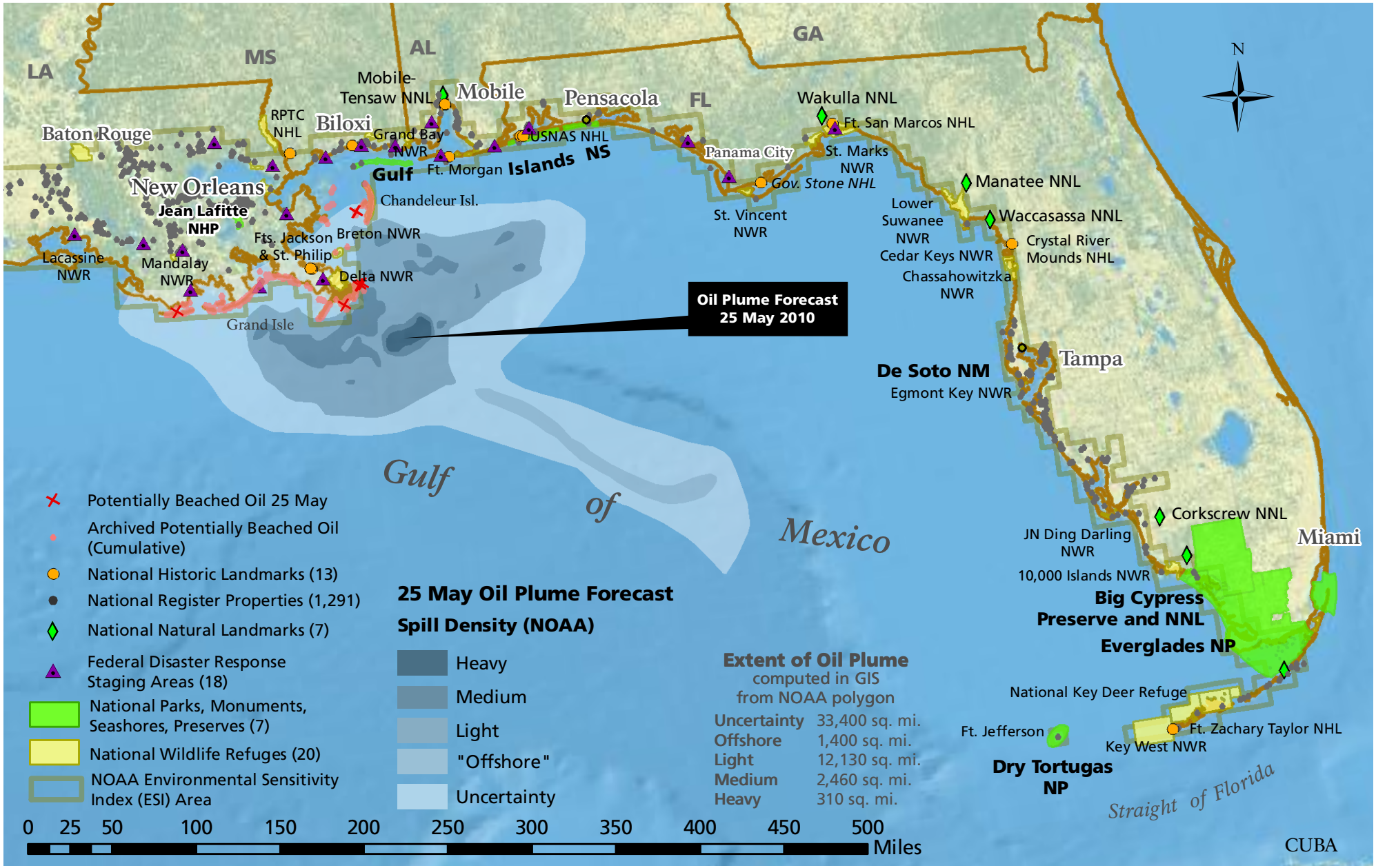
Cultural and Natural Resources Potentially Affected by Gulf Oil Spill



