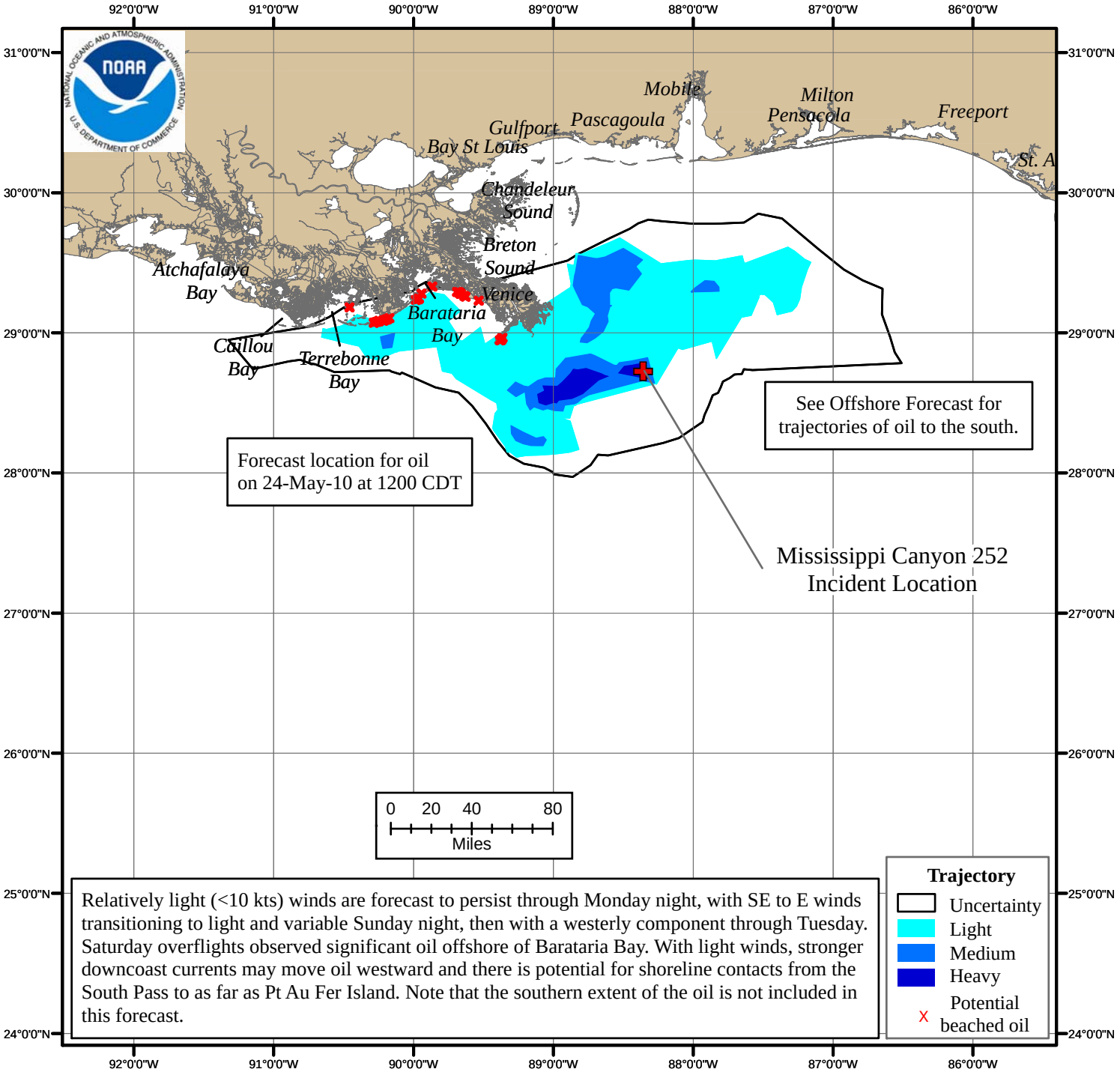
Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

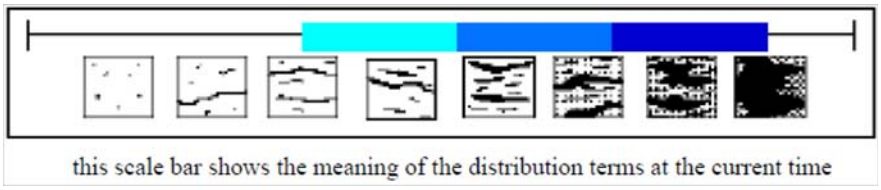
NOAA/NOS/OR&R **Nearshore**

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Monday, 5/24/10
Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Saturday, 5/22/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Saturday, May 21 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 Saturday 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.



Relatively light (<10 kts) winds are forecast to persist through Monday night, with SE to E winds transitioning to light and variable Sunday night, then with a westerly component through Tuesday. Saturday overflights observed significant oil offshore of Barataria Bay. With light winds, stronger downcoast currents may move oil westward and there is potential for shoreline contacts from the South Pass to as far as Pt Au Fer Island. Note that the southern extent of the oil is not included in this forecast.



Next Forecast:
May 23rd PM