



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

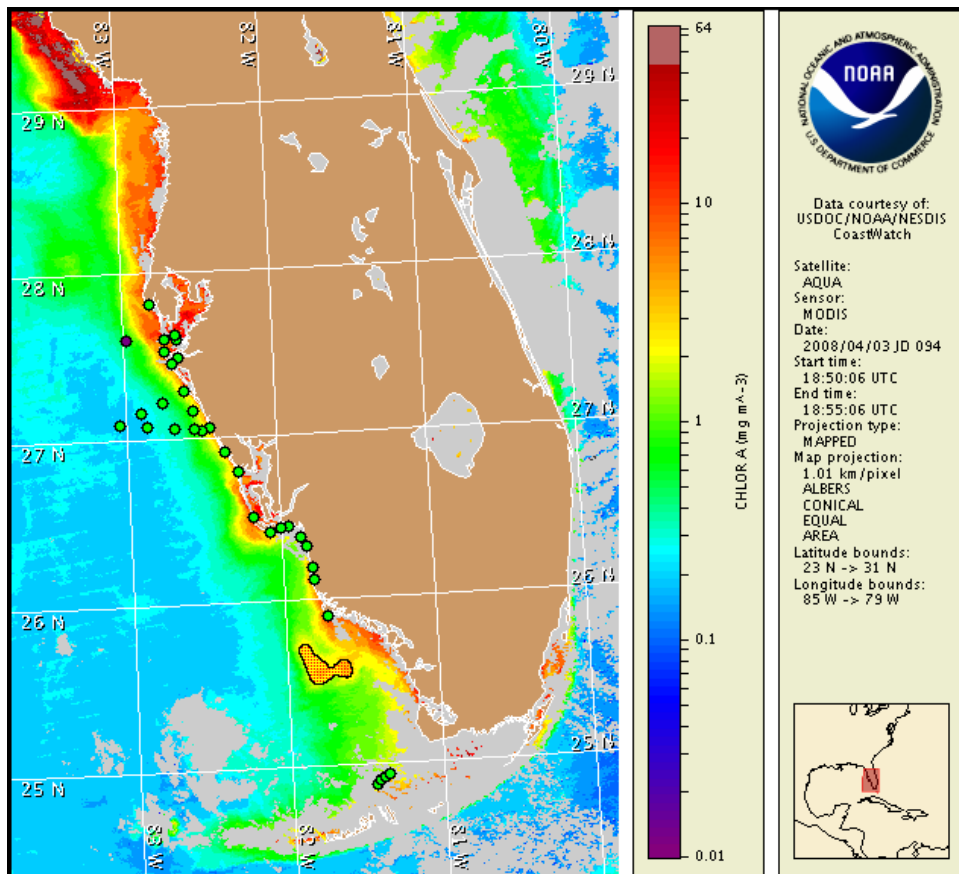
Region: South Florida

7 April 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: March 31, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 28 to April 2 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

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.

Conditions Report

SW Florida: There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, April 13.

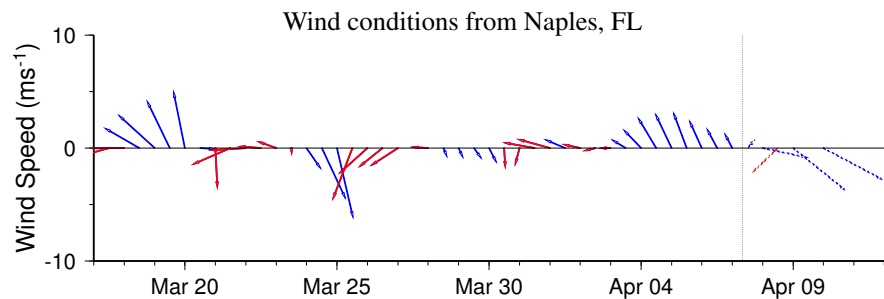
Analysis

SW Florida: A harmful algal bloom persists offshore northern Monroe County. Very low to low concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were last identified on 3/11 (MML) approximately 6-9 miles offshore Pavilion Key. No impacts have been reported in association with this bloom. Winds are expected to be offshore throughout the week. Additionally, the elevated chlorophyll feature previously identified 20 miles southwest of Cape Romano is still present (northern extent: 25° 45' 20" N, 81° 55' 6" W; southern extent: 25° 31' 4" N, 81° 49' 6" W; highest chlorophyll concentrations > 2.5 µg/L). A second patch of elevated chlorophyll (>3.0 µg/L) located closer to shore is centered at 25°35'9" N 81°38'37" W. Based on wind conditions, these features may have transported slightly northward since 4/3 and may continue northward movement today through Friday, 4/11.

A 'very low a' concentration of *K. brevis* was identified offshore Pinellas County (14 mi west of Egmont Key) on 4/1 (FWRI). MODIS imagery (4/3) does not indicate elevated chlorophyll levels in this region at this time. Sample results from onshore Pinellas to northern Collier Counties indicate that *K. brevis* is not present and that numerous species of non-harmful algae are present at varying concentrations (FWRI, 3/27-4/2; SCHD, 3/31). Bloom formation is unlikely along the coast of southwest Florida today through Sunday, 4/13. Slight northward transport is possible today through Friday, 4/11.

