Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

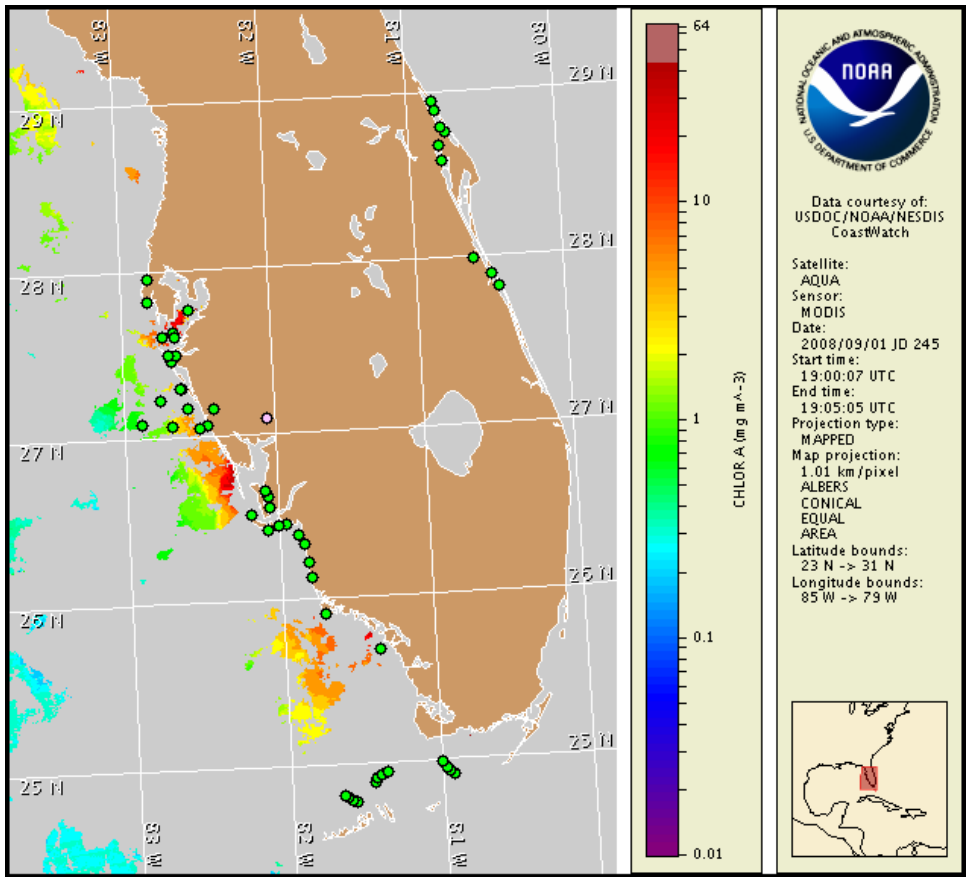
Region: South Florida

2 September 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 25, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 25 to 29 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

Conditions Report

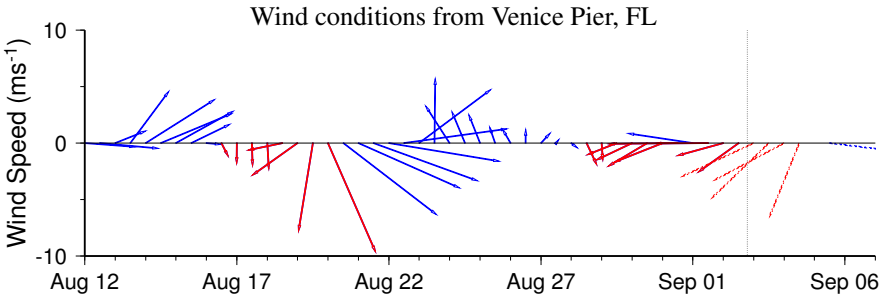
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, September 8.

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 onshore last week between Pinellas and Monroe Counties, including the Florida Keys (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 8/25-29). Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified in a single sample collected 36 miles west of Venice on 8/27 (MML). Although, cloud cover has obscured recent satellite imagery throughout most of southwest Florida, no features were visible in this general region offshore Sarasota County on 8/28. A band of elevated to high chlorophyll was visible on 8/28 alongshore Pinellas County and from Sarasota to northern Monroe County. This is very likely attributed to resuspension events caused by recent storms, in conjunction with the continually confirmed presence of non-harmful algae. More defined patches of high chlorophyll (8/28 SeaWiFS imagery) are visible at the following locations: in a band alongshore southern Sarasota County from 27° 9.8'N 82° 32.3'W to 27° 0.7'N 82° 27.7'W; slightly offshore Charlotte County centralized at 26° 49.2'N 82° 21.7'W; and just south of Sanibel Island, Lee County. No impacts are expected along the coast of southwest Florida through Sunday, September 8. Upwelling favorable winds were prevalent over the weekend and are expected to continue through Wednesday, increasing the potential for harmful bloom formation.

