



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

7 February 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: January 31, 2005

Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified off of southern Pinellas, Manatee and Sarasota Counties. No impacts expected at Pinellas County beaches. Patchy, moderate to high beach impacts in northern Sarasota county and patchy moderate impacts in Manatee County possible Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

A harmful algal bloom has also been identified north and south of the lower Keys at Moser Channel. No impacts expected at the shoreline; reports of discolored water possible.

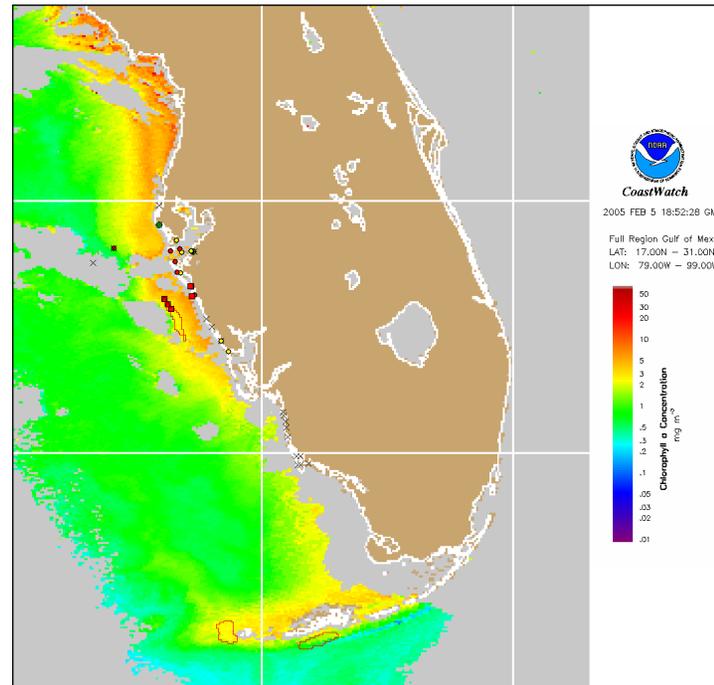
Analysis: A *K. brevis* bloom persists between Tampa Bay and Charlotte Harbor. Sampling by FWRI indicated medium to high concentrations of *K. brevis* at Siesta Key through February 4. Variable winds have and will continue to maintain the blooms position, with a slight southward component. Chlorophyll concentrations have decreased to $6.3 \mu\text{g/L}$ nearshore to less than $1 \mu\text{g/L}$ 14 miles offshore. Winds will be variable through Wednesday. Periods of onshore winds every afternoon through Wednesday may cause patchy and moderate impacts. The recent 4 day period of upwelling favorable winds has maintained higher bloom intensities at the shoreline. Fish kills and respiratory irritation have been reported from Anna Maria, Siesta Key and Venice Beach (FWRI). Reports of discolored water are likely.

The bloom persisting to the north of the lower Keys appears to be dissipating. Clouds currently obscure extents of this bloom. Chlorophyll concentrations were less than $5 \mu\text{g/L}$ in this region. Northeasterly and variable winds will continue dissipation and westward transport. A medium concentration was reported at 81.23°W , 24.68°N (Mote). Fish kills have been reported northeast of Key West (FWRI).

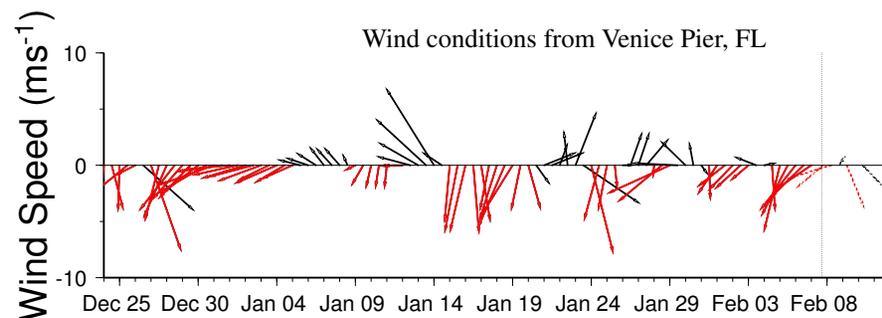
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Fenstermacher, Vincent

