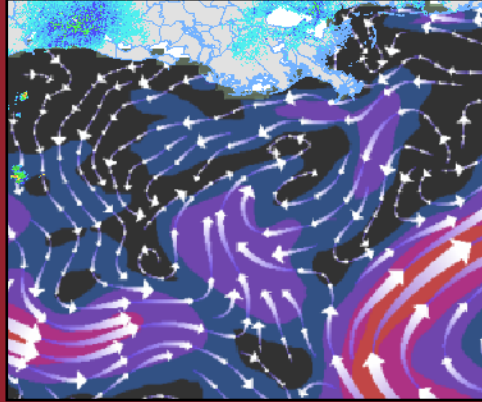


May 2010 Monthly Newsletter*Enhanced Near Real-Time Services in GOM³*

In response to the tragic Deepwater Horizon accident on April 20, we are working quickly to upgrade data sources and systems within GOM³ that will make it easier for you to access the latest and best information available for analysis. This leads as well to a permanent expansion of our capabilities in the environmental area.



In the first couple weeks after the accident, we mapped the spill based on NASA imagery and distributed hard copies and shapefiles to clients who had requested them. Subsequently, when NOAA mapping of the spill (and its trajectory forecasts) became available we made a layer (*.lyr) file that references NOAA GIS servers, allowing users to directly add these data to maps.

As of the May update, MMS accident data will be current within GOM³. You can access these data through the Environment/Safety choice under the GOM³ Tool Bar. The locations of the accidents are mapped by the well, platform, pipeline or block where they occurred. For a large number of these incidents, clicking with the hyperlink tool (the yellow lightning bolt) on the feature will lead directly to the MMS accident report. In June we will make this available from the Hotlink tool as well (the red lightning bolt).

We are investigating new sources of data on both weather and conditions at sea,

concentrating on real-time to near-real-time services that can be added directly to ArcGIS projects developed in GOM³.

Because integration of these services requires changes in our software, they will not be introduced until our June 30 functionality update.

As we are still testing these new systems, we cannot provide a final list yet. However, we have live/near-live sources on: sea surface temperature, sea-surface altimetry, surface currents, significant wave height, winds at the surface, and, potentially, a new, more robust way of integrating hurricane data and imagery. We are also planning to add basic weather satellite imagery, near-real-time radar data on precipitation and weather advisory/warning areas. The caveat of these changes is the requirement for ArcGIS 9.3 or above. This is due to the way the data are transmitted over the internet and the use of the data by ArcGIS.

In the June update, we will also update the high-resolution coastline to reflect re-mapping after hurricanes that have hit the coast over the last five years (the old coast will be retained to add to the map). If you have any suggestions, would like to access the spill trajectory forecasts or would like to try out some of the upcoming web services, please call us or send an email to contactesa@earthsci.com.

Earth Science Associates (562) 428-3181

**Western Lease Sale 215
August 18, 2010**

GOM³ Calendar

**User & GIS-Support Conference
October 21, 2010**

**4300 Long Beach Boulevard Suite 310 Long Beach, CA 90807
www.earthsci.com**