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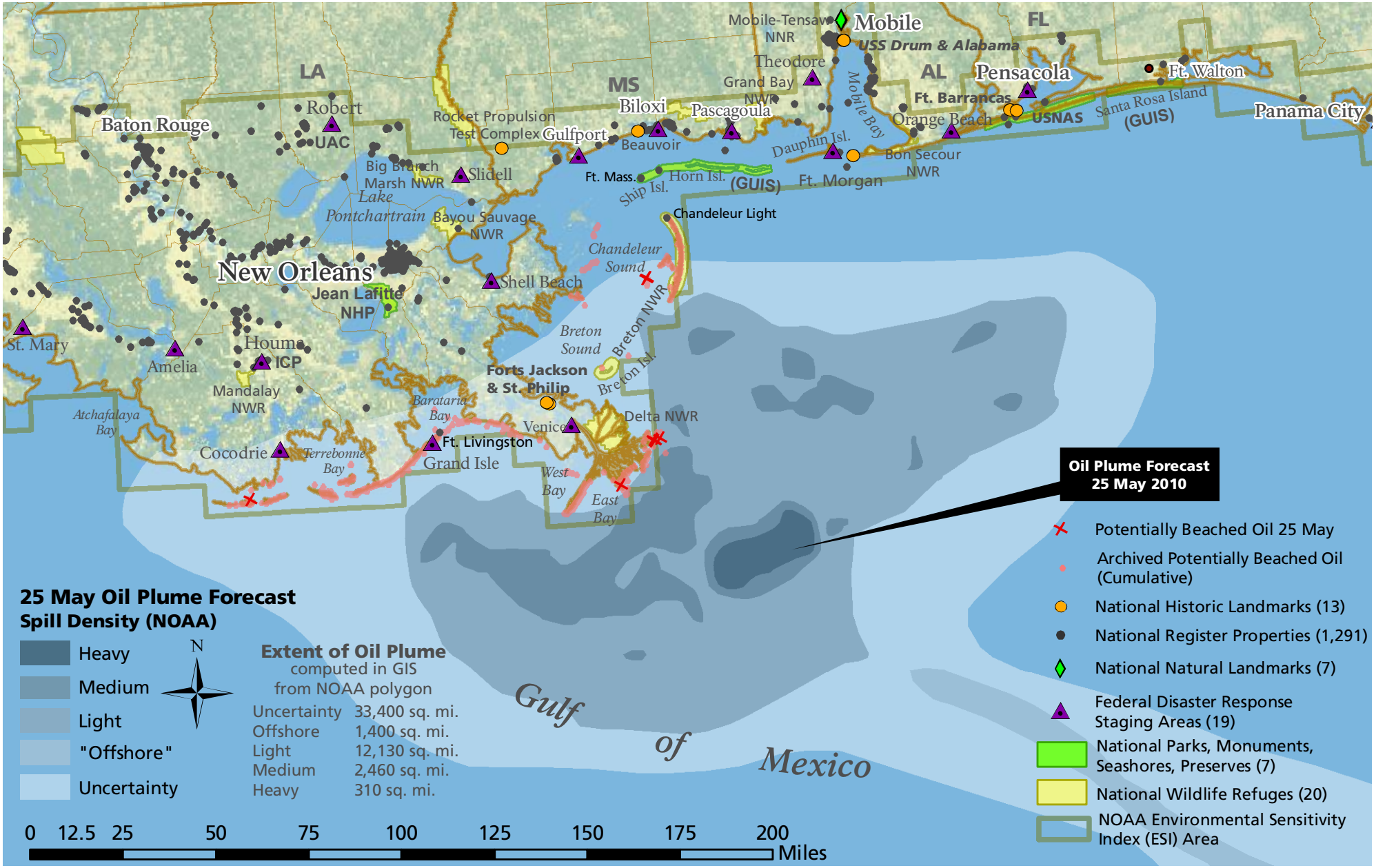

