

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

19 February 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 19, 2008

Conditions Report

SW Florida: A harmful algal bloom has been identified in northern Monroe County. Patchy very low impacts are possible today through Thursday and patchy moderate impacts are possible Friday through Sunday in northern Monroe County. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida.

NE Florida: There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast in northeast Florida. No impacts are expected today through Sunday, February 24.

Analysis

**** This is a supplemental bulletin to bulletin number 2008-011, issued Tuesday, February 19. ****

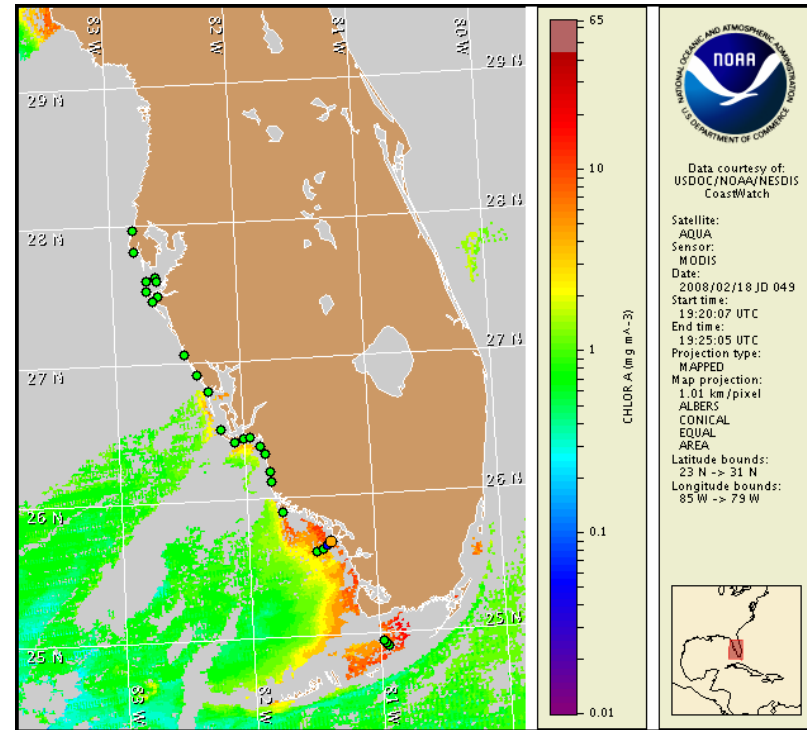
SW Florida: A harmful algal bloom has been identified in northern Monroe County. Samples confirm a 'medium' and a 'very low b' concentration of *Karenia brevis* southwest of Pavilion Key (FWRI, 2/12). Currently, MODIS imagery (2/18; shown) indicates elevated chlorophyll levels ($> 8 \mu\text{g/L}$) in the Pavilion Key region; a decline in chlorophyll levels from previous MODIS imagery ($>12 \mu\text{g/L}$ on 2/17). However, since chlorophyll levels appear elevated in this region of southwest Florida throughout the year, they are not a good indicator of bloom intensity. Continued sampling is recommended.

Please note that due to technical difficulties, SeaWiFS imagery is temporarily unavailable; MODIS imagery is displayed on pages 1 and 2 of this bulletin.

Urizar, Fisher

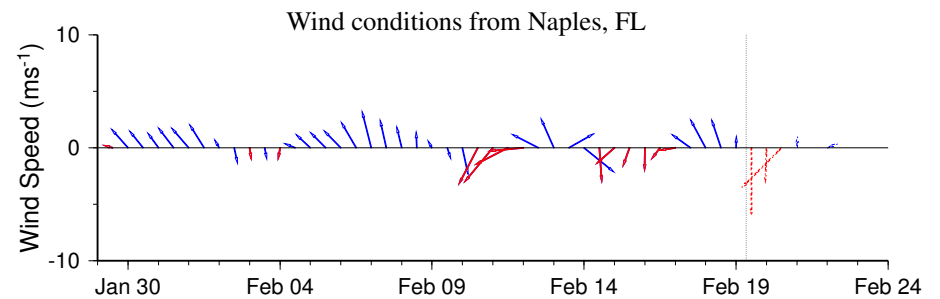
Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.



