



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: South Florida

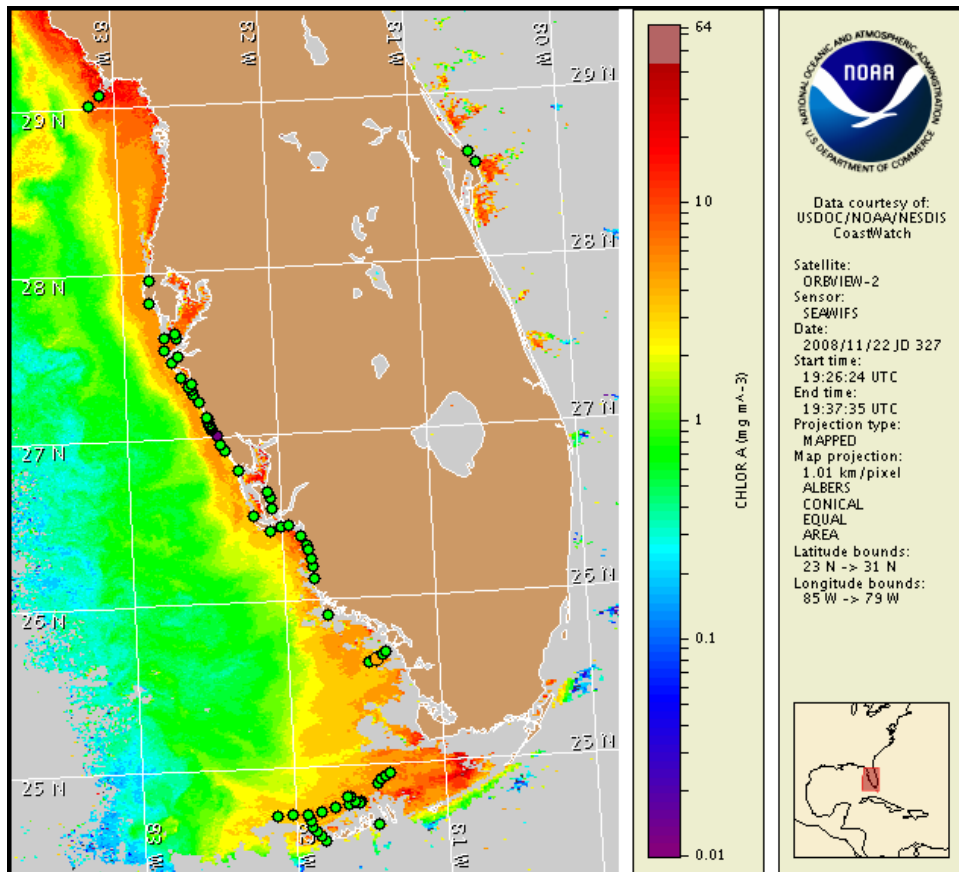
24 November 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: November 20, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 14 to 20 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://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

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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

Harmful algae have been identified in southern Sarasota County. Patchy very low impacts are possible in southern Sarasota County on Tuesday. No additional impacts are expected in this region or elsewhere in southwest Florida today through Thursday, November 27.

Analysis

Karenia brevis has been identified in 'Very Low a' concentrations in southern Sarasota County (11/18, SCHD). Samples collected in the past week approximately 9 miles offshore northern Monroe County contained up to 'Medium' concentrations of *K. brevis* (11/18, MML). Recent satellite imagery (11/22) does not indicate elevated levels of chlorophyll in either of these sampled locations. However, an elevated chlorophyll feature remains visible offshore Sarasota County. It now extends from 27°2'45.7"N, 82°32'37"W with increased patchiness northward to 27°30'35"N, 82°48'56"W. Continued sampling in these regions is recommended.

Samples reported alongshore Collier, Lee, Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties indicate that *K. brevis* is not present at the coast; however, numerous species of non-harmful algae remain (11/18-20, FWRI). Satellite imagery continues to indicate that chlorophyll levels have declined throughout southwest Florida. The previously identified high chlorophyll (>10 µg/L) feature located east of Sanibel Island alongshore southern Lee County remains in approximately the same location (centered at 26°26'57.5"N, 82°0'23"W).

