Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Sunday, May 30 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 Saturday and 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.

Forecast location for oil on 02-June-10 at 1200 CDT

Moderate south to southwest winds are forecast for the upcoming week at 5-10 kts. These winds may begin moving oil that has been tending to the southwest from the source towards the Delta. The threat to shorelines in Breton and Chandeleur Sounds, will be reduced. But, model results indicate that oil may move north to threaten the barrier islands off Mississippi and Alabama later in the forecast period. Note that the southern extent of the oil is not included in this forecast.

Next Forecast: May 31st PM