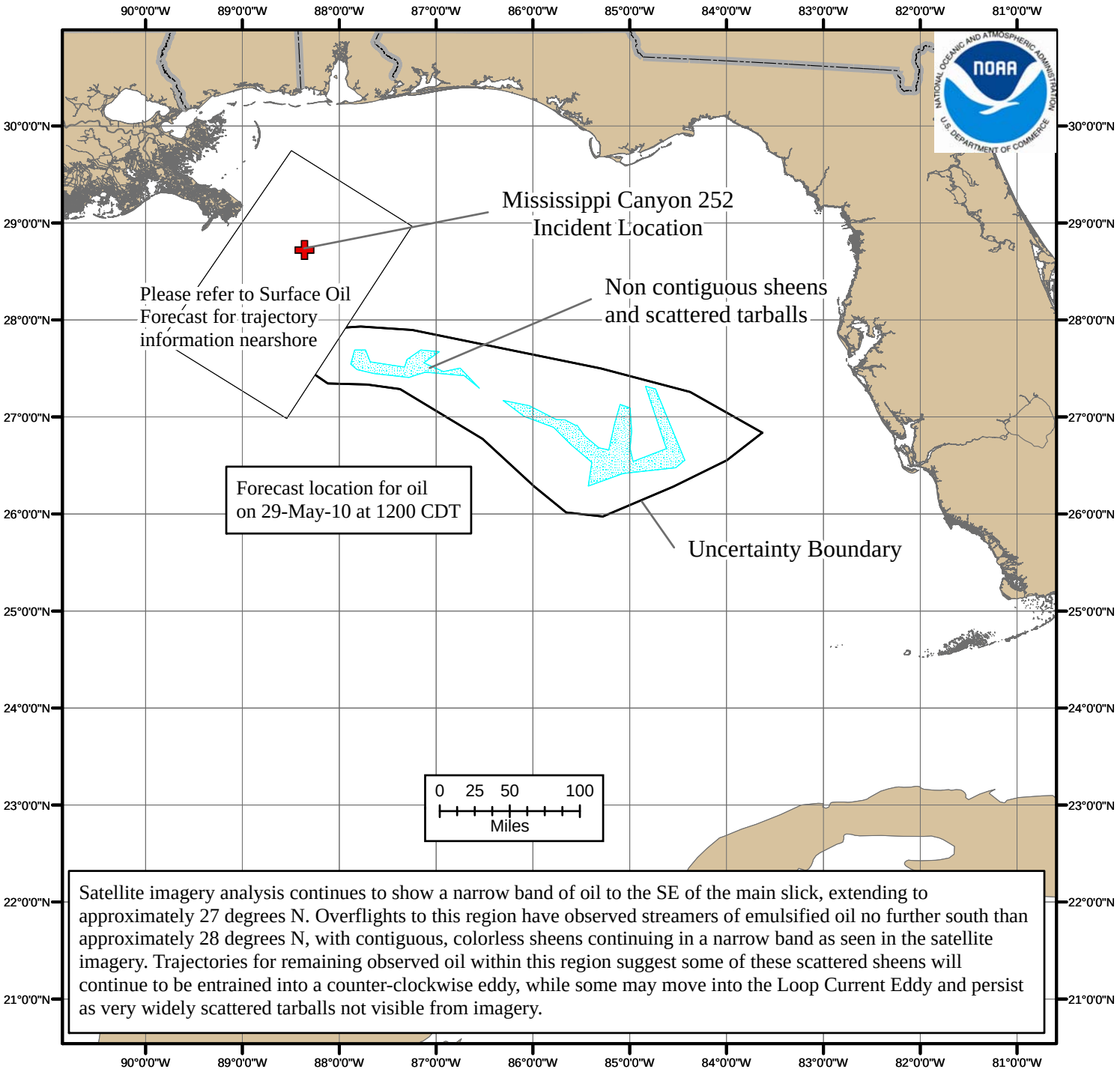
Offshore
Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

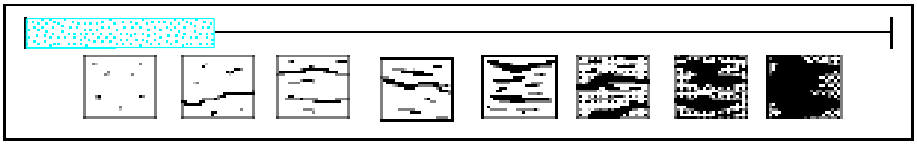
Offshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Saturday, 5/29/10
Date Prepared: 1900 CDT, Friday, 5/28/10

Currents were obtained from four models: NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, NRL IASNFS and NC State SABGOM. Each includes Loop Current dynamics. Gulf wide winds were obtained from the gridded NCEP product. The model was initialized from Thursday and Friday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS). The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization).



Satellite imagery analysis continues to show a narrow band of oil to the SE of the main slick, extending to approximately 27 degrees N. Overflights to this region have observed streamers of emulsified oil no further south than approximately 28 degrees N, with contiguous, colorless sheens continuing in a narrow band as seen in the satellite imagery. Trajectories for remaining observed oil within this region suggest some of these scattered sheens will continue to be entrained into a counter-clockwise eddy, while some may move into the Loop Current Eddy and persist as very widely scattered tarballs not visible from imagery.



this scale bar shows the meaning of the distribution terms at the current time

Next Forecast:
May 29th PM