







Acknowledgements

Funding for activities provided by the Office of Naval Research and the State of Florida. Thanks for scientific guidance from Robert Weisberg, Chuanmin Hu, Yonggang Lui, David English, David Mann, Frank Muller-Karger, Ernst Peebles (USF CMS). Thanks for engineering and operational support from Steven Butcher, Karen Dreger, Graham Tilbury, Mike Lindemuth (USF COT), and Mike Hall (AEOS). Thanks for glider collaborations from John Kerfoot, Oscar Schofield (RU), Gary Kirkpatrick, and Alan Hailes (MML).

Glider Deployments on the West Florida Shelf following the Deepwater Horizon Blowout

Chad Lembke, Andrew Warren, David Edwards, Andrew Farmer

Since the blowout of the Deepwater Horizon rig, a number of institutions performed operations to demonstrate the utility of autonomous gliders in monitoring the water property structure to assist in locating and tracking sub-surface oil plumes.

On the West Florida Shelf, the University of South Florida, Mote Marine Laboratories, Rutgers University, and the University of Delaware performed at least 14 deployments of varying length (one currently ongoing). All of the data from these deployments have been displayed real time via the Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation Lab website to be shared with the response community.

University of South Florida's College of Marine Science's glider deployments focused on the shelf region from Tampa Bay north to near the Big Bend region. USF's gliders are equipped with a CTD, a WetLabs Triple-puck Fluorometer (chl, cdom, red backscatter), an Aanderraa Dissolved Oxygen Optode, Satlantic Radiance / Irradiance sensors, and USF's Passive Acoustic Recorder. Since mid-April, USF gliders have performed eight full or partial across shelf transects as part of a series of five deployments. Presented here is some of the data collected and plotted as comparative transects over the same locations weeks to months apart. The resulting data sets provide indispensible three-dimensional water property structure for the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.



NSTC JSOST Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Principal **Investigator (PI) Conference** St. Petersburg, FL, October 5-6, 2010