Produced by Cultural Resources GIS | 25 May Map 2 | Map compiled 25 May 2010

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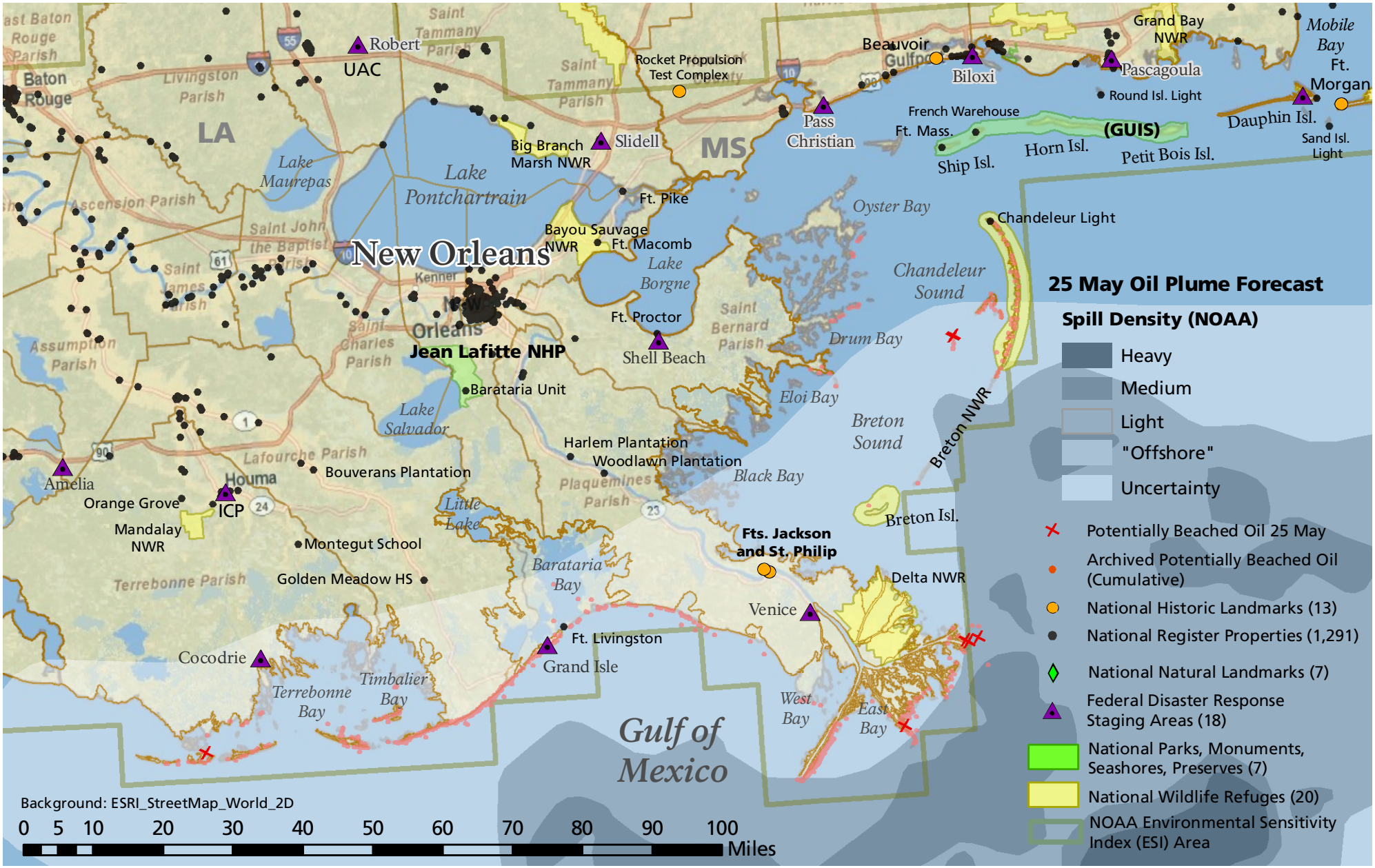

