Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast

Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Sunday, June 20 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (West Florida Shelf/USF, TGLO/TAMU, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Sunday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and 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 continue to be 10 knots or less and primarily from the E to SE, through Wednesday. Trajectories indicate continued slow movement of the slick to the east. Coastal regions between Dauphin Island, AL and Panama City, FL continue to be threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period. More persistent SE winds later in the forecast period will increase the threat of shoreline impacts to the Chandeleur Islands and the Mississippi Delta during the latter half of the coming week.

The offshore forecast has been temporarily stopped due to small amounts of oil offshore, the absence of recent observations confirming significant amounts of oil in offshore areas, and the large separation between the loop current complex and the oil slick. Forecasts will resume if the threat returns.

Nearshore

Mississippi Canyon 252 Incident Location

Forecast location for oil on 21-June-10 at 1200 CDT

ENSA/TV

Next Forecast:
June 21st PM