The elevated chlorophyll feature located north of the Florida Keys has maintained its position (approximately 4 miles north of the Florida Keys) and extends from 25°15'6.5"N, 81°54'4.3"W southward to 24°39'30.4"N, 81°51'50.5"W.

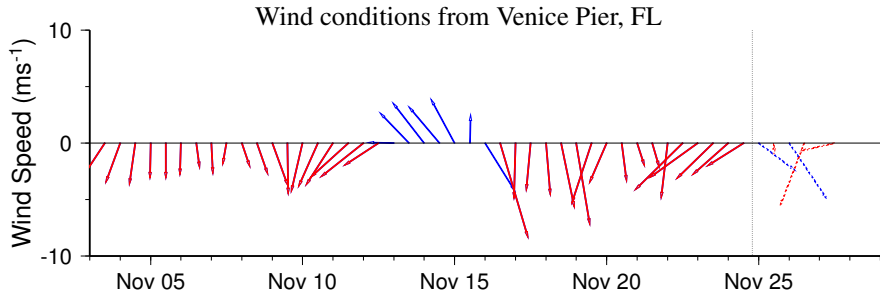
Conditions are favorable for bloom formation in southwest Florida today through Thursday, November 27.

*Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday, the next update will be released on Friday, November 28.

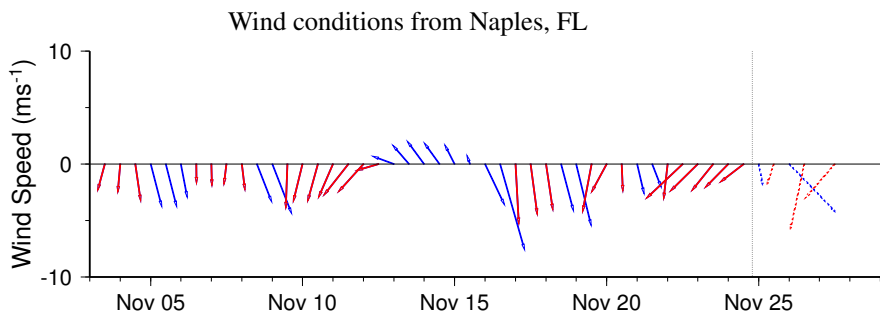
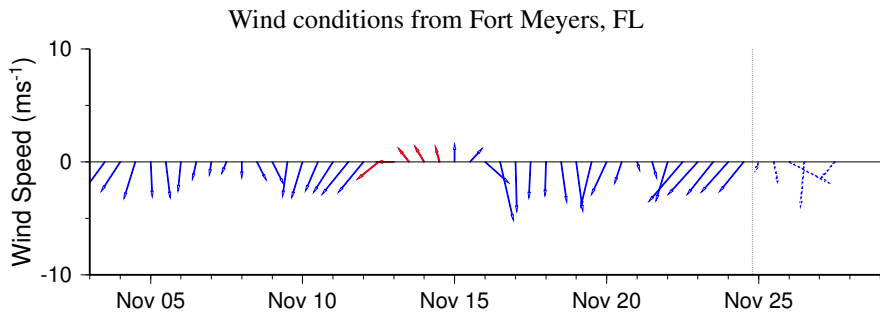
-Lindley, Fisher

