Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Thursday, June 3 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Wednesday-Thursday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and Thursday 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 05-June-10 at 1200 CDT

See Offshore Forecast for trajectories of oil to the south.

Onshore winds (predominantly SW/S) are expected to continue through Sunday with speeds of 10-15 kts. These winds have resulted in northward movement of the slick towards the Mississippi/Alabama barrier islands. Trajectories show a northeastward movement over the next few days – threatening shorelines as far east as Freeport. The threat to shorelines in Breton Sound, Chandeleur Sound, and the NE side of the Delta is reduced. To the west of the Delta, trajectories indicate any remaining oil in this region could come ashore between Timbalier Bay and SW Pass.

Next Forecast: June 4th PM