

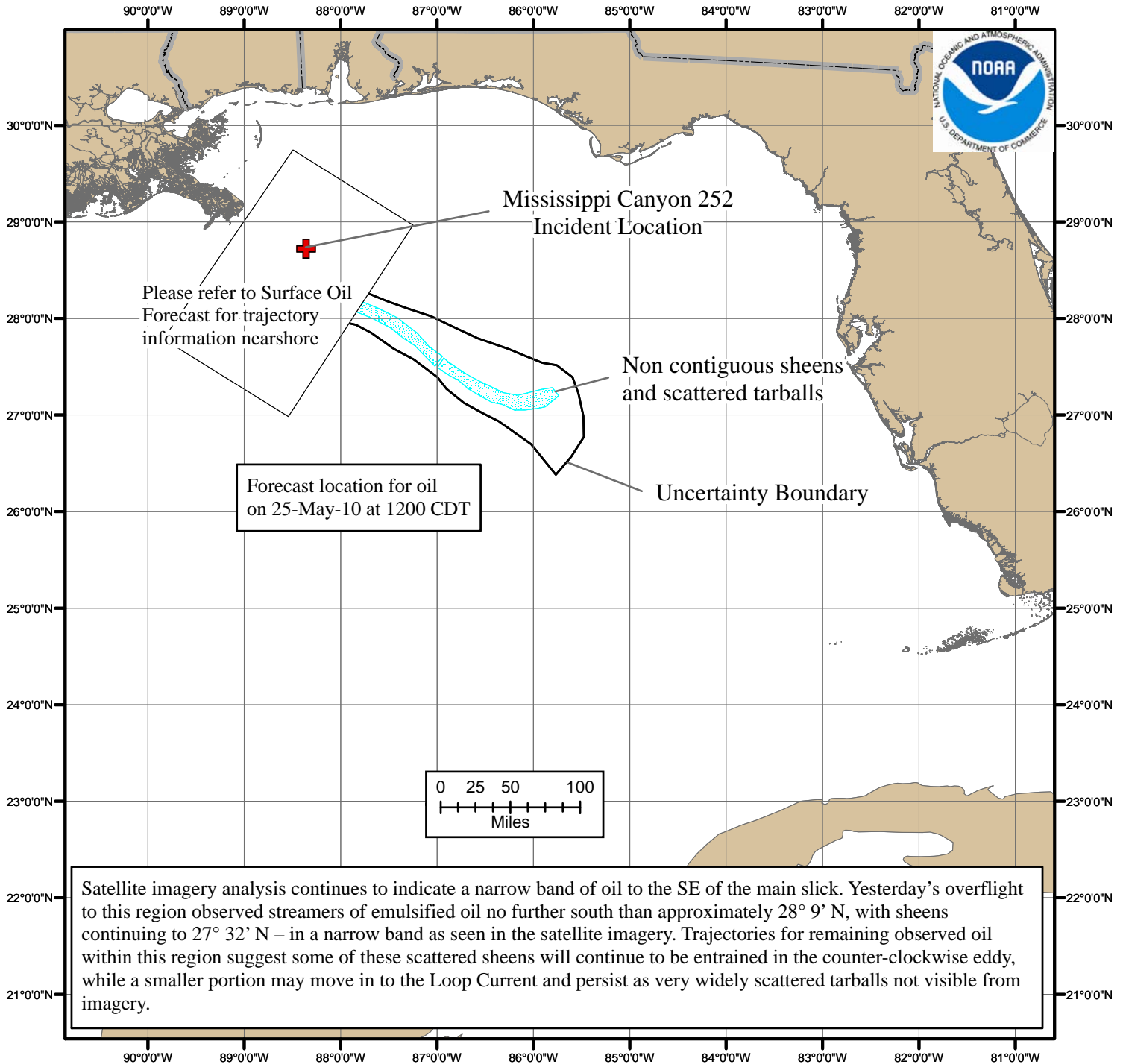
Offshore Surface Oil Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Offshore

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Tuesday, 5/25/10
Date Prepared: 1600 CDT, Monday, 5/24/10

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 Monday morning 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 indicate a narrow band of oil to the SE of the main slick. Yesterday's overflight to this region observed streamers of emulsified oil no further south than approximately 28° 9' N, with sheens continuing to 27° 32' N – 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 in the counter-clockwise eddy, while a smaller portion may move in to the Loop Current 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 25th PM