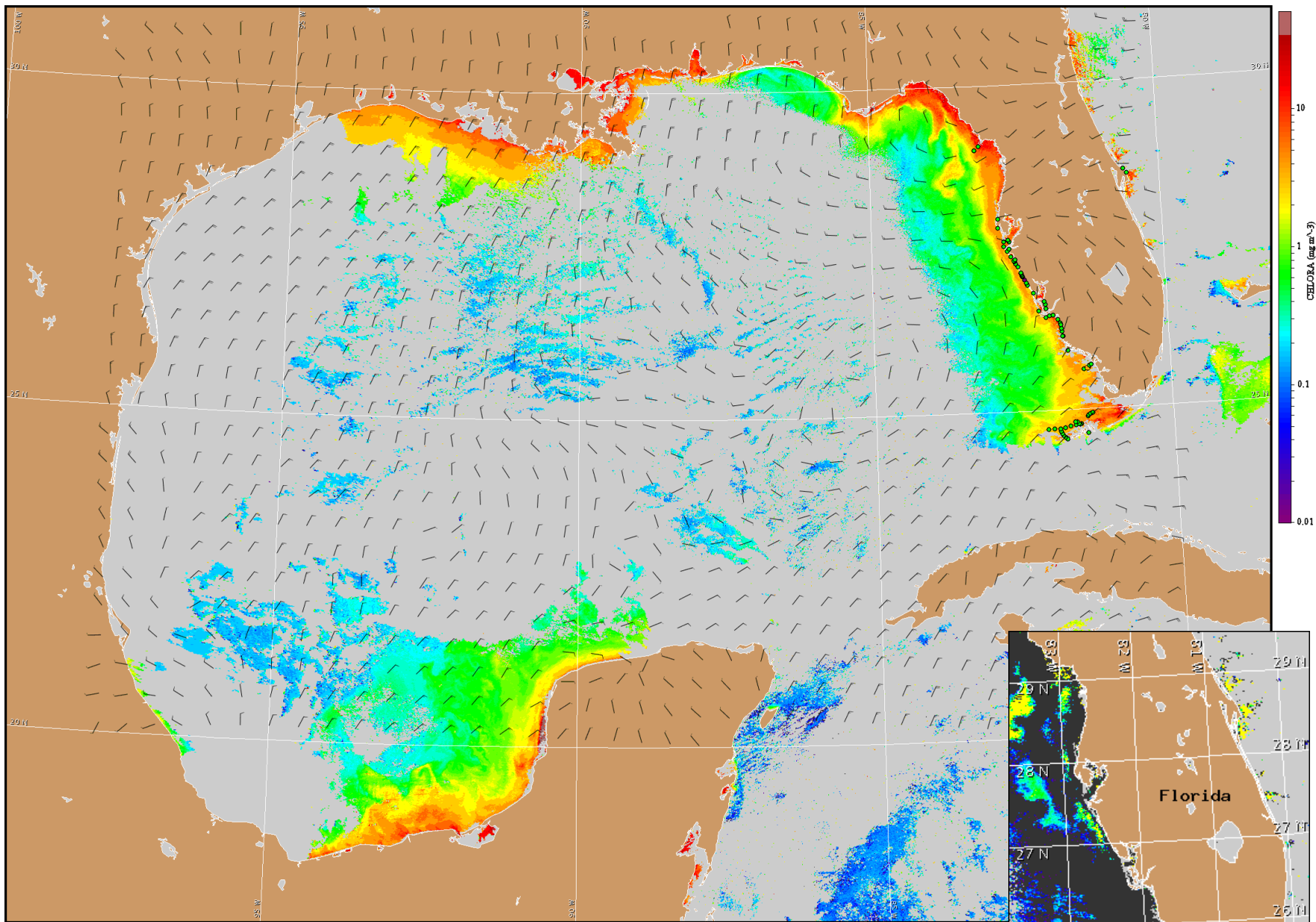
Wind Analysis

SW Florida: East winds today and tonight (10 kn, 5 m/s). West winds tomorrow (10 kn, 5 m/s) becoming northwest tomorrow afternoon. North winds tomorrow night (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s). Northeast winds Wednesday (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s) decreasing Wednesday night (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s). East winds Thursday (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s). Southeast winds Friday (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s).



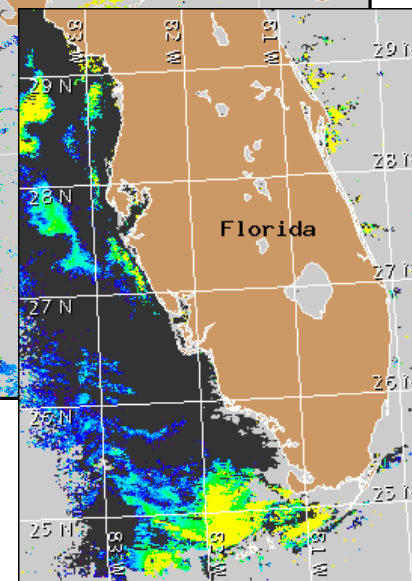
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 25, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from November 14 to 20 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:

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