

Offshore Surface Oil Forecast Deepwater Horizon MC252

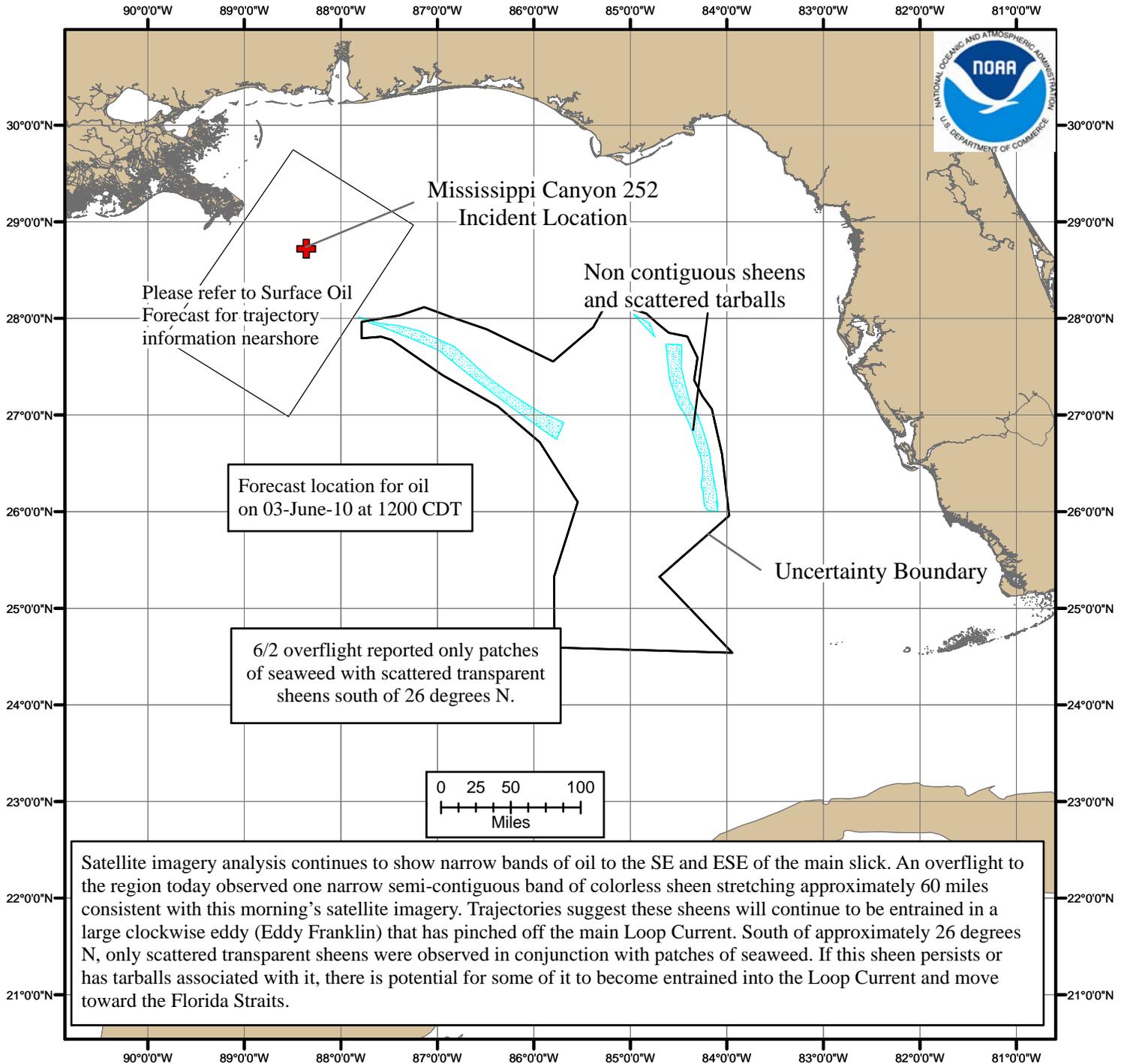
NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Offshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Thursday, 6/03/10

Date Prepared: 1900 CDT, Wednesday, 6/02/10

Currents were obtained from three models: NOAA Gulf of Mexico, NavO/NCOM, and NRL/IASNFS. Each includes Loop Current dynamics. Gulf wide winds were obtained from the gridded NCEP product. The model was initialized from Wednesday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and observations from an overflight of the region. 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 narrow bands of oil to the SE and ESE of the main slick. An overflight to the region today observed one narrow semi-contiguous band of colorless sheen stretching approximately 60 miles consistent with this morning's satellite imagery. Trajectories suggest these sheens will continue to be entrained in a large clockwise eddy (Eddy Franklin) that has pinched off the main Loop Current. South of approximately 26 degrees N, only scattered transparent sheens were observed in conjunction with patches of seaweed. If this sheen persists or has tarballs associated with it, there is potential for some of it to become entrained into the Loop Current and move toward the Florida Straits.



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

Next Forecast:
June 3rd PM