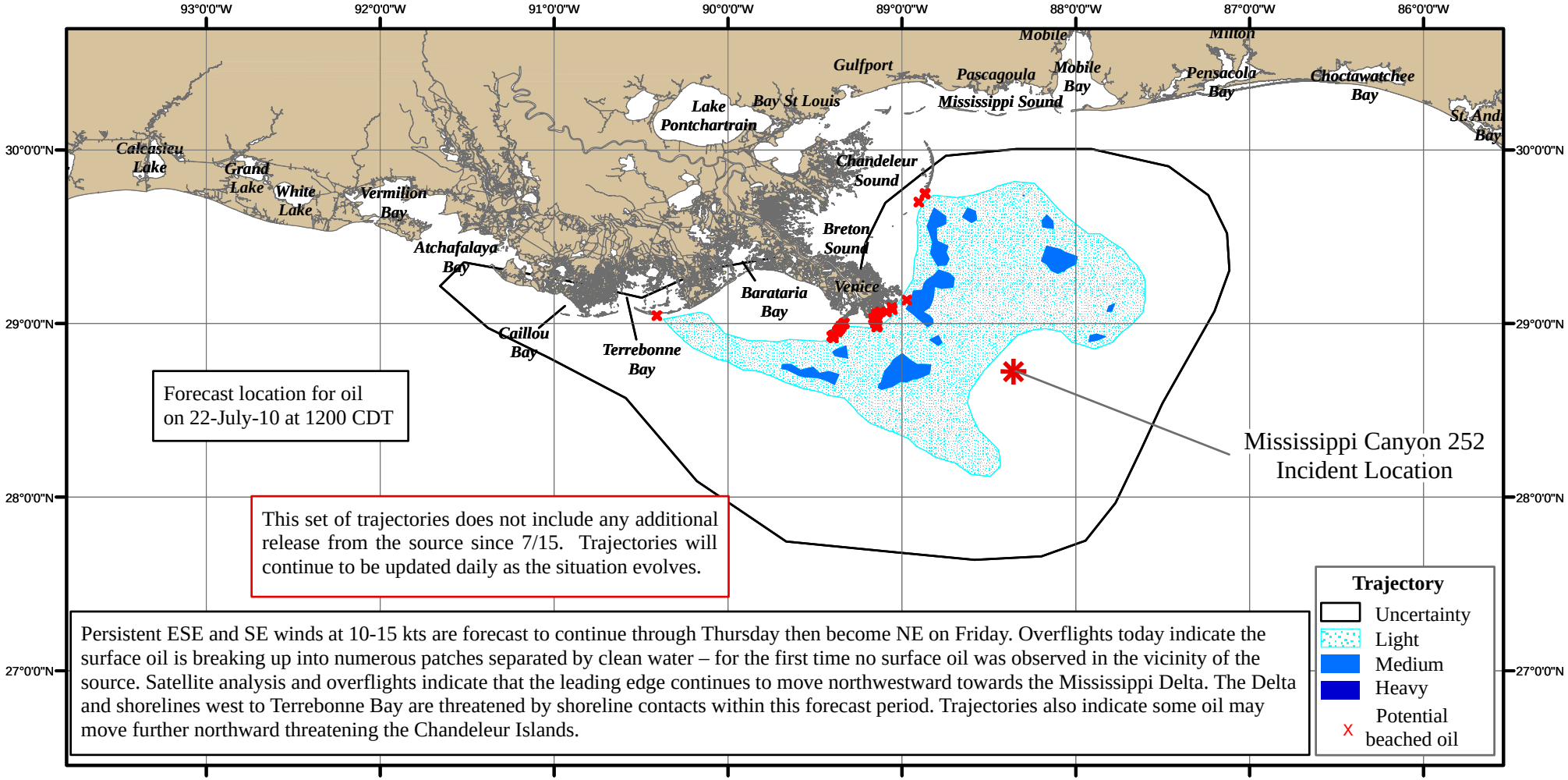
Nearshore
Surface Oil Forecast
Deepwater Horizon MC252

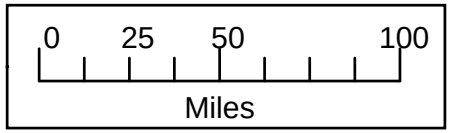
NOAA/NOS/OR&R **Nearshore**

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Thursday, 7/22/10
Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Tuesday, 7/20/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Tuesday, July 20 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 Monday-Tuesday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and Tuesday 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.



Persistent ESE and SE winds at 10-15 kts are forecast to continue through Thursday then become NE on Friday. Overflights today indicate the surface oil is breaking up into numerous patches separated by clean water – for the first time no surface oil was observed in the vicinity of the source. Satellite analysis and overflights indicate that the leading edge continues to move northwestward towards the Mississippi Delta. The Delta and shorelines west to Terrebonne Bay are threatened by shoreline contacts within this forecast period. Trajectories also indicate some oil may move further northward threatening the Chandeleur Islands.



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

Next Forecast:
July 21st PM