This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Wednesday, June 23 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (West Florida Shelf/USF, TGLO/TAMU, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Wednesday 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.

The offshore forecast has been temporarily stopped due to small amounts of oil offshore, the absence of recent observations confirming significant amounts of oil in offshore areas, and the large separation between the loop current complex and the oil slick. Forecasts will resume if the threat returns.

Moderate SE winds (8-12 kts) are forecast to become E overnight and continue to have an easterly component (E/ESE/ENE) through Saturday. Trajectories indicate westward currents within the Mississippi Bight region will inhibit further movement of the slick to the east. Coastal regions between Ship Island, MS and Freeport, FL are threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period. Under persistent easterly winds, the Chandeleur Islands, Breton Sound and the Mississippi Delta are increasingly threatened by shoreline contacts in this forecast period.

Next Forecast: June 24th PM