Nearshore
Surface Oil Forecast

Deepwater Horizon MC252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Wednesday, 6/23/10
Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Tuesday, 6/22/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Tuesday, June 22 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (West Florida Shelf/USF, TGLO/TAMU, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Tuesday 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.

Forecast location for oil on 23-June-10 at 1200 CDT

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.

Moderate SE winds (7-12 kts) are forecast to continue through Wednesday then become E on Thursday/Friday. Trajectories indicate developing westward currents within the Mississippi Bight region will begin to inhibit further movement of the slick to the east. Coastal regions between Ship Island, MS and Panama City, FL are threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period. Under persistent SE and E winds, the Chandeleur Islands, Breton Sound and the Mississippi Delta are increasingly threatened by shoreline contacts in this forecast period.

Next Forecast: June 23rd PM