Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Wednesday, May 26 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, TAMU/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Tuesday evening satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and Wednesday overflight observations. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization). Oil near bay inlets could be brought into that bay by local tidal currents.

Winds are forecast to have an offshore (northerly) component through Saturday morning with magnitudes of 6-12 kts. Overflights on Wednesday observed significant amounts of oil offshore around the Mississippi Delta and near the southern Chandeleur Islands. Although offshore winds may eventually lead to a reprieve in new shoreline impacts, the Mississippi Delta west to Timbalier Bay, Breton Sound and the Chandeleur Islands continue to be threatened by shoreline contacts during this forecast period. Note that the southern extent of the oil is not included in this forecast.

Nearshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Thursday, 5/27/10
Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Wednesday, 5/26/10

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Mississippi Canyon 252 Incident Location

See Offshore Forecast for trajectories of oil to the south.

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Next Forecast: May 27th PM