Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

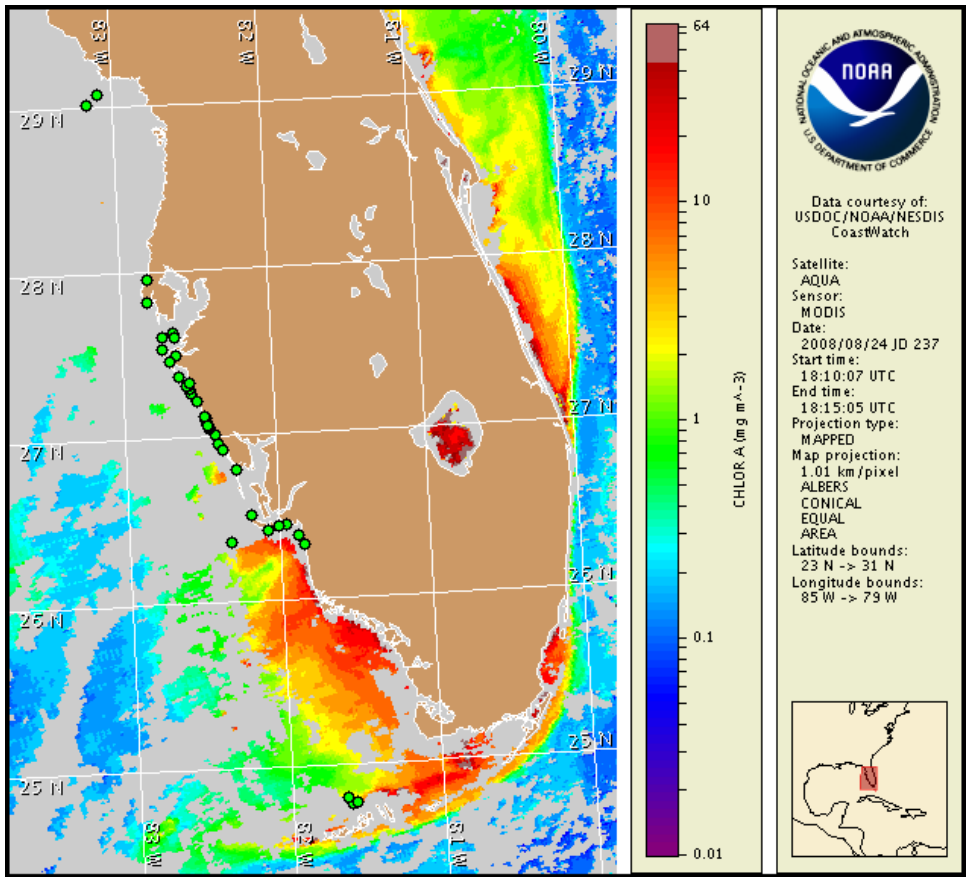
Region: South Florida

25 August 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 18, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 15 to 21 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.

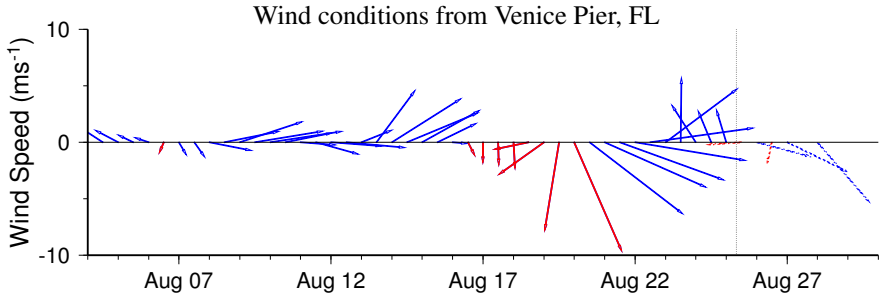
Conditions Report

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, August 31.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples collected last week between Pinellas and Lee Counties (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 8/18-22). Cloud cover has obscured recent satellite imagery over much of the southwest Florida coastline. However, a band of elevated to high chlorophyll remains visible (8/24) alongshore southern Lee to northern Monroe County, extending offshore in patches to approximately 30 miles. Maximum chlorophyll levels are visible in patches located at 25° 53'N 81° 58.6'W offshore Cape Romano, Collier County (MODIS imagery) and just south of Sanibel Island, Lee County at 26° 24.3'N 82° 3.5'W (SeaWiFS imagery). Non-harmful algae (predominantly *Rhizosolenia spp.* and *Pseudo-nitzschia spp.*) were confirmed along the southern Sanibel Island coast on 8/20, attributing to the elevated chlorophyll levels at this location. No impacts are expected through Sunday, August 31. Bloom formation at the coast is unlikely through Friday, August 29.

