This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Tuesday, July 27 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, TGL/TAMU, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Tuesday 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 SE at 5-10 kts tonight, then become offshore (NE/NW) by Wednesday afternoon. NW winds at 5-15 kts are forecast to continue through Saturday. Satellite imagery indicates the surface oil is continuing to break up into smaller scattered patches. Observations from overflights indicate these patches are predominantly light sheens with little recoverable oil being observed. Moderate onshore winds overnight may bring some remaining oil ashore, however, potential shoreline impacts will begin to be reduced by the offshore winds and natural dispersion of remaining floating oil. The MS/AL barrier islands, the Chandeleur Islands, Breton Sound, the Mississippi Delta and shorelines west to Pt. Au Fer continue to be threatened by scattered tarball impacts 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.