Offshore Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

Currents were obtained from four models: NOAA Gulf of Mexico, NavO/NCOM, NRL/IASNFS, and NC St./SABGOM. Each includes Loop Current dynamics. Gulf wide winds were obtained from the gridded NCEP product. The model was initialized from June 10/11 satellite imagery analysis and a June 11 CG/NOAA overflight. 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 indicate possible patches of sheen to the S-SE of the main slick. Scattered sheens and tar balls observed in these regions may be getting entrained into the northern edge of the large clockwise eddy (Eddy Franklin) that has pinched off the main Loop Current (LC). Trajectories indicate that some of these sheens may continue southward along the eastern edge of Eddy Franklin, whereas some may be getting entrained into a counter-clockwise eddy to the NE of the main LC eddy. A CG/NOAA overflight off the west coast of Florida yesterday saw non-contiguous sheens along the northeastern section of Eddy Franklin.

Next Forecast:
June 13th PM