Nearshore
Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Wednesday, July 21 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, 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.

Nearshore
Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Saturday, 7/24/10
Date Prepared: 2000 CDT, Wednesday, 7/21/10

Winds are forecast to weaken to 10 kts overnight and become easterly through Thursday. Friday winds are forecast to be ENE/NE at 10-15 kts. Today’s overflights and satellite imagery indicate the surface oil is continuing to break up into numerous patches. The leading edge continues to move north towards the Chandeleur Islands and northwestward towards the Mississippi Delta. The Chandeleur Islands, Breton Sound, the Mississippi Delta and shorelines west to Terrebonne Bay are threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period.

This set of trajectories does not include any additional release from the source since 7/15. Trajectories will continue to be updated daily as the situation evolves.

Mississippi Canyon 252 Incident Location

Next Forecast:
July 22nd PM