This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Sunday, May 16 AM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, Texas A&M/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Sunday 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.

Winds are forecast to be from the SE to S at 10-12 kts.into Monday. On Monday winds are forecast to be W-SW becoming N -NE by Tuesday. Ocean models show surface currents to the west near the Delta and to the SW to SE along the southern boundary of the slick. The slick is being torn into patches of oil. A patch of oil is expected to move to the west toward Timbalier Bay and another patch to the S of the source. Breton Sound and the Chandeleur Islands also have a potential for shoreline contacts throughout the forecast period.

Next Forecast:
May 17th AM