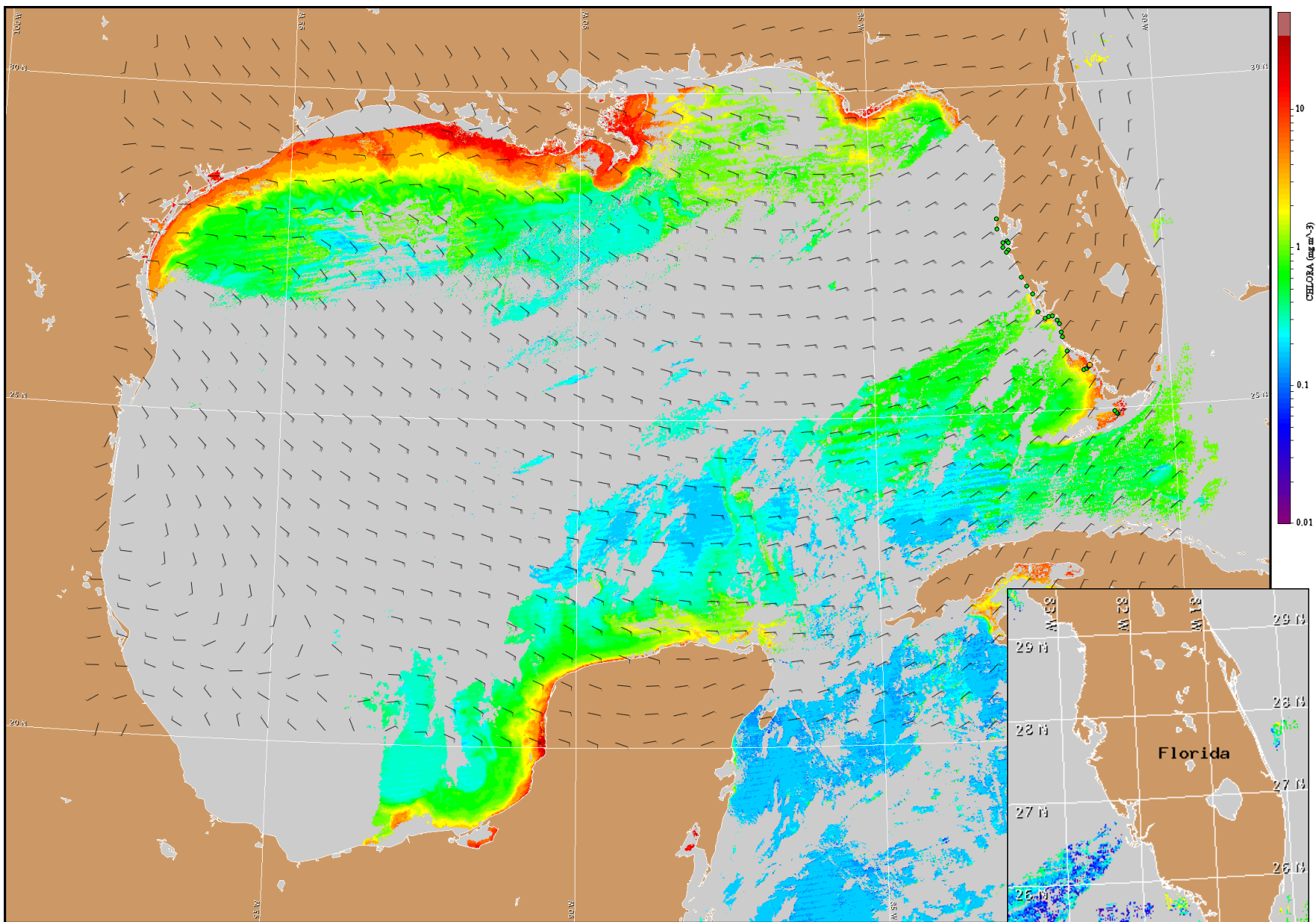
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 11 to 18 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

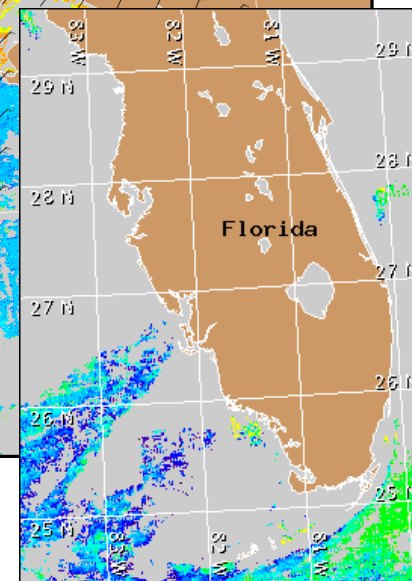


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Northerly winds today (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s). Northeasterly winds tonight (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s). Easterly winds Wednesday (10-15 kn). Southeasterly winds Thursday (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) and Friday (10-15 kn). Southerly winds Friday night and Saturday (5-10 kn). Southwesterly winds Saturday night (5-10 kn). Southerly winds Sunday (5 kn).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 20, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 11 to 18 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).