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 3 of this bulletin.

~Fisher, Lindley, Gan

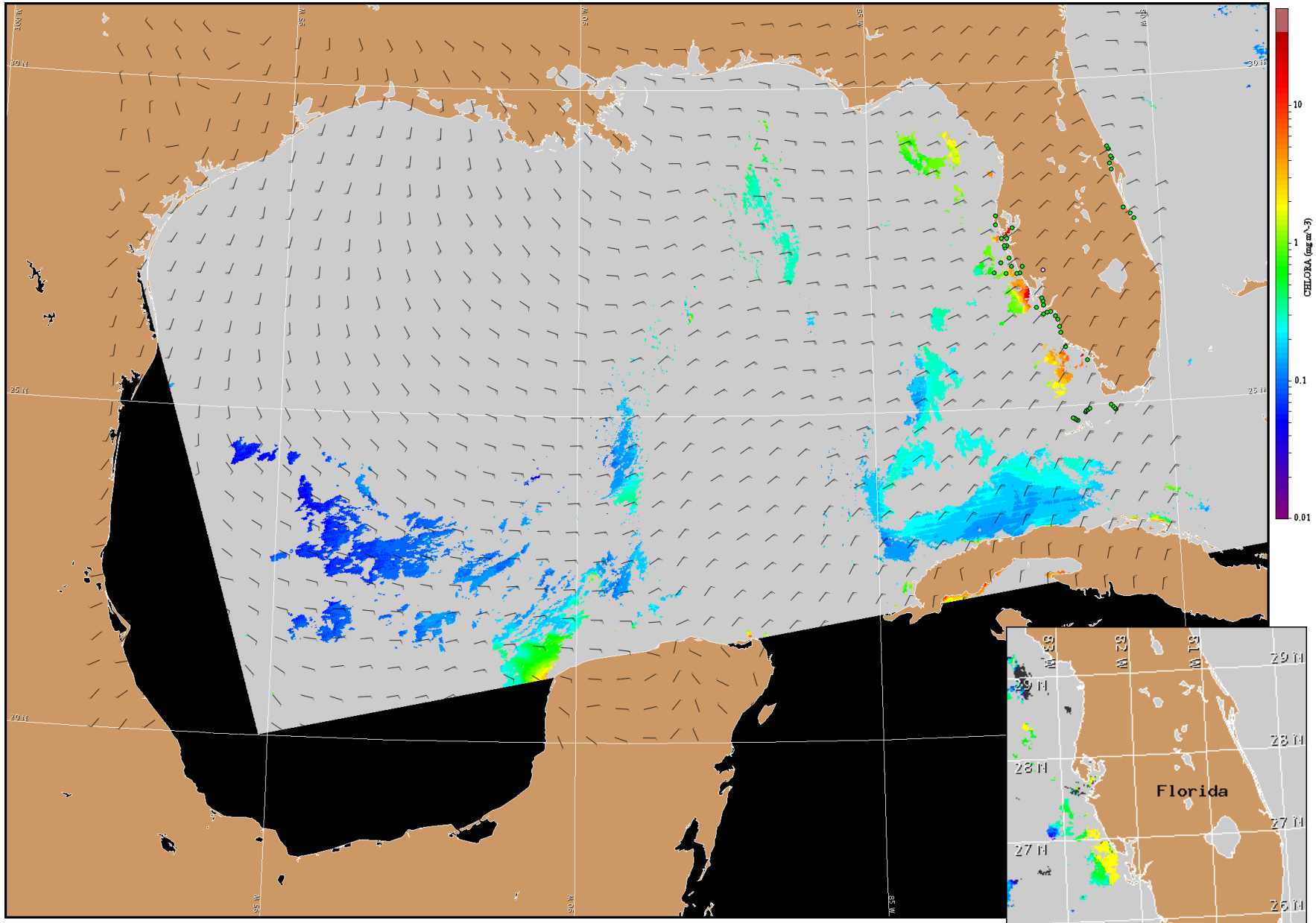


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Wind Analysis

Northeast winds today through Wednesday night (10-15kn, 5-8m/s). North winds Thursday becoming northwest Thursday night (10-15kn). South winds Friday (10-15kn).) Southeast winds expected on Saturday (5-10kn, 3-5m/s).

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 September 3, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from August 25 to 29 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).