Nearshore
Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Monday, July 19 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, TGLO/TAMU, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Sunday-Monday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and Monday 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 20-July-10 at 1200 CDT

Persistent ESE and E winds are forecast to continue through Thursday with speeds of 10-20 kts. Satellite analysis and overflights indicate surface oil has moved west toward the Delta but has not yet crossed the convergence line associated with the Mississippi River outflow. Scattered streamers and tar patties were also observed to the west of the Delta. With moderately strong easterly winds in the forecast, the Delta and shorelines west to Terrebonne Bay are threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period. Trajectories also indicate some oil may move northward threatening the Chandeleur Islands.

This set of trajectories does not include any additional release from the source since 7/15. Trajectories will continue to be updated daily as the situation evolves.

Next Forecast: July 20th PM