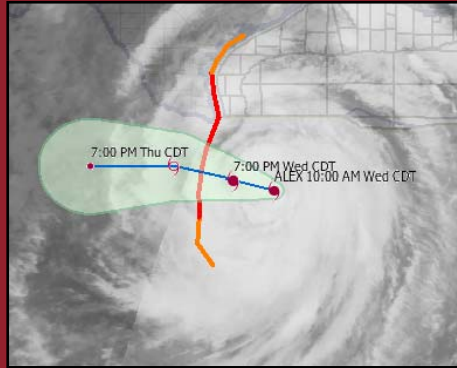


June 2010 Monthly Newsletter**Web-Based Storm Services in GOM³**

With the entry of hurricane Alex into the northern Gulf today, the season has really opened. Our June 30 update offers new, web-based GIS services that allow you to keep closer track of hurricanes. These originate with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Weather Service (NWS).



It closes the gap in the radar coverage and also shows systems developing that could enter the Gulf. This imagery is updated every 30 minutes.

We have introduced these new weather-related services in addition to the new web-served environmental data described in last month's [newsletter](#). Those

The new weather-related services are organized into three group layers. The first is the National Hurricane Center (NHC) Storm Forecast Tracks group. The NHC forecasted storm tracks, probability cones and costal warning areas are the principal map features. There are a variety of labeling options for points along the forecast track. This service, when one or more storms are active, is updated approximately every hour.

The second group is NWS Weather Radar Data which shows the extent and intensity of precipitation from on onshore-based weather radar in the US. The stations along the coast do not cover the entire US portion of the northern Gulf, however, the data is updated every 10 min.

The third group is NOAA Satellite Imagery, which provides both a visible-light and infra-red image of cloud cover over the Gulf. While this imagery shows only the extent of cloud cover (without information on precipitation), it includes the continental US, its Atlantic and Pacific margins, the Gulf and Caribbean.

included data on surface winds (both onshore and offshore) and surface current and sea-surface temperature for the Gulf. These services can be accessed in the What's New/Web Service section of the toolbar, but ArcGIS 9.3 or above is required.

The three new weather-related feature groups are WMS services. Please note that IMS limitations restrict NOAA from serving these images into an ArcMap window that is too large. The services can be overlaid on mapped variables in GOM³, such as platforms and pipelines. The latter may be further restricted or legended, for instance, by operators, to show assets in relation to weather hazards. We are also now developing a capability that will allow users to automatically download the underlying vector data (e.g., shapefiles) in near-real time. This will support spatial analyses, such as intersection of the storm probability cone with platforms, or creation of buffers around the storm track.

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GOM³ In-House Training at Newfield
July 27, 2010

GOM³ Calendar

User & GIS-Support Conference
October 21, 2010

4300 Long Beach Boulevard Suite 310 Long Beach, CA 90807

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