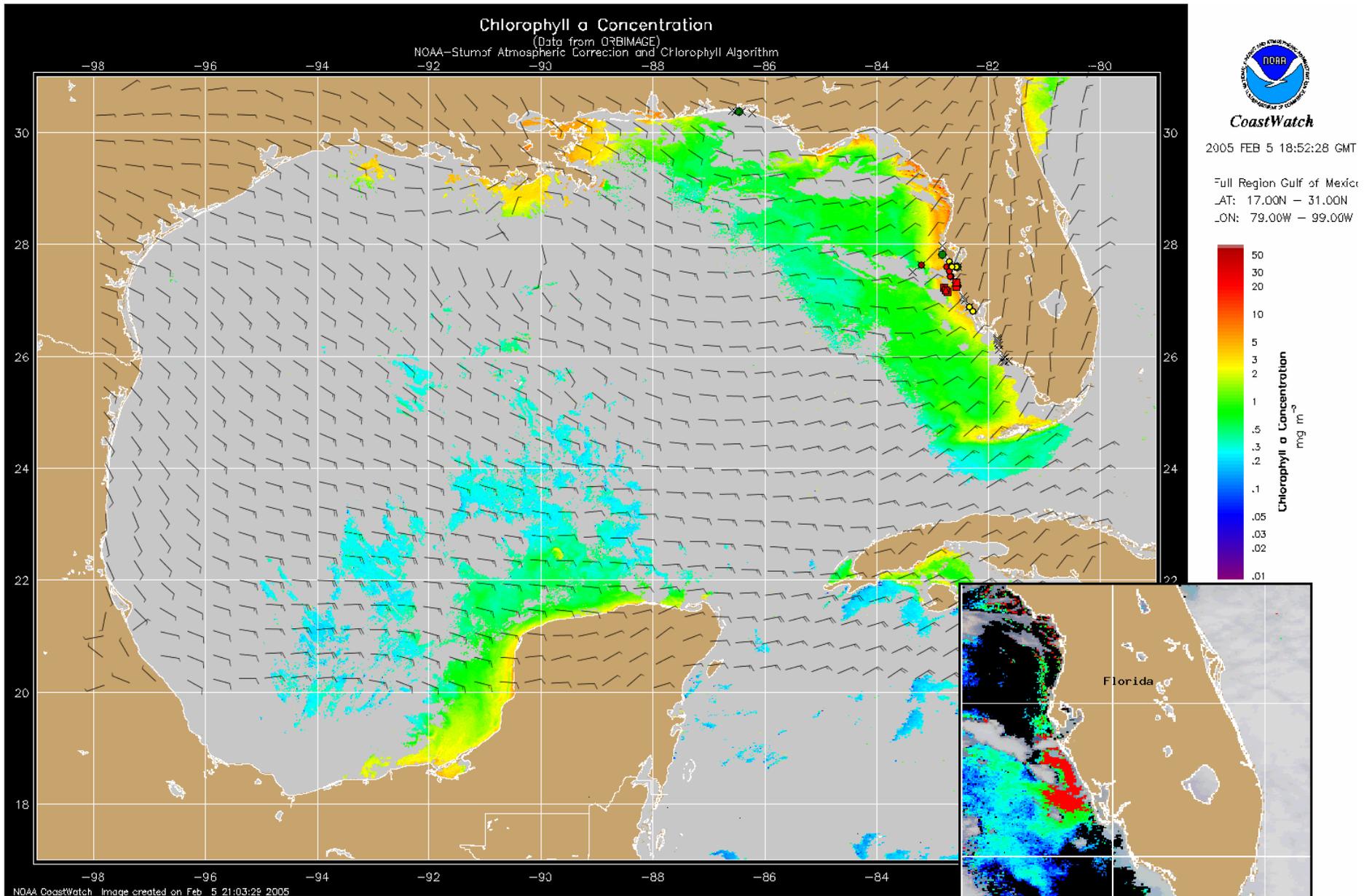


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 31, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Venice: 10 knot (5 m/s) northeast winds become onshore in the afternoon. Easterly light winds (5-10 kts; 3-5 m/s) shifting to onshore then northeasterly Tuesday followed by southeast shifting to westerlies Wednesday. Winds increase in strength from the northwest (10-15 kts; 5-8 m/s) Thursday. Keys: 10-15 knot (5-8 m/s) northeast winds through Tuesday night decreasing to 10 knot (5 m/s) northeast and easterly winds Wednesday and variable light winds on Thursday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for February 8, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from January 31, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)

