Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Thursday, June 17 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (West Florida Shelf/USF, TGLO/TAMU, 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.

Winds are forecast to be predominantly light and variable over the next few days. Trajectories indicate continued slow movement of the slick to the east. With the weak westerly and northerly winds in the forecast, coastal impacts are slightly reduced. However, oil already present nearshore may continue to come ashore and be brought into bays by tidal currents. Coastal regions between Dauphin Island, AL and Panama City, FL continue to be threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period.

See Offshore Forecast for trajectories of oil to the south.