were being carried off by land predators. Burning of the oil and cattail cover reduced the biological impact and the cleanup time. Six months later the cattail marsh was recovering.

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