Produced by Cultural Resources GIS | **25 May Map 3** | **Map compiled 25 May 2010**

Map Metadata

Oil Plume Extent Forecast
Source: NOAA/Office of Response and Restoration
http://events.arcgisonline.com/arcgis/services/Gulf_Coast_Oil_Spill_Plume
Date Prepared: reported as of *Tuesday 5/25/10*
On 18 May, NOAA separated its oil plume extent into separate polygons—an inshore plume and an offshore plume. As of 20 May, both plumes were being posted by the GIS service. CRGIS has merged the Uncertainty areas from both plumes and differentiated the higher density oil depicted within the offshore plume. This gives five density classifications within the legend—Heavy, Medium, Light, Offshore, Uncertainty; previously there were four.

Data posted over the weekend as Gulf_Coast_Oil_Spill_Plume is today identical to that posted as the 24-Hour Forecast within the Gulf_Coast_Offshore_Oil_Spill_Forecast. In the past there have been differences between these GIS services. It is increasingly difficult for the data user to understand which, if any of these coverages, derive from sources other than the models used to generate the 24, 48, and 72 hour forecasts. This will likely sort itself out. In the meantime, we are using the forecast model for today and the maps are labeled such.

NOAA describes today's data set as below:

"Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Tuesday 5/25/2010
Date prepared: 2000 CDT, Monday 5/24/2010

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Monday, May 24 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, TAMU/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Monday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and 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.

Relatively light (<10 kt) winds are forecast to persist through much of the week, becoming NW on Thursday. Overflights on Monday continued to observe significant amounts of oil associated with convergence zones around the Mississippi Delta and in Breton Sound. Sheens were observed as far west as Pt Au Fer Island. However, with light winds and weakening westward currents, oil is not expected to move significantly further westward. The Mississippi Delta west to Caillou Bay, Breton Sound and the Chandeleur Islands continue to be threatened by shoreline contacts during this forecast period. Note that the southern extent of the oil is not included in this forecast."

Federal Disaster Staging Areas (Oil Plume Focus Map)
Source: Obtained from *Deepwater Horizon (MC252) – Situation Status Map*
Source Date: 5/19/2010
In addition to the UAC at Robert LA, and the ICP at Houma, LA, the staging areas are: Dauphin Island, Orange Beach, and Theodore AL; Panama City, Pensacola, Port St. Joe, and St. Marks, FL; Amelia, Cocodrie, Grand Isle, Shell Beach, Slidell, St. Mary, and Venice LA; Biloxi, Pascagoula, and Pass Christian, MS.

National Historic Landmarks
Source: National Register Information System, National Park Service
Data is a subset of the National Register of Historic Places
Source Date: 1966 to 5/7/2010

National Register Properties
Source: National Register Information System, National Park Service

Source Date: 1966 to 5/7/2010

National Natural Landmarks
Source: National Natural Landmarks Program, National Park Service
Source Date: 5/11/2010

National Wildlife Refuges (Oil Plume Focus Map)
Source: Derived from U.S. National Atlas Federal Lands
Source Date: 2000

National Parks, Monuments, Seashores, Preserves
Source: NPS GIS Data Store
Source Date: 2/17/2010

Environmental Sensitivity Index Area
The Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) map for the Gulf Coast has been developed by NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration. The purpose of the ESI is to identify sensitive resources that may be impacted as a result of an oil spill. NOAA has defined three types of sensitive resources: shoreline habitats, biological resources, and human use resources (including cultural resources). The Index map is an aggregation of 1:24000 USGS quadrangle boundaries covering areas within which these resource types are at risk.

The National Park Service has used the ESI in conducting its own assessment of the potential impact of the Deep Horizon BP Oil Spill because the ESI Area map comes from an authoritative source (NOAA), it provides a consistent geographic framework for agencies to use in responding to the incident, and it allows a reasonable area to take into account the potential impacts of recovery e.g. staging areas, clean up infrastructure, access roads etc. on cultural resources.