Please note that SeaWiFS imagery is temporarily unavailable for display on this bulletin due to recent technical difficulties; MODIS imagery is shown on pages 1 and 2 of this bulletin. ˜Fisher, Urizar

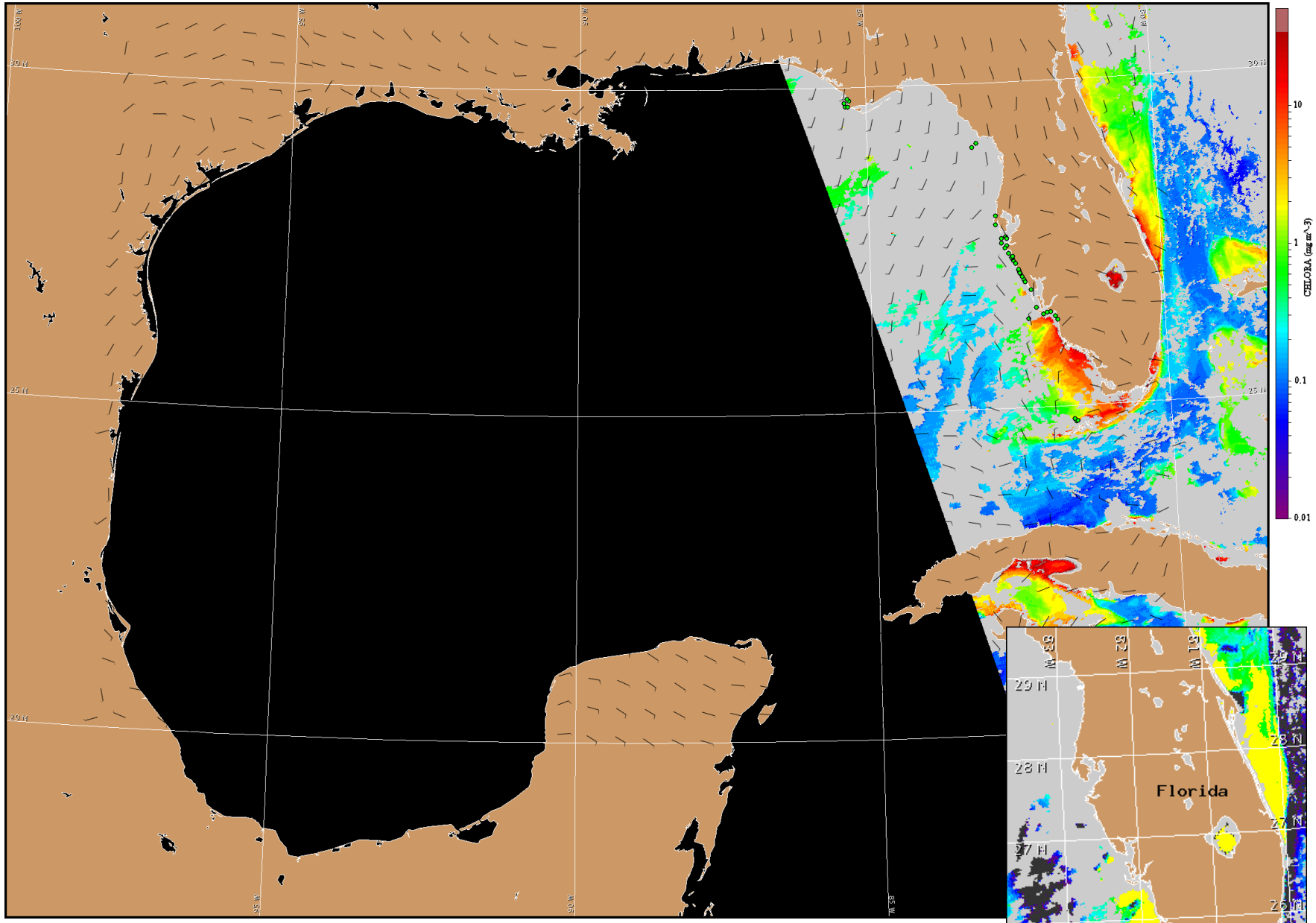


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Wind Analysis

South winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) today. Southwest winds (10kn) Tuesday. South winds (5kn, 3m/s) Tuesday night. West winds Wednesday (5kn), becoming southerly late Wednesday evening through Thursday. Northeast winds expected Friday (5-10kn). In southern Sarasota to southern Lee Counties, winds are expected to be variable (5kn) today through Wednesday and easterly Wednesday evening though Friday (5-10kn).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 26, 2008 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from August 15 to 21 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

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