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

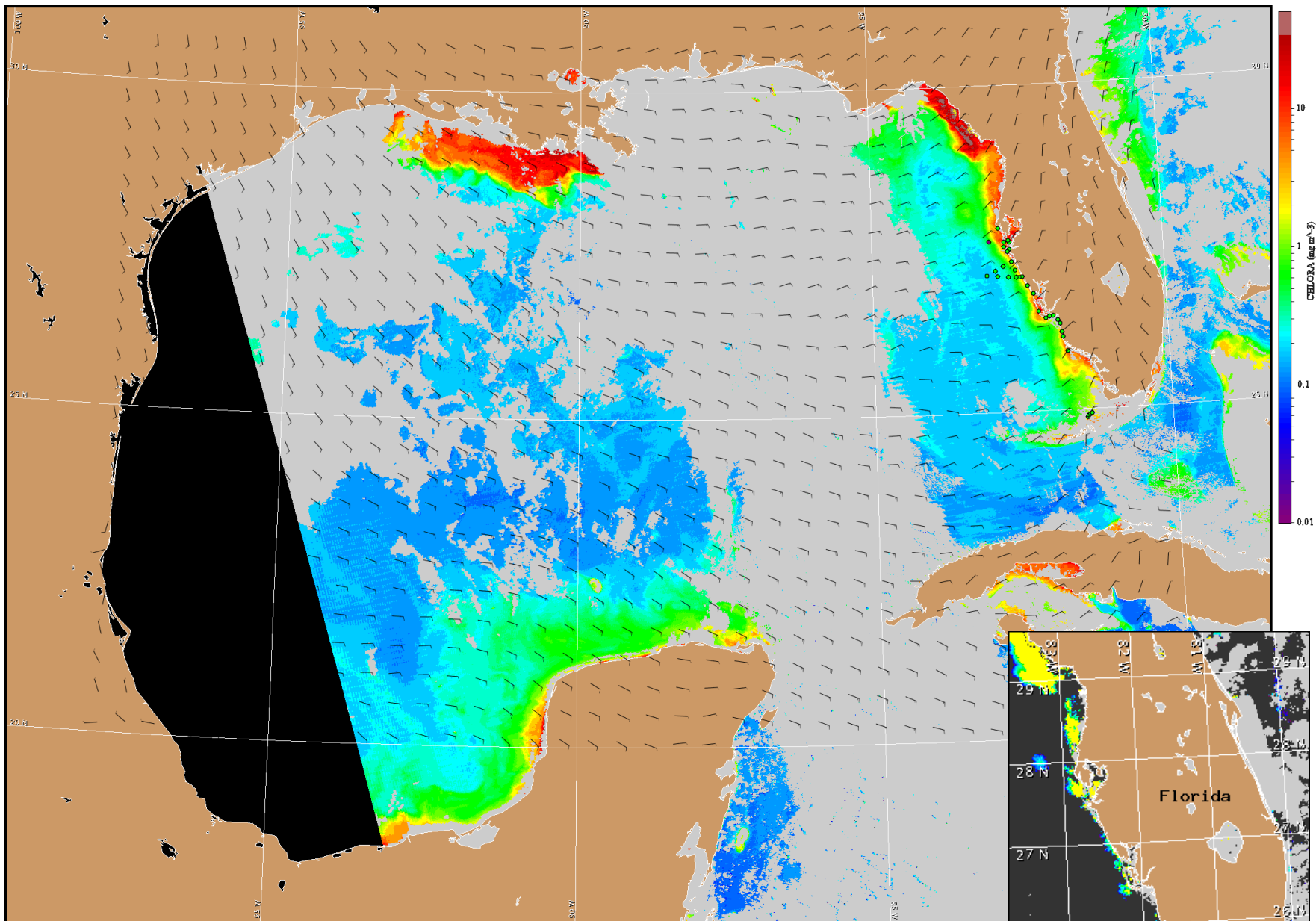
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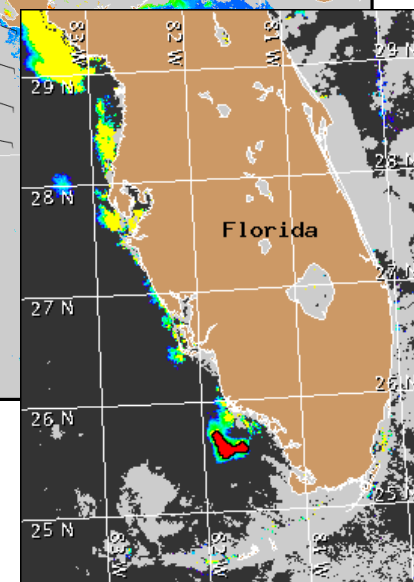
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Wind Analysis

Northeasterly winds today (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s). Easterly winds Tuesday and Wednesday (10-15 kn). Northeasterly winds Wednesday night (10 kn). Southeasterly winds Thursday and Friday (10-15 kn).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for April 8, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from March 28 to April 2 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).