

See if you're pre-qualified for credit card offers.

No Risk—Checking won't affect your credit score
No Waiting—Get a response in less than a minute
No Hassle—See the offers you are pre-qualified for

[Get Started](#)




The Iditarod
 Past and present coverage of Alaska's famous race.
[photos](#) | [pick a winner](#)



23° 33° | 29°
 forecast | statewide
 Daylight : 7:50 a.m. - 6:33 p.m.

Anchorage Daily News
 ELECTRONIC EDITION
 THE COMPLETE PAPER, DAILY
 Try the Print Edition Online!

[Subscribe](#) | [manage subscription](#) | [E-Edition](#)

[find >>](#)

[adn.com](#)

[Web search](#) powered by **YAHOO! SEARCH**

Last Update: 10:01 AM

- [News](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Outdoors](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Money](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Multimedia](#)
- [Classifieds](#)

[Home](#) | [Alaska Newsreader](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Archives](#)

[Movies](#) | [Music](#) | [Restaurants](#) | [Submit an Event](#)

[Deals](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Homes](#) | [Cars](#) | [Rentals](#)

[Sell it today >](#) | [Place an ad](#) | [Find an ad](#)

Exxon Valdez case timeline

Published: February 25th, 2008 06:21 PM
 Last Modified: February 25th, 2008 06:21 PM

More Exxon Valdez spill stories >>

- [Exxon makes last pitch](#)
- [Exxon makes final pitch to avoid spill penalty](#)
- ['Shame pole' points at Exxon](#)
- [Exxon Valdez: Long voyage to justice](#)
- [Exxon Valdez spill by the numbers](#)

Story tools

- [Comments](#)
- [E-mail a friend](#)
- [Print](#)
- [Digg this](#)
- [Seed Newsvine](#)
- [Send link via AIM](#)
- Font size : [A](#) | [A](#) | [A](#)

WEDNESDAY: Final oral arguments before the Supreme Court, which should rule by June, ending the case.

2007: The Appeals Court declines to reconsider the damages amount. Exxon appeals and the Supreme Court agrees to hear the case.

2006: A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals cuts to \$2.5 billion the amount Exxon should pay in damages.

2004: Holland orders Exxon to pay \$4.5 billion in punitive damages.

2003: The appeals court panel vacates the award and tells Holland to reconsider it in light of a new U.S. Supreme Court ruling involving punitive damages. In that other case, the justices provided a guideline that punitive damages should be less than 10 times the actual damages.

2002: U.S. District Judge Russel Holland reduces the punitive damages award to \$4 billion, saying he could not "by any principled means" reduce it further. Exxon says it will appeal again.

2001: Federal appeals court rules against Exxon on most points but agrees that the \$5 billion verdict is excessive. Returns the case to a lower court to determine a new amount.

1994: A jury awards the plaintiffs \$287 million in actual damages and \$5 billion in punitive damages. Exxon vows to appeal to the Supreme Court if necessary.

1989: Fishermen, land and business owners, and others harmed by the spill begin filing civil lawsuits against Exxon. The cases are eventually combined for the trial.

MARCH 24, 1989: Exxon Valdez tanker, skippered by Capt. Joe Hazelwood, runs aground on Bligh Reef, spilling more than 11 million gallons of crude oil in Prince William Sound.

Note: Between 1990 and 1994, Hazelwood was convicted of negligent discharge of oil but acquitted of drunken driving; Exxon pleaded guilty to four environmental crimes and paid \$125 million in criminal fines plus \$900 million to settle civil lawsuits filed by the government; and Exxon settled a civil suit filed by about 3,500 Alaska Natives for \$20 million for damage to subsistence hunting and gathering.

ADVERTISEMENT



Money!



Top Jobs all 91 top jobs

- Admin Support Services
Card Services Fraud/Dispute Specialist
 Alaska USA Federal Credit Union
- Accounting/Banking/Finance
Corporate Controller
 Matanuska Telephone Association
- Accounting/Banking/Finance
Business Banking and Management Training
 Wells Fargo
- Management/Professional
QC/Site Manager
 Symvionics, Inc.
- Accounting